

Be the
MAGIC!

Mindful ★ Appreciative
Gritty ★ Innovative ★ Caring

Nebo News

Nebo
SCHOOL DISTRICT

VOLUME X ISSUE IV

DECEMBER 2020



NEBO SCHOOL DISTRICT'S SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Nebo District has approximately 34,000 students in 2020-2021.
- Nebo District has approximately 4,500 employees.
- Nebo District is the 7th largest district in Utah.
- Nebo District is the 6th largest employer in Utah County.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Dates to Celebrate	2
Retirement	2
Nebo School Board Members Retire	2
Christmas Card Winners	3
Employee Bonus	3
Nebo Heroes	3, 4
Academic All-State	4

Superintendent The Gift of Appreciation

The Park School fifth-grade Christmas tree had served the children well. The delight of decorating it with popcorn strings, red ribbon bows, and silver bells made of paper cups and tinfoil was followed by days of Christmas caroling and savoring the sweet aroma of fresh pine. However, the last day before Christmas break found the worn tree leaning lonely against the classroom wall, awaiting its final destination – the cafeteria dumpster.

The dismissal bell rang and children joyfully bounded out of classrooms, eager to start their favorite holiday. For some unexplained reason, the forlorn tree caught the attention of two unassuming ten-year-old boys. Almost without speaking, they took the tree between them and started from the classroom. Their teacher thanked them for “taking care of the tree,” not knowing their real intentions.

For five long, cold blocks the boys carried the tree up the Center Street hill. They took care to hold the tree as still as possible for ten-year-old boys, in part to keep the ornaments safe but more to keep the needles intact.

In time, they made it to the front porch of Ms. Johnson, whom the boys knew did not have a Christmas tree of her own. They sheepishly knocked on her door and presented the “gift” to this grandmotherly soul. Her warm welcome, delightful smile, and appreciative admiration for the tree and for the boys was the most significant gift that was given that Christmas nearly 50 years ago.



In reflecting upon the lesson Ms. Johnson taught me that memorable December day, I am reminded:

“Appreciation can make a day, even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary.” Margaret Cousins

“Appreciation is a wonderful thing: it makes what is excellent in others belong to us as well.” Voltaire

“Feeling gratitude and not expressing it is like wrapping a present and not giving it.” William Arthur Ward

May each of us be mindful to give the gift of appreciation throughout this holiday season. Merry Christmas to each of you and God bless you for your amazing service this year!



Christmas Card Winner, McKenzi Garrett;
5th Grade, Brookside Elem.; Teacher, Kelly White

Dates to Celebrate:

- Dec. 1**
Rosa Parks Day — Civil Rights event
- Dec. 3**
International Day for Persons with Disabilities
- Dec. 10**
Human Rights Day — Declaration Adoption 1948
Nobel Prize Day — Awarded for “scientific exploration of great value for mankind”
- Dec. 15**
Bill of Rights Day — The first 10 amendments to the U.S. Constitution were ratified on this day in 1791
- Dec. 17**
Anniversary of the Wright Brothers’ flight
- Dec. 21**
First day of Winter
- Dec. 25**
Christmas Day

Thinking of retiring at the end of 2020-21?

With the Early Retirement Incentive Plans, we recognize that many of our outstanding employees will be contemplating retirement at the end of this school year. We will be sad to see these good friends and dedicated coworkers leave our ranks and are so appreciative of their service to students.

In order to find the best possible candidates for open positions in the current competitive job market, it is important for supervisors to begin hiring new employees as soon as possible. Therefore, we are once again offering an Early Retirement Notice Incentive to those who have their retirement approved by the Board of Education before mid-February. The details are as follows:

- ◆ Any employee who is eligible for and retires from Utah Retirement System (URS) by **June 30, 2021**, can submit the final paperwork to the District by:
 - ◇ **December 4, 2020**, to receive \$1,000 in their December 31 paycheck, or
 - ◇ **January 8, 2021**, to receive \$1,000 in their January 31 paycheck, or
 - ◇ **February 5, 2021**, to receive \$500 in their February 29 paycheck.
- ◆ The final application deadline for this Early Retirement Notice Incentive is **February 5, 2021**.

This incentive is a one-time option for those who will retire at the end of the **2020-2021** school year. Interested employees who will be retirement eligible and would like to learn more about this option and their individual benefits may schedule an appointment with Troy Bohling at [801-354-7414](tel:801-354-7414). Retirement eligible employees will be given first priority for appointments.

Nebo School Board Members Retire

Nebo School District thanks our long-time School Board Members, Dean Rowley and Randy Boothe. They have made significant impact to our Nebo students. Both have served Nebo students and staff for 16 years from 2005 to 2020. When asked about their service, they had this to say:

Dean said, “I started working for the district in 1969. I took three years off and was then elected to the School Board, so it seems like I have been involved with the district for a good part of my life. What a great experience! I loved my time as an educator, and I have really enjoyed my time on the School Board. What an amazing experience to be involved with so many great people. We have had such a great relationship as a School Board, all of the district staff, and others. It has been a wonderful, exciting and fun experience. I know I will miss the association with everyone. I hope I have made a positive difference during my time with the school district. Thank you to everyone.”

Randy said, “Sixteen years with Nebo’s Board of Education has been a magnificent adventure. Through the amazing accomplishments of our students, teachers and leaders of learning, I have come to deeply appreciate their shared commitment to excellence! Nebo’s students are in good hands! Our outstanding district administration and my colleagues on the board have consistently worked with untiring focus on choosing only what’s best for students. You trained me well. I’m going to do my best to carry that Nebo vision forward as I represent our communities with Utah’s State Board of Education for the next four years! I’m so grateful for the journey we’ve shared together, definitely a major highlight of my life.”



Nebo School District Christmas Card Winners 2020

First Place:

McKenzi Garrett

5th Grade, Brookside

Teacher: Kelly White

Cover for 2020

Nebo School District

Christmas card



Second Place:

Megan Rawle

4th Grade, Art City Elem.

Teacher: Jamie Huston

Cover for 2020 Nebo

Education Foundation

Christmas card

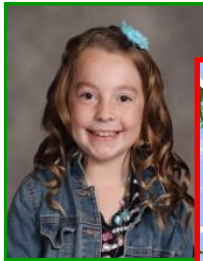


Third Place:

Annaleigh Bates

5th Grade, Goshen

Teacher: Abby Haines



Honorable Mention:

Hadley Patten

4th Grade, Spring Lake

Teacher: Marcy Caldwell

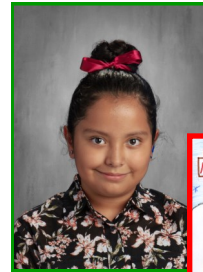


Honorable Mention:

Luisa Yataha Ortega

5th Grade, Sierra Bonita

Teacher: Amy Staheli



Employee Bonus To all of our Nebo Heroes

As the holiday season approaches, your herculean efforts have reminded us how grateful we are even in these difficult times. We have observed all of you navigating very "difficult times" for the last six months. We offer you our sincerest "THANK YOU"! Our students need to be face to face with amazing teachers and it has taken the teamwork of all to make that happen.

To let you know that we see and truly understand your efforts, we extended a 1% bonus to each of you. This bonus was included on your November paycheck. We hope you feel our gratitude and support as we all continue to focus on students in the Nebo School District.

~ Christine Riley, President
Nebo School Board of Education



Nebo Heroes Cont.

Sara Barber, Teacher, Salem Jr., "She shows exceptional service, kindness, and patience on a daily basis. She has some very difficult students and always treats them as if they are capable of accomplishing anything." Recognized by Mark Haight.

Rory Hansen & Todd Bradford, Math Specialists, "They bring groups of teachers together and model best practices. They are moving mathematical practices to a new level." Recognized by Alicia Rudd & Suzanne Kimball.

Becky Rosenberg, Teacher, SHHS, "She is so kind and is a super good teacher." Recognized by Keaton Hoole.

Jen Gardner, Teacher, MMHS, "She is a great fit for FFA and a 'bonus mom' for the students. She helps her students succeed." Recognized by Ashley Nielsen.



Nebo School District
Phone: 801-354-7400
Fax: 801-798-4010
Email: lana.hiskey@nebo.edu
www.nebo.edu

If your successes are not listed, please get awards to lana.hiskey@nebo.edu with Award Nebo News in the subject line.



Penny McEntire, Literacy Coach, Canyon, “She is an answer to a prayer and immediately jumped in putting phonics and writing prompts with full lessons plans, guided reading books, and MUCH more online for not only Canyon teachers, but teachers throughout the district to use.” Recognized by Danika Nuttall.

Elizabeth Hylton, Teacher, Springville Jr., “She is so helpful when students have an issue and is so kind and thoughtful about their individual needs while helping them learn how to work through any struggle.” Recognized by Heidi Scott, Sharla Erickson.

Reilly Ryan, Teacher, Diamond Fork Jr., “The best teacher I have ever had. He changed my life.” Recognized by Mac Hillman.

Brenda Mikesell, Skills Specialist, Barnett, “She supports the students, faculty, and staff. With her quiet patience, she helps redirect poor choices into productive work and progress. Mrs. Mikesell looks out for each and every one of our students.” Recognized by Kali Brown.

Fall Academic All-State 2020-21

Boys' Cross Country

- Briggs Rober, MMHS
- Coy McBride, MMHS
- Tanner Meeks, MMHS
- Colby Orton, PHS
- Dylan Whitney, PHS
- Spencer Bennett, PHS
- Spencer Ashcraft, SHHS
- Alexander Christiansen, SFHS
- Ammon Beck, SFHS
- Ryan Cobb, SFHS
- Tyler Reese, SFHS
- Benjamin Price, SHS
- Chase Johns, SHS
- Colby Silva, SHS
- Isaac Nielsen, SHS
- Kaden Paxton, SHS
- McKay Dalley, SHS
- McKay Francom, SHS
- Ty Elder, SHS
- Wesley Mangum, SHS
- Zachary Bradshaw, SHS

Boys' Golf

- Gabriel Bravo, MMHS
- Conner Houghton, SHHS
- Logan Blanchard, SHHS

Girls' Soccer

- Ashley Flake, MMHS
- Bailey Van Tassell, MMHS
- Kenley Nelson, MMHS
- Kailee Richman, PHS
- Sarah Baker, PHS
- Lindsey Blake, SFHS
- Annelise Anderson, SHS
- Fiona Jensen, SHS
- Rylee Clark, SHS

Boys' Football

- Ethan Davis, MMHS
- Seth Krommenhoek, MMHS
- Taylor Hinckley, MMHS
- Theodore Wright, MMHS
- Jeffrey Durrant, PHS
- Joseph Rohrbaugh, SHHS
- McCade Davis, SFHS
- Masao Kaanga, SHS

Girls' Volleyball

- Brett Renzello, PHS
- Megan Curtis, PHS
- Ellie Black, SHHS
- Ryen Bradshaw, SHHS
- Kennady Charlton, SFHS

Girls' Cross Country

- Camilla Adams, MMHS
- Eleanor Standifird, MMHS
- Kate Cooper, MMHS
- Riley Wolfgramm, MMHS
- Amelia Hunter, SHHS
- Bayleigh Redd, SFHS
- Josie Wright, SFHS
- Tessa Cook, SFHS
- Annelise Anderson, SHS
- Ashlee Bingham, SHS
- Bethany Blakey, SHS
- Jadyn Rees, SHS
- Lydia Felix, SHS
- Mazey Schofield, SHS

Girls' Tennis

- Hannah Townsend, MMHS
- Riley Wiscombe, MMHS
- Alexis Thomson, SHHS
- Emily Van Ausdal, SHHS
- Megan Mayo, SHHS
- Alivia Winkel, SFHS
- Katelyn Gappmayer, SFHS
- Alexi Corfield, SHS
- Amanda Gardner, SHS
- Jane Sweat, SHS
- Kelsey Sumsion, SHS
- Lydia Felix, SHS

If you have noticed any wonderful people or experiences that need to be recognized, please email them to lana.hiskey@nebo.edu.