

American Heritage School News January-April 2012

Message From the Head of School

One night, at the end of a long day at school, I decided to put Hymn #241 to the test, and began writing a list of some of the blessings that have come into my life thanks to American Heritage. As Spring fills the world with a rebirth of "all things bright and beautiful," I thought it might be fitting to share some of the blessings that I counted that night...

101 Things That I Love About American Heritage

Starting the day with a view of the temple. Singing and praying with teachers each morning before students arrive. Greeting at the front door. Watching hundreds of children hug and kiss their parents at the morning curbside. Hymns and prayers filling hearts and minds as class begins. "In honor of our God and country, please join me in the pledge of allegiance..." Psalm 100, Bambi, and Isaac Watts in Kindergarten.



AHS student Karina Hansen hugs a student in Querétaro, Mexico after providing a needed school kit. Service-learning is an important aspect of the AHS model of character education.

Learning history through "Christ: His Story." Parents and students serving throughout the school. "Be Useful in the Hands of the Lord in Building the Earth." Kingdom of God on The Ten Commandments, Abigail Adams, Pinocchio, and "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" in First Grade. Traditional math. Phonograms.

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Good friends and positive role models. Older and younger students have occasional opportunities to bless each other, as with high school students reading to elementary school students.

Heidi Day, Psalm 23, personal psalms, and Benjamin Franklin in Second Grade. Fall Festival. Lyceum Junior Strings. Children's Choir. The Pilgrims, Bach, and C.S. Lewis in Third Grade. Constitution Day.

Walking by the portraits of the prophets. Entrance virtues. Brigham Young, Proverbs, *Treasure Island*, and *The Secret Garden* in Fourth Grade. Civil War Days, Abraham Lincoln, and *Carry On, Mr. Bowditch* in Fifth Grade. The Patriotic Program. "The silver-white line of liberty." The Battle Hymn. Standing back-stage in a Lincoln costume next to Mr. Cornell in a revolutionary war uniform. *The Bronze Bow*, The Seven Loves of Literature, *The Living Christ*, and the Seven Principles Devotional in Sixth Grade.



Mrs. Abrams, 5th Grade teacher, conducts a celebration with her class. Celebrating the curriculum through music, art, simulations, devotionals, food, and field learning experiences – is a core methodology at the School.

Finding the Creator in science. Modeling His Praising His name in music. creations in art. "Always Honor and Serve." Master Projects, Luke 2, A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23, and Sentence Diagramming in Seventh Grade. Harvest Parties. Teddy Bear Service All-School Christmas Sing. Project. "Good morning, Mr. and Mrs. Beckwith, welcome to our class!" Field Day. Family Education. Service-learning in Mexico, D.C., Israel, and England. Word Studies, 4-R'ing, and Notebooks. Shakespeare play, Shakespeare tour, David Copperfield, The *Proclamation on the Family*, and *The Hiding Place* in Eighth Grade.



Parents serve at the school on a daily basis throughout the school. "Education is a Family Affair!"

Dancing, clapping, and singing together at the Dance Festival. "Increase Faith in, and Knowledge of, the Plan of Salvation." Constitution Bowl. *Pilgrim's Progress, A Tale of Two Cities*, and *Silas Marner* in Tenth Grade. Spirit Days. Written portfolios. *Uncle Tom's Cabin, The Scarlet Letter, The Biography of Ezra Taft Benson* in Eleventh Grade. Student Government Association. American Heritage Youth Chorus. American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic.

Personal responsibility, AHS Honor Code, and "The Christian Principle of Self-Government." Speech and essay contests. "An American Heritage Christmas." Locke, Blackstone, Montesquieu, and American Government in Twelfth Grade. Senior Summit Hike. Senior Thesis. Senior Week. "God's Principle of Individuality" and "Union with Unity." Dress Fridays. Stewardship Minute.

Laughing with each other at the Faculty Retreat. "Conduct themselves in all aspects of lives as Christians." Foundations Training. Family Forum and Family Ball. Board of Trustees who trust in the Lord. Inspired teachers. "The Lord works from the inside out." The Two Great Commandments.

Sincerely,

Beckith

Grant Beckwith Head of School

Welcome, New Board Members

At the March 2012 meeting of the AHS Board of Trustees, some exciting and important changes were discussed and approved. First, we thanked Paul Edwards, who stepped down from the AHS Board of Trustees in connection with his recent appointment as the Editor of the Deseret News. Paul and his wife, Margo, continue to be active supporters of the School's mission, and their daughter, Miriam, continues to be enrolled at the school. In addition, the Board invited Dr. Michael Ballam to join a newly created National Advisory Board for the school, with Laurie Swim as chair. The AHS National Advisory Board will serve important ambassador functions for the school as we continue to expand our reach geographically through Home and Distance Education, as well as through the American Heritage Lyceum Orchestra and American Heritage Youth Chorus programs.

We are pleased to announce the following three new members of the AHS Board of Trustees, whose terms of service begin officially in August 2012 at the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees: Katie Holmstead, Dr. Jeffrey Mathews, and Bob Sorensen. We are honored that individuals of this caliber would agree to join the board – an unpaid labor of love that requires significant time and energy. Please take an opportunity to thank each of them, and to welcome them in this new and sometimes daunting role.



Katie Holmstead was born and raised in Southern California. For elementary attended school she a Christian private school. She earned an Associate Degree in Liberal Arts at Moorpark College. She received a Bachelor of Science in Business Management with

an emphasis in Finance at Brigham Young University. Prior to graduating college, Katie worked as an Administrative Assistant and Accounting clerk. Upon graduation she worked as Assistant to the Vice-President of Operations at a foundry in Springville, Utah. In 2003, Katie and her husband Robb were grateful to find American Heritage School. The 2012-2013 year will be their tenth year at the school and all five of their boys will be enrolled. Katie served as Secretary for the AHS Parent Organization in 2008-2009. After which she served for two years as President of the AHS Parent Organization from 2009-2011. She enjoys serving in The Church and serving her family. Katie and Robb love the school and its mission and they are grateful for the blessing it is in their family's life.



Jeffrey Lee Mathews M.D., practices Adult and Pediatric Rheumatology in Provo, Utah. Born in Salt Lake City, he graduated from Granite High School. He served in the United States Marine Corp from 1967-73, and on an LDS mission in Sweden from 1968-71. Dr. Mathews holds multiple degrees from the

University of Utah, including a BA and MA in English, a BS in Biology, and an MD. In the course of his medical training, he also became an alumnus and fellow of Duke University, where he was the Internal Medicine Chief Resident, and UCLA, where he completed a fellowship in Pediatric Rheumatology. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, the American College of Emergency Physicians, a Founding Fellow of the American College of Rheumatology, and also a member of the Provo Rotary Club and the Sons of Utah Pioneers. Dr. Mathews is a proud Father of 9 and grandfather of 21, and serves as the High Priest Group Leader in the Manila 7th Ward. He loves running, painting, reading, and raising horses on the family farm in Fairview, Utah. Dr. Mathews lives in American Fork with his wife Amy and three children: Ella (14), Caleb (10), and Olivia (7) – all students at American Heritage.



In 1988 Bob Sorensen's wife Robbi Ann noticed each morning several children in their south Orem neighborhood scurrying across their back yard in route to catching a small yellow bus which would take them to American Heritage School. Three years later the

Sorensen's would enroll their second grade son in American Heritage School. This began their love for the school which continues some 24 years later with their last two children currently enrolled in the American Heritage High School. American Heritage truly has been an extension of the Sorensen family and with two grandchildren in tow they are pleased with the blessing of distance education that will allow the schools influence to bless their posterity. Bob was raised in Gurnee Illinois and moved to Phoenix Arizona where he joined the LDS church in his 20th year. After the blessing of serving a mission to Santa Cruz Bolivia, Bob attended Brigham Young University, receiving his bachelor's degree in Finance in 1984. After graduation Bob was employed by King Services, Inc. a manufacturing company in Southern California. Later Bob participated with two partners in forming System Connection, Inc., which today is known as ATL Technology, LLC, an international engineering and manufacturing company. Bob has been active for most of his adult life with the Boy Scouts of America, recently serving on the staff of scouting's premier training course. Bob has also been blessed to return to Bolivia several times leading humanitarian expeditions. Bob and his wife, Robbi Ann, have been married 29 years and have five children, all whom have attended American Heritage School.

Founders Classics



The following remarks were delivered bv Laurie Swim, Chairman of the Board of American Heritage School from 2005-2011, at the first American Heritage Gala held on April 24, 2008. Fraser Bullock, co-founder of Sorensen Capital, and special musical guest Jon Schmidt, headlined

the gala, which was attended by over 200 specially invited guests, including prominent leaders in government, business, and education. Over the next two years, thanks to donations small and large, the school successfully completed a \$4 million capital campaign that added more classrooms for families on waiting lists, increased teacher compensation, added high school and music facilities, and launched a distance education program. Read Mrs. Swim's address at the following link:

http://www.american-heritage.org/Content/Docs/Newsletters/May_2008.pdf



Student Submissions

Ryan Allen, a 2nd grader in Mrs. Carver's class, completed a literary assignment with symbolic insight. Without help from his parents, prompting from his teacher, or instructions from the assignment itself, Ryan reasoned as follows:

The Questions				
The main idea of this story is that the Three Billy Goats Gruff want to eat grass and the troll wants to eat all of them. Everything else is a detail. Write five different details from the story of the Three Billy Goats Gruff.				
1. The new gross is a symbol of Jesus and God.				
2. The troll is a symbol of satan 3. The bridge is a symbol of things we have to do toget to God				
4. The three goats are a symbol of us				
5. The entrance to the bridge is a symbol of the Earth				

The following are excerpts from Historical Biblical Biographies written by sixth grade students in Mr. Randall's class. One purpose of the report was for students to reflect upon "God's Principle of Individuality" (the first of the "Seven Principles of America's Christian History, Government and Education").

> "Rachel" By Aryn Jones, 6th Grade

One of the things I admire about Rachel is that when her father had secretly made Leah Jacob's wife, Rachel did not rebel. I also admire that even though Rachel did not have children for a while, she did not give up faith. She knew that the Lord would answer her prayers, and she was able to have two sons. I know that it took a lot of faith for Rachel to keep praying for children, and I admire that. A character trait from Rachel that I can improve on is faith. I need to have more faith that the Lord will answer my prayers. I know that I will become a better person if I try to be more like Rachel.



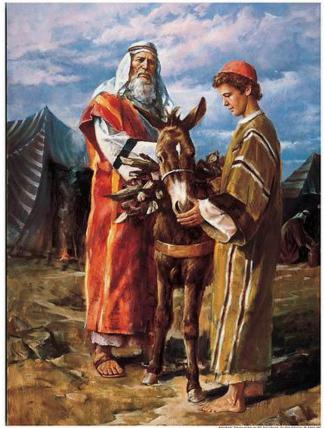
"Jacob Encountering Rachel with her Father's Herds," by Josef von Führich

"Isaac" by Isaac Rickenbach, 6th Grade

Isaac was the son of Abraham and Sarah. Isaac was very obedient to his father and mother. I think he was affected in many ways by his father and by Heavenly Father. I am sure Isaac was really surprised when Abraham told him that he had to be sacrificed, yet he knew that it was God's will, and that it was the right thing to do. He was very obedient, humble, and faithful. Isaac understood the gospel and Christ's commandments. Isaac received all of the gifts from God to Abraham and the birthright was passed down through his son, Jacob.

I think Isaac's mission was to help fulfill God's promises to Abraham. If Isaac hadn't been born, Ishmael would have been the grandfather of the twelve tribes. The world would probably be different today because Ishmael's faith and obedience were not as strong as Isaac's. Like Abraham, Isaac was promised that his seed would be blessed. In Genesis 26:4, it reads, "And I will make thy seed to multiply as the stars of the heaven and will give unto thy seed all these countries; and in thy seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed."

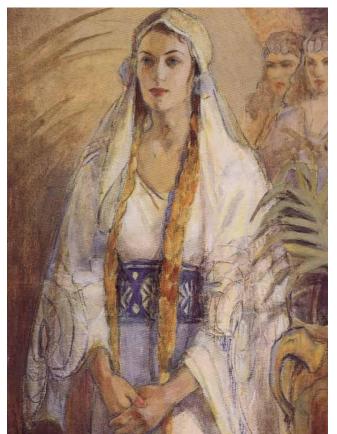
What I admire most about Isaac is that he was obedient to what his father and Heavenly Father said. He was so obedient that he would die if that were what the Lord required. Being named after Isaac, I try my best to honor his name and be obedient as he was. In order to be obedient like Isaac, I can be obedient to my parents, teachers, and to Heavenly Father.



"Abraham Taking Isaac to be Sacrificed," by Del Parson

"Esther—Queen of Persia" By Ashley Welch, 6th Grade

Esther was used as an instrument in the hands of God to protect the Jewish people. Because of Esther's actions, the Jewish people were saved from death, Mordecai and Esther were given the possessions of Haman, and Mordecai was promoted to a very powerful position of honor in the king's court.



"Queen Esther" by Minerva Teichert. A framed print of this painting hangs in the AHS 7-12 hallway.

I like to think that if I were faced with a similar situation I would try to be courageous and not be afraid of the consequences of being righteous. Here in Utah, I am not faced with any life or death situations like Esther, but I am faced with many small situations. Being righteous is made up of many little decisions that make up my character. Whether I lie or tell the truth, or whether I read my scriptures or not, or whether I admit my faults or am proud. All these things make up who I really am.

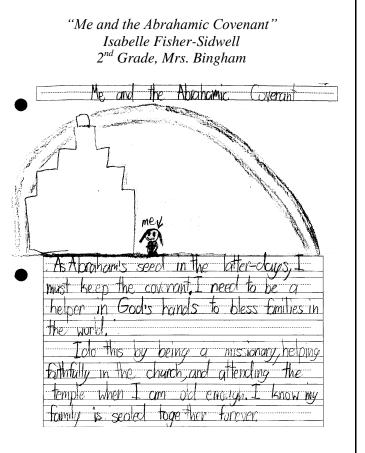
Esther is a great role model for me because she did not seek power, fame, or riches. These things came to her as a result of her goodness. In contrast, Haman sought these things, and was killed as he pursued them. He and his whole household lost everything that belonged to them. I hope that in my small decisions, I will become more like Esther.



"Joseph of Egypt" By Taeven Bybee, 6th Grade

What was Joseph's mission? His mission was to preserve the land of Egypt. He received the gift of interpreting dreams and that helped him to preserve the land of Egypt. How did God use Joseph to further his work on earth? Joseph would have descendants that would do great things. His two sons were named Manasseh and Ephraim. The tribe of Joseph was divided into two parts, Manasseh and Ephraim. This is important because Joseph is one of the twelve tribes. How was Joseph like Jesus Christ? When Jacob told Joseph to go check on his brothers, Joseph said, "Here am I" just like Christ did in the premortal existence. Joseph was like Christ because he went through many trials and forgave his brothers after what they did.

I can be like Joseph in choosing the right and not giving up. I can also be like Joseph and have his Christian characteristics. These characteristics would be faith, forgiveness, wisdom, and love. I admire Joseph because he was Christ-like. I also admire him because he endured through his trials. I can be like Joseph and endure through trials. I can also be nice even if people are angry at me. I know that Joseph was a great person, and I would love to be like him.





The following address was delivered at a recent AHS Parent Organization meeting by Christopher Holmstead, 11th Grade.



My name is Christopher Holmstead and I am in 11th grade. This is my 9th year at American Heritage School. My family heard about American Heritage when I was in second grade. The first thing I think of when I think about why I love being at American Heritage is the

teaching and learning with the Spirit that takes place here every day.

I also love the spirit I feel from the teachers and students. The students are here to learn, and both the teachers and the students are trying to do their best, and be the best they can be. Each are striving to improve and become, as the mission statement says, "useful in the hands of the Lord in building the kingdom of God on earth." I love learning here at American Heritage because the Spirit is here, and I know I am being taught truth. I love that I can look in the scriptures after a day at school and see the same principles demonstrated in the scriptures.



I remember lessons learned in 3rd grade such as learning the importance of service from *Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates*, or in 6th I learned to "wait upon the Lord" from *The Bronze Bow*. I also gained a desire to learn on my own after reading *Carry On*, *Mr*. *Bowditch* in 6th grade. Each of these books combined with the Spirit has helped me to follow the plan the Lord has laid out for me. I have heard students complain through the years about things such as the uniform, but it has never bothered me. I never saw the uniform as a thing to challenge. I never really mentally noted why the uniform was so important until the last few years. I realized that a big reason I had such strong relationships with my friends was that I was not looking at their appearance. Instead I had always been looking at their character. I realized that the uniform was a blessing not a curse. It helps with issues of modesty and unity but, to me, it allows me to look at my friends the way Christ wants us to look at all of his children. It allows the individuality, personality, and character of each student to shine through rather than an image of what they put on.



High School students work hard, and much is expected of them at AHS. They also have lots of fun while they're at it!

American Heritage has also helped me to "get it" - as I like to describe it. It was not until 8th grade that I really started to "get it." In 8th grade my teacher was Ruel Haymond, and since then he has become my friend. I learned from him not only lessons of history, but lessons of morality, principles of agency, government, and religion. I began to see the bigger picture as I learned from the classics, books like The Red Scarf Girl and Animal Farm, all while studying the Word of God.

I also love being able to participate in the events at the school, because I get to work with some of the most talented people I know. There is no place I would rather be than at American Heritage.

Calendar at a Glance April 4-6 Grade Spring Concert 12:30 p.m. 4 4 Middle School and HS Choir Rehearsal 2:00 p.m. 4 Middle School and HS Choir Concert 7:00 p.m. 6 Teacher In-Service, No School (K-12) 9-13 **Easter Vacation** 21 (Sat.) Incoming Kindergarten Student Assessment. 21 New Student Assessment 9:00 - 12:00 noon 21 Dinner & Spring Formal (14 and up) 7:00-11:00 p.m. 23 Silly-Sock Day 23-29 Teacher Appreciation Week

- 25 Required Parent Meeting 7:00-8:00 p.m.
- 26 Third Grade Devotional 2:00 p.m.
- 27 Third Grade Devotional 8:40 a.m.
- 27 Family Hour of Great American Stories 7:00 p.m.
- 27 Mid Term

May

- 2 Lyceum Prep. Orchestra Spring Concert 6:00 p.m.
- 3 Ballroom Dance Showcase 2:15 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- 4 ACT registration deadline for June 9 ACT test
- 4 Teacher In-Service, No School (K-6th)
- 10 Pride & Prejudice Drama Production 7:00 p.m.
- 11 7th Grade Devotional 8:15 a.m.
- 11 Pride & Prejudice Drama Production 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Pride & Prejudice Drama Production 7:00 p.m.
- 17-20 AHYC Choir Tour
- 18 Teacher In-Service, No School (K-12)
- 19 (Sat.) Spring Clean-up Service Day 8:00-12:00
- 21-25 Shakespeare Week, Art Show
 - 22 AHYC Year End Concert, Alpine Tabernacle 7 p.m.
 - 24 All Kindergarten attend AM 8:30-11:30
 - 24 Shakespeare Play 6:30 p.m.
 - Year End School Dance (14 and up) 8:00-11:00 p.m. 25
 - 28 Memorial Day, No School
 - 29 Field Day 1st –12th Grades
 - 30 All Kinder. arrive 11:00 a.m. (Last day for Kinder.)
 - 30 12th Grade Graduation
 - 31 Awards Assembly 8:40-10:30 a.m.
 - 31 School Ends 11:00 a.m. (1st-12th grades)

June

- 4-8 Annual Parent/Teacher Foundations Training 9
 - ACT Test at AHS
- 7th Grade D.C. American Heritage Tour 7-15

Happy Summer!

President Cecil O. Samuelson to Serve as <u>AHS Commencement Speaker 2012</u>



We are honored to announce that Elder Cecil O. Samuelson, President of Brigham Young University and (Provo) emeritus member and one of the former seven presidents of the Seventy, has accepted our invitation to serve as the 2012 commencement speaker for our graduation

ceremony to be held Wednesday, May 30, 2012. For more about President Samuelson's life and service, see the following link.

http://president.byu.edu/p/bio

AHS Students Honor Mount Vernon <u>Director's Life of Service</u>



AHS students recently conducted a special flag ceremony in honor of James Rees, who for health reasons is retiring in a few months after 29 years of working at Mount Vernon, the last 18 of which he has been president executive director. and Students gathered around the AHS flagpole, and raised a U.S. flag that had been flown

at Yorktown and at Valley Forge. Once flown at American Heritage, it was sent as a gift to Mr. Rees, along with personal letters and pictures of American Heritage students.

On behalf of our entire school community, we honor Mr. Rees and express heartfelt thanks to him for his efforts to protect and perpetuate the principles for which George and Martha Washington stood.



Students and Mr. Cornell raise a colonial flag that had been flown at Yorktown and Valley Forge, in preparation for an honorary gift to Jim Rees, the Executive Director of Mount Vernon, who retired recently for health reasons.

AHS Students Receive <u>National Merit Scholar Recognition</u>



Congratulations to Kelsey Crawford and Joseph Andersen, 12th Grade, who were both selected as National Merit Scholarship Qualifiers.

Congratulations to Kelsey Crawford and Joseph Andersen, 12th Grade, who have been listed as National Merit Scholarship Qualifiers by the National Merit Scholarship Program. National Merit Scholar qualifiers score in the top 3% of some 1.5 million eligible high school students nationwide on the PSAT/NMSQT exam, and are referred to the two colleges or university of their choice through the National Merit Scholar Program. Even large high schools are lucky to have one or two National Merit Scholar Qualifiers in a given year. Over the last three years, AHS has posted average college admissions scores that place AHS students among the best in the state and country. Way to go Kelsey, Joseph, and ALL of our high school students!

AHS Students Admitted to <u>Universities Nationwide</u>

AHS high school students have been receiving college admissions letters all year - and are faced with some tough but wonderful decisions in coming months. Among the list of colleges and universities that have already accepted AHS students are: Brigham Young University (Provo and Idaho), University of Michigan, University of Washington, University of California at Los Angeles, University of Utah, Utah State University, Florida Institute of Technology, Southern Virginia University, LDS Business College, Utah Valley University, George Wythe College, Dixie State College, and Snow College. Many of our students have already been offered scholarships and have received multiple admissions offers. Ten seniors received admission to Brigham Young University (Provo) in what was described to us by the BYU admissions office as the most competitive admissions year that BYU has seen in its history - in terms of both number of applicants and overall strength of applicants. Way to go students!



Brilliant chemical reactions make quite a show for AHS science students dazzled by guest presenters from BYU science labs. Guest presenters and field learning experiences are a common occurrence across the subjects and grade levels.

AHS Science Fair Involves Hundreds of AHS Students; 12 Advance to Regional <u>Competition at BYU</u>

During Feb 21 to Feb 23, approximately 240 American Heritage School students participated in the annual AHS Science Fair. Participants ranged in age from first grade through twelfth grade. Zachary Veach, a 9th grade student who worked on a Liquid Light project with fellow ninth grader Noah Jones said: "The science and math were all really interesting, but I think the best part was working with Noah to discover something we didn't know. It was fun learning new things, but I think it was more fun to discover something that wasn't just handed to us, that we had to find and work for ourselves." Projects included a range of experiments and inventions, with titles such as "Can I Train my Chicken to do Tricks?" and "Chocolate Meltdown."



This project, "Liquid Light," by high school students Noah Jones and Zachary Veach, won third place in the high school division at the regional Science Central Utah Science and Engineering Fair held at BYU in March.

Mrs. Karen Logan, AHS's Biology teacher who has long been involved with the fair says, "This year's fair was full of innovative ideas and well thought-out experiments performed by our scholars. The high school projects included homemade missiles, crystals, lasers and more! There were many behavior study projects as well. My favorite part of the fair is hearing the students present their projects to the class, allowing them to show off what they have learned during the process." Mrs. Mitchell, who teaches science in grades 5-8 observed, "When I received news that seven of our 6^{th} and 8^{th} grade students would advance to the regional level of competition for the science fair, I was very encouraged. This is this first time in recent history that we have sent students at this level."



Mrs. Willis who teaches K-4 Science noted, "I think that it was a successful event, and I appreciate everyone's tremendous help! We couldn't have done it without the assistance of the volunteers and the support of the parents and staff. It was a great group effort. And we have a few ideas on how to help things run even more smoothly next year. Thanks, everyone!"



Evan Meade, 6th Grade, won an award at the Regional Science & Engineering Fair at BYU for his use of the scientific method

Students in the fourth grade use this experience as their first required Science Fair project American at Heritage School. Students who met all of the criteria for the project received a purple 'scientist' ribbon. Students in grades 5 through 12 were graded on various criteria depending on the specific project.

Outstanding projects and titles of this year's school

fair include the following honors:

<u>High School Student Honors (9-12)</u> Noah Jones and Zachary Veach – "*Liquid Light*"** Chandler Helvey and Tyler Bell – "*Sugar High*"* Kathryn Harvey and Cayla Larsen – "Melting Ice"* Merrick Carr – "Do Vitamins Really Work?" Clark Miner, Andrew Sessions and Michael Sorensen – "Home-Made Missiles"

Middle School Student Honors

Chris Hales – "Gummy Bears vs Peanuts"* China Harbaugh – "Which Mouse is Smarter?* Connor and Caleb Uhl – "Which Lotion?" Linnea and Natalie Miner – "Make It Shine" Sarah Hilton – "Heating Up and Cooling Down"

Upper Elementary school Honors

Evan Meade – "Surface Tension"** Adam Sheets – "Balloon Buster"* James Van der Beek – "Solar Generator"* Aryn Jones – "What is on Your Hands?"* Porter Roskelley – "Propeller Design"**

* Indicates students who advanced to the Central Utah Science and Engineering Fair.

** Indicates students who placed or won honors at the regional Central Utah Science and Engineering Fair at BYU.



Porter Roskelley (picture above) won second place in the elementary school division at the regional Science Central Utah Science and Engineering Fair at BYU. Noah Jones and Zachary Veach won third place in the high school division, and Evan Meade won an award for use of the scientific method.

Congratulations to ALL of our science students and teachers for their exceptional work this year!

International Student Spotlight



Haylee Lee is a 12th Grade Student from Hong Kong at AHS

Haylee Lee, a senior from Hong Kong, joined American Heritage School at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year, after studying at a school in Washington State last year. After graduating, Haylee plans to attend college to obtain a nursing degree before turning 21, and then she plans to serve a full-time LDS mission.

Haylee comes to AHS from Hong Kong, about which she said, "Hong Kong is much more humid than Utah, and we don't have heaters – just air conditioners – so the humidity in the winter and lack of heaters in homes makes Hong Kong colder than Utah was this winter."

Haylee is grateful for AHS's influence. She says,

American Heritage School has changed the way I think about families. Before coming to American Heritage School, I thought all families were pretty much the same. I learned in Mr. Haymond's class about divorce rates in America and the causes of divorce, and it has changed my view. I am grateful that my parents are still together and love each other. I treasure that. I am also grateful for the knowledge I will gain in marriage and as a mother.

Haylee also appreciates her teachers, and commented: "Each of my teachers have a good attitude toward the students and are willing to sacrifice their extra time to help students who need extra help."

One of the most memorable lessons she has participated in at AHS was focused on understanding tyranny. The lesson highlighted that while many nations, including the United States, claim to be lands of liberty, there are many who misunderstand principles of liberty, and end up exercising forms of tyranny, including in the United States. Another lesson at AHS that impressed Haylee deeply included hearing the testimony of her peers. "Because the testimonies of the students here are so strong, they have strengthened my testimony also."

Haylee's hero is her mother. "She is the one who brought me to the Earth and ... helps me to [gain] experience ..., especially to support me in studying in the United States. ... I just feel that I want to be like her when I grow up."

Mr. Haymond, Haylee's core teacher says, "I am very impressed with Haylee's commitment to her family. She has done excellent research of her family history and her senior thesis research has to do with reconciling the ideals of Zion with Buddhist beliefs common in her homeland."

We are grateful for Haylee's contribution to the school, and glad Haylee is having a wonderful experience. Welcome, Haylee!



"George Washington" pencil sketch, By Connor Symonds, Mrs. Culver's Art Class



The annual AHS Dance Festival includes students from all grade levels K-12, as well as teachers and parents. Special thanks to Mrs. Chrisann Patch and Mrs. Leann Brinton (our Physical Education instructors), and Mrs. Melonie Mullen (Ballroom Dance instructor) who choreographed dances.



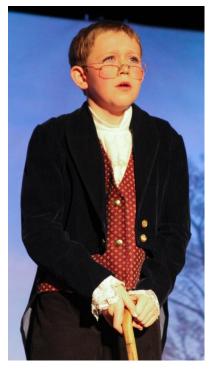
Dances performed included the Chicken Dance, Mexican Hat Dance, the Maypole, the Cha-Cha and the Swing.



Even the teachers get into the Dance Festival – sometimes with a little more laughing than dancing!

Patriotic Program Continues for Nearly Four Decades

Well over 1,500 guests came to view this one-of-akind production, which traces the epic "line of Christian liberty" through history. Highlighted scenes included the Old and New Testament, the Voyage of the the Columbus, Reformation, American Revolution, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Restoration of the Gospel through the Prophet Joseph Smith, and the Civil War. Students in second through twelfth grades participated in the program through patriotic music and pageantry. The program highlighted fifth grade students, portraying important historical men and women who dedicated their lives to furthering our liberties and freedoms.



Jared Cornell, fifth grade teacher said of the program's "The origins: program developed forty years ago. My mother (Geneve Cornell) was asked to write a program that reflected this 'trail of liberty' that lead to the foundation of America. The program started as a statement of what American Heritage School was about and what they wanted the students to learn at the school."



Mrs. Meredith Biesinger, fifth grade teacher who was introduced to the program for the first time this year, commented that it offers "a beautiful alignment of the founding of our country and its history coupled with the restoration of the Gospel."

Mr. Cornell added, "The Spirit of America Speaks (AHS Patriotic Program) is a story of how throughout eternity people have striven and fought to hold on to our God-given liberties, our rights and freedoms starting in the premortal life and even the War in Heaven when we had to make that first choice."



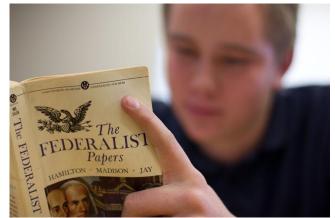
5th Grade students portraying Founding Fathers, silhouetted against the background image of the U.S. Constitution at the annual AHS Patriotic Program.

The Patriotic Program challenges us to remember the blessings and freedoms that we have, and to be the torch-bearers of liberty ourselves. Mrs. Jackie Abrams, fifth grade teacher, sums up her hope and desire for her students and for all of us, as we are the "Children of Liberty" who can "learn from the past": "It is important for students to understand what happened in the past, and that we are reaping the blessings from those men and women that sacrificed so much for us and wanted us to have a better life."

The Patriotic Program continues to be a well-loved and inspiring program for all who participate, both from the stage or in the audience. Thank you teachers, parents, volunteers, and students for reminding of and encouraging us in our duties to liberty.



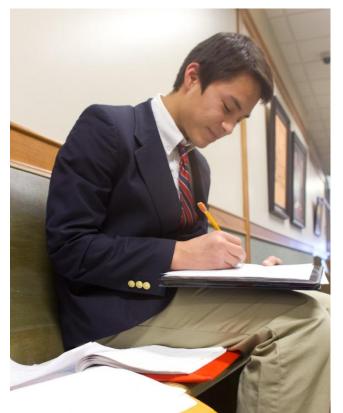
5th Grade Students portraying Christopher Columbus and the Spanish court of King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella in the Annual AHS Patriotic Program.



American Heritage School uses the "4-R" methodology in all subject areas. The 4-R's include "Research, Reason, Relate, and Record." The first step, "Research" encourages reading of original source materials.

AHS Essay Contest

Over the past four decades, American Heritage School has had a profound influence in the lives of many who have entered its doors. Its influence has continued to reflect in each of the remarkable lives of its students and families. This is your opportunity to write an essay of 300 words or more that includes specific references to the school and its legacy. See the flyer at the end of this newsletter for details on eligibility, essay questions, criteria, cash prizes, and more. All entries are due on Tuesday, May 15.



Alex Arguello finishes up some work on one of the favorite green benches throughout the school, which were pews brought from the "little old chapel" when the new AHS campus was constructed.

AHS Students Serve and Learn in Mexico

Ten AHS students engaged in service-learning in Mexico during the week of March 5-12.

Directed by Kendon Eakett of Family to Family Humanitarian Expeditions (FFHE), students and adults from American Heritage School, and Aspen Academy (Payson), traveled to Mexico City and Querétaro to teach English, repaint a public shelter, deliver school kits, upgrade a community soccer park in Mexico, and participate in LDS missionary work.

Planning for the event began six months in advance. Leaders prepared opportunities for participants to serve together, with the aim of developing a desire for life-long service. The event took place in two stages.

Stage 1: Benemérito

The service-learning began on the campus of Centro Escolar de Benemérito de Las Americas, also known as "Benemérito" – an LDS church-owned and operated school in Mexico City founded in 1964 that now enrolls over 2,000 students. Benemérito students and FFHE students were paired together so that each FFHE participant had a Benemérito "companion" to eat with, serve with, and stay with in the school's residence halls.

In all, 40 LDS youth from Utah and Mexico directly participated with dozens of adults.



AHS Student Adam Bushman (Grade Twelve) and Jorge Rincon Chavez (Benemérito) became fast friends.

Monday, Elder Mario Carlos, an LDS Area Authority Seventy who serves as Benemérito's director, addressed the group, inviting the service-learning participants to study the Book of Mormon together throughout the week. He assured students they would become more serviceable to God through a daily routine of careful study of the Book of Mormon.

Tuesday, students presented on various topics in approximately 100 English classes and answered interview questions with almost 2,000 Benemérito students. Providing Benemérito students with English conversation practice was a significant servicelearning goal at Benemérito. About the English classes, Olivia Sutton (Grade 9) of American Heritage School said, "The teacher let me help teach. I answered students' questions and they enjoyed it." Kelsey Crawford (Grade 12) added, "It was a good experience talking with all the different students."



Centro Escolar de Benemérito de Las Americas (also known as "Benemérito") students perform a traditional dance from Jalisco during an evening of culture and talent.

A cultural and talent exchange on Tuesday night resulted in students learning together. Benemérito students performed Mariachi (traditional Mexican serenade) and "Ballet Folklorico" dances from Aztec culture, Chiapas, and Jalisco. AHS students performed vocal, piano, dance, and orchestral numbers.

Wednesday, the youth group served in the Mexico City Temple. About the temple, 16 year old Lilia Michelle Valenzuela Parra of Puerto Peñasco, Mexico said, "The Church is the same everywhere, and even though we have different cultures, different language, different colors, we have the same feeling, and the same faith, and I just think this is great. I think this is how it going to be when we live with God again." Her companion, Lexie Butler of Payson Utah added, "I like to see how every temple is different. The Mexico City Temple is so pretty."



AHS, Aspen, and Benemérito students pose for a photo after serving at the Mexico City Temple.

Wednesday afternoon following the temple service, students changed into work clothes and traveled to a Mexico government-sponsored care center for elderly men. The youth group cleaned and re-painted three cafeterias to enhance the atmosphere of that common area. AHS students also visited the elderly residents, singing hymns to them, talking with them, and sharing candy with them. Students shared their tender thoughts about these men and their desires to do more service in a group meeting later that evening. Amy Bailey (12th Grade) said, "One of the highlights was realizing that you could feel love for these men even though they were from a different background."



AHS and Benemérito students enjoyed singing hymns in English and Spanish while painting a public shelter in Mexico City.

Thursday, students enjoyed visiting Teotihuacan (pre-Columbian ruins), playing sports, and teaching social dances to each other.

Sharing gospel testimonies and appreciation for each other concluded the Benemérito portion of the trip during a Friday morning devotional. AHS and Aspen students then loaded into a bus and headed to Querétaro for more service-learning.

Stage 2: Querétaro

Upon arrival in Querétaro on Friday afternoon, students delivered school kits to 100 students in need at a local elementary school. They then prepared for a local dance with LDS youth at a nearby ward building.

Saturday morning, AHS and Aspen youth combined with approximately 100 youth from two Querétaro LDS stakes, 40 LDS adults, and a dozen architecture students from Monterrey Institute of Technology to build bleachers and renovate a soccer field. Students donned work gloves, hats, and work masks in nearby Menchaca, a suburb of Querétaro in need of community recreation space. Touched by the large project, several local residents pitched in. Today Menchaca has new soccer field bleachers and a cleaner and smoother field, thanks to the service.



As part of his Eagle Scout project, AHS Student David Pack raised \$4,000 to support the building of bleachers for a community soccer field in Menchac, Querétaro, Mexico.

AHS Student David Pack (Grade 12) played a pivotal role in making the project a success. He organized an Eagle Scout project that included raising \$4,000 to fund the day's work.

Alejandra Martinez Trujillo, a Monterrey Tech student said, "I am very pleased with the project because the people of Menchaca are interested in it, and it gives them a place to spend time together as families and a community."

Antonio Garduño, the supervising professor from the Monterrey Institute of Technology, said, "I am proud of what is being accomplished because we are serving the community of Menchaca, my students are doing good work, and we have so many volunteers here helping."

Youth participants and adult leaders said they enjoyed working together and felt the satisfaction of creating an important community recreation space for the families of Menchaca. Saturday evening after a long day of work, the youth enjoyed time in Querétaro's historic downtown district including a walking tour of the city.



Youth from American Heritage School and Aspen Academy worked together with local youth to build soccer field bleachers in Menchaca, a remote neighborhood of Querétaro, Mexico.

The group attended and participated in Sunday LDS church meetings in two Querétaro LDS stakes. That afternoon they also accompanied local LDS missionaries, visiting many homes. Adam Bushman of American Heritage School, said missionaries asked him during one visit to extend a baptismal invitation to a woman they met that afternoon. Bushman said, "I couldn't believe they wanted me to extend the invitation, but I did it and she accepted. I am grateful for the experience. I can't wait to be a missionary."

After a Sunday night fireside about missionary work, AHS, Aspen, and Querétaro youth parted with hugs. Tour participants met early Monday morning to ride a bus to the airport and fly home. Student Lexie Butler (Aspen) called the trip the "best eight days of my life."

Leaders from American Heritage School, Aspen, and FFHE felt the trip was a success. Eakett (FFHE) said, "This expedition has been special among those I have directed in the last ten years." Leland Anderson, AHS Principal of Grades 7-12, attended the trip and commented, "Our goal to provide meaningful servicelearning and spiritual experiences was accomplished. This trip resulted in friendships and memories that the students will cherish for decades. I look forward to similar service-learning trips in the future."



American Heritage School students donated nearly 500 teddy bears to children in the Ogden Rescue Mission as part of an annual AHS Christmas service project. Many students earned the money for the bears themselves by doing extra chores at home.

AHS Basketball Teams Enjoy a Winning Season

All three of our American Heritage School basketball teams ended the season with winning records this year! Coach Toby Norton made his debut with Assistant Coach Dan Burton—both of whom did a superb job helping our boys basketball teams achieve a higher level of play. Our JV Boys Team played hard and won the majority of their games. McKay Pierce, Noah Jones, and Davin Neilson led the way with plenty of great shots, steals and assists.

Our Varsity Boys, led by Ronal He, Adam Bushman, Jeewon Ha, and Evan Petersen played with heart throughout the season and the tournament, finishing in 4th place. Congrats to our Boys Basketball Team who made us proud to be AHS Patriots!

Our Varsity Girls Basketball Team had a special season this year. This was Regan Gull's final season as Head Coach, and it ended up being the best one yet! Thank you Coach Gull for your dedication the past three years to put AHS Girls Basketball on the map in our league! Coach Gull and the very talented Assistant Coach Brooke Bailey are to be commended for taking a great group of girls to the next level of competition. With a winning season behind them, the girls entered the tournament with a tough 2nd round loss. However, they became more motivated as leaders stepped up to take our team all the way to the Championship Game. The tournament game was exciting for the entire crowd with star performances

and plays! We saw several clutch last minute 3pointers and stealthy steals from Brittani Bills and multiple fast breaks to the basket from Michelle Morris. Coming from behind in the Championship Game, Rachael Breaux and Lacey Monson drew fouls and were both key players as they hit their free throws to ensure victory-we were the only team to beat the previously undefeated Legacy Prep. Carlvnn Raubenheimer used her height to the advantage of our team, securing multiple rebounds and making several shots. The Double Elimination Tournament required a second 'tie breaker' Championship Game against Legacy Prep. Our girls played like true champions and only lost by one point in double overtime. We saw real champions play with all of their hearts in both championship games. Congratulations to our Lady Patriots for an unforgettable season!

AHS Soccer Season Underway

AHS soccer is underway! This year we have three teams, and anticipate a strong season. Coach Jeff Arnson is coaching our Middle School (7-9 Grade) Co-ed Team again this year, and we look forward to cheering them on the victory.

We welcome our new Varsity (9-12 Grade) Girls Soccer Coach, Shanae Johnson, who brings lots of experience as a player, coach, and referee in the state of Utah. She is dedicated to helping our Girls Soccer Team become winners this year!

Coach Nick Gentile is at the helm, once again, of our Varsity (9-12 Grade) Boys Soccer Team. We are confident this will be our best season yet and looking forward to cheering on our Soccer Patriots to victory!

American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic <u>Performs with Steven Sharp Nelson</u>

The American Heritage Lyceum Philharmonic Orchestra and its director, Kayson Brown, teamed up with cello-sensation Steven Sharp Nelson and The Piano Guys early in the 2012 year. Steven Sharp Nelson had soloed with the orchestra the previous year and loved the spirit and the talent that the orchestra showed at such young ages (ages 13-18!) Together they developed the concept of "Beethoven's 5 Secrets," combining One Republic's tune "Secrets" with melodies and moments from all four movements of Beethoven's 5th Symphony.

The "Beethoven's 5 Secrets" went online at YouTube and had over one million views in less than a week! The audio download quickly rose to the top of the iTunes classical charts in the United States and Canada, and was in the top 10 in eight other countries around the world.

CBS News posted a review on their blog, calling the piece "pure amazing" and highly recommending it: <u>http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-504784_162-57374114-10391705/onerepublics-secrets-mixed-with-beethovens-5th-symphony-is-pure-amazing/</u>

Congratulations to the AHS Lyceum Philharmonic for launching into a level of unprecedented success, sharing your outstanding talent with millions all over the world! What a great way to begin 2012!

They will perform "Beethoven's 5 Secrets" and the entire Beethoven Symphony No. 5 with Steven Sharp Nelson at the Lyceum Music Festival this year! Visit http://www.LyceumMusicFestival.com or http://american-heritage.org/music/orchestra for details.



AHS Impact through Character Education

Did you know that semi-annual voluntary surveys of AHS parents through the years, including most recently, indicate that character/spiritual education is considered the most valued aspect of the education that AHS provides for its families? Academic education and safety are also highly valued; however, character education is most commonly cited as the most important reason that families enroll at AHS.

"Character education," (also commonly referred to as "civic education," or "moral education") connotes education that works not just on the mind, but also on students' hearts by inspiring wisdom and goodness in the students. How does AHS approach character education?



American Heritage School accomplishes character education through many means, a few of which are highlighted here:

(1) Laying the Word of God at the foundation of all instruction is called "The Principle Approach[®]" by the Foundation for American Christian Education. The Principle Approach helps students develop a sense of purpose and desire to "be useful in the hands of the Lord in building the Kingdom of God on earth" (AHS mission statement), is central to all AHS classes, and supports excellent academics.



During a trip to Mexico, AHS students participated in "Missionary Week" lessons in Benemérito's seminary classes.



(2) AHS's Honor Code provides discussion and training guidelines about the kinds of Christian behavior the school expects of students, and the Christian men and women we expect them to become. Honor code infractions are not treated unkindly or mechanically in upholding honor code policy; rather they are approached carefully as teachable moments.

(3) American Heritage School curriculum engages students in service and patriotism. Service days are common at school – including class service projects on and off campus. For example, several students and faculty traveled to Mexico in March 2012 to engage in a senior citizen shelter service project, renovate a community soccer field, assist in teaching English, and help in temple and missionary work. Patriotic celebrations are hallmarks of AHS curriculum. As culmination of studying principles of government and liberty, AHS patriotic celebrations involve hundreds of students in memorable, meaningful roles.





American Heritage Students take the Stage! Directed by the talented Johanne Perry, our high school students performed "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" in October. What a success! Look for our future AHS Drama Productions, including Pride and Prejudice, coming in May!



The AHS senior class has conducted cultural luncheons each month this year, including an annual Seder Service as they learn about Hebrew culture and the Passover Feast.

AHS Approved to Host ACT On Campus: <u>Upcoming Test Dates, Registration</u>

On Saturday, February 11, 2012, AHS hosted the ACT on campus, administered by Ms. Liz Jacob and Mr. Mike Bohn. This was a milestone for AHS, since prior to that date, students had only been able to take the ACT at other schools in the valley.

Ms. Jacob reported, "The students seemed to feel much more comfortable being able to take the ACT in a school where they are familiar with the campus, classrooms and the administrators. Several expressed appreciation for this opportunity." Mr. Bohn observed that 15 students took the ACT on February 11 and all but one of them were attending American Heritage School. The next test to be hosted at AHS occurs on June 9, 2012. Registration is due online at www.actstudent.org by May 4, 2012. Late registration fees may be paid until May 18, 2012.

American Heritage School is also hosting an ACT Preparation Class on its campus for the third time this year. This course is an excellent way to boost your ACT test scores at a very low cost. We strongly encourage juniors and sophomores who have not taken this class to consider doing so. The three-part class is taught at the school on the following dates: Saturday, April 21, 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon; Thursday, April 26, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m; Saturday, April 28, 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon. The cost for this course is \$120.00 if you register by April 14. You can register for this class by sending an e-mail to Heidi Weyland -heidi.weyland@gmail.com.



More AHS Drama is coming this year, including Pride & Prejudice and Shakespeare Week. "The Play's the Thing!"



Tips and Tools for Parents: <u>Celebrating Math</u>

Yes, we must say with great rejoicing that the mathematical nature of our universe Does indeed bear witness of God's Character: He is Unchangeable He is Orderly He is Systematical He is Precise He is Dependable He is Infinite and eternal He is the Source of Governance for all things.

--LuJean Livingston

February at American Heritage School is a month of celebrating math through playing math games and competing in Math Bowls. Mastering mathematics is absolutely essential for future opportunities in school, managing family finances, and careers. Your children will need to reach a certain level of competency in math to take many advanced high-school courses, to be admitted to college, and to have a wide variety of career choices. Teaching math with a spiritual perspective to children increases their knowledge of a loving Heavenly Father. It increases their faith of how secure they can be in his unconditional, unchanging love for them.

Math is an incremental discipline and must build line upon line, much like climbing the rungs on a ladder. Have you ever noticed that some children can say the words from 1 to 10 but have trouble counting out 10 things? This is not unusual. In the early stages of counting, children often can memorize the words from 1 to 10 but not really understand what they mean and how to use them. Children need to experience counting in practical situations to understand how to numbers. "Purposeful" counting use (the understanding that the number 2 represents two things) happens when you ask your child to count out liners for the muffin tin or count two cookies for each family member. Counting objects helps your child understand how numbers are used in everyday life.

Shared experiences in your kitchen preparing snacks and meals provide your children with many opportunities to measure and count out ingredients, make estimations, understand the need for fractions, and create shapes and number patterns. These are essential math skills that your child will use throughout life, so why not start now right in your kitchen? Count, add, subtract, multiply, divide, and cook by practicing math with kitchen counting projects, then eat the delicious results.

The following suggestions for learning math with your children have been adapted to American Heritage School from specialists Peggy Gisler and Marge Eberts:

1. Make sure your children understand mathematical concepts. Otherwise, math becomes a meaningless mental exercise of just memorizing rules and doing rote drills. Have your children manipulate objects to figure out basic concepts. For addition, they could add one, two, or more blocks to a pile of blocks and then tell you how many blocks are in the pile.

2. Help them master the basic facts. Mastery of a basic math fact means that children can give an answer in less than three seconds. Considerable drill is required for children to give quick responses. Use flash cards to help your children learn the basic facts. When they don't know an answer, have them lay out objects to solve the problem.



3. Teach them to write their numbers neatly. Twenty-five percent of all errors in solving math problems can be traced back to sloppy number writing. Improve your children's number-writing skills by having them trace over numbers that you have written. Suggest they use graph paper to keep the numbers in problems neatly aligned.

4. Provide help immediately when your children need it.

Math is one subject in which everything builds upon what has been previously learned. For example, a failure to understand the concept of percent leads to problems with decimals. If your child is unable to master a concept, provide help by explaining the concept at home and contacting the teacher. In cases where the child is several concepts behind, you may need to obtain a tutor.



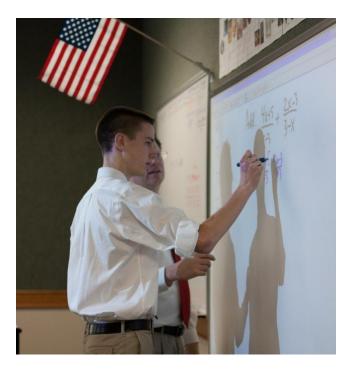
5. Show them how to study their math homework. Doing math homework reinforces the skills your children are learning in class. Teach them to begin

every assignment by studying the textbook or side A of their math homework page. Then have them complete a math problem with the new concept, before beginning the assignment to make sure they understand the lesson. You may use manipulative objects, such as raisins or blocks, to help young children add, subtract, multiply, or divide.

6. Encourage your children to do more than the assigned problems.

Mathematicians have an expression: To learn to solve problems, you must solve problems. Considerable practice is necessary for your children to hone their math skills. If a concept is not clear to your child after completing the math homework, create more of the same problems. This can easily be done by changing the numbers in the homework problems creating new problems on a separate paper. This will strengthen their skills. The more time your children spend practicing their skills, the sooner they will develop confidence in their abilities.

7. Explain how to solve word problems. Teach your children to read word problems several times. Also, have them draw a picture or diagram to describe it. Make it easier for them to understand the steps in a problem by teaching them to substitute smaller numbers for larger ones.



8. Help your children learn the vocabulary of mathematics.

They will never get a real feeling for math nor learn more advanced concepts without an understanding of its vocabulary. Check that your children can define new terms. If not, have them use models and simple problems to show you they understand how the term is used.

9. Teach them how to do math "in their head." One of the major ways to solve problems is by using mental math. Children should use this method frequently instead of using pencil and paper or a calculator. When helping your children with a problem, help them determine when it would be appropriate to use mental math.

10. Make mathematics part of your children's daily life.

Mathematics will become more meaningful when your children see how important it is in so many reallife situations. Encourage them to use math in practical ways. For example, ask them to space new plants a certain distance apart, double a recipe, count the mated socks while folding laundry, and purchase items in the store. Build on their knowledge of counting to 100 by ones, fives and tens. Use pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters to show you can count to 100 in various ways.

There are many ways to have fun with math at home and your children will love the learning process. More importantly they will have a love of learning as they see your involvement and excitement as you learn to enjoy math together in daily living.

The Eternal Nature of our Heavenly Father is Manifest in the Study of Mathematics. "The chief aim of all investigation of the external world should be to discover the rational order and harmony which has been imposed on it by God and which He revealed to us in the language of mathematics. –Johannes Kepler



Smiles were everywhere at the AHS Dance Festival! Each elementary grade level performed dance numbers, with other performances by our Ballroom and P.E. classes and AHS faculty.

<u>AHS Alumni Update</u>

Below are a few updates on last year's graduating seniors (Class of 2011):

Walker Johnson received a half-tuition scholarship at BYU, and jumped right back into school by starting with the summer term. He is taking pre-med coursework, and has tackled Calculus and some ASL classes, among others. Now in his third semester at BYU, he starts every day early by doing maintenance work at 4:30am! Over Christmas he traveled to Mexico where he helped build homes for those in need. He will soon begin paperwork to serve a fulltime mission.

Austin Hendricksen has been busy working and getting ready to serve a full time mission. He will be turning his papers in soon. After his mission he would like to attend BYU. At this point he still wants to become an Orthodontist.

Esteban Selva is currently attending college back home in France – he plans to major in Physics. He said, "I'm doing my best to honor what I have been taught last year. I try to bring happiness in other people's lives by living righteously and by sharing the Gospel with whoever wants to hear about it."

Michael Morris is attending Southern Virginia University on a 4-year Marriott Scholarship. He also received scholarships from the National Eagle Scout Association (freshman), Jorgensen Family Scholarship Fund (freshman), and Ex-FBI Agents Association (freshman). While at SVU, Michael has earned a 4.0 GPA, played junior varsity basketball during the 2011-12 year as a shooting guard, served as student ward Institute representative, and is now in the process of submitting mission papers to serve a full-time LDS mission, beginning in June 2012.



AHS Shakespeare Week is almost here! Don't miss "Much Ado About Nothing," May 24th at 6:30!

Kristeena Hone writes. "American Heritage School has assisted me so much in my life by helping me gain confidence in myself, have a knowledge of how to learn and to love learning, have a greater desire to serve others, grow closer to my Savior, and helped my testimony of the gospel grow exponentially. My parents, teachers, and administration have guided and encouraged me in deciding what I want for my future life. Here are just a few of the things I hope and dream of doing. I plan to obtain a college education and to be able to teach art and history and the importance of it in our lives. Another goal and dream of mine is to serve a mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. For as long as I can remember, I have wanted to serve a mission. Next on my list, I plan on finding my prince charming and to be married in the temple and have an eternal family. This is but a glimpse into my happily ever after."

Kristeena Hone's father reports: As a parent of six children and an emerita University Administrator of 30 years, I could not be more pleased with the outcome from the educational experience my youngest daughter received from the teachers,

administration, staff and students/parents of American Heritage High School. Kristee has had a greater confidence, desire to learn and to set out a definite plan for her future with a determination to accomplish her goals since the first year of her attendance at American Heritage High School. She was able to receive a scholarship to Southern Virginia University and found that her ability to handle college level work was far better than she had expected--I believe that this is because of the training and instruction in the learning methods taught by the faculty and administration American at Heritage High School. She has tackled each issue whether in school or out with the vigor and confidence of a wellbalanced individual thanks to this training.

Aja Tolman is in her junior year at BYU-Provo on a BYU academic scholarship. She has attended BYU full-time since she was accepted—at age 16, just out of 10th grade at AHS—two years ago.

Kaitlyn Hansen is currently attending BYU-Idaho on the Winter/Spring track. She was honored with two scholarships at this university, one for music and one for academics. She is living on campus and rooming with her good friend and fellow American Heritage graduate, Holly Welch. She is thinking about studying Humanities and World Cultures, but is still undeclared at this time in her major. Kaitlyn just found out that she has been accepted into BYU's London Study Abroad program for the Fall 2012 semester, and she is excited about this. She will spend four months in London and the surrounding area studying with peers and gaining great experience. She continues to perform with her cello wherever possible. She is currently member of BYU Idaho's orchestra and accompanies or solos for many church or choir activities. She has a passion for learning and a strong dedication to her studies. She is more appreciative than ever of all that American Heritage taught her and is doing her best to represent American Heritage School well at the university.

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AHS Welcomes New Faculty and Staff

Have you noticed there are several new faces around campus? AHS is pleased to announce that it has hired the following individuals:



Barbara McOmber, Ballroom Teacher. AHS is excited to announce that we have hired Mrs. Barbara McOmber to fill the role of Ballroom Dance Instructor at AHS. The post was formerly filled by Mrs. Melonie Mullen who was called to serve a mission with

her husband (who will preside over the Spokane Washington LDS Mission). Mrs. McOmber has a wealth of experience to offer AHS as you can see below: Barbara McOmber joins American Heritage School as the Ballroom Dance Instructor. Barbara is a Brigham Young University graduate with a Bachelor of Science in Home and Family Living Studies. While attending BYU, she was on the Ballroom Tour team, where she was able to spread her love of dance and the gospel while touring the South Pacific including; Tahiti, New Zealand, Australia, and Hawaii. She and her dance partner competed in the National Dancesport competitions for years. It was at BYU where Barbara met her husband Arthur. She said "he swept her off her feet!" After leaving Utah, they lived in Southern California where Art worked for the FBI and they had 4 wonderful children. In 2005, they moved to Cedar Hills, UT where Barbara quickly began teaching Elementary Ballroom at several of the schools in the Alpine School District as well as at Challenger. Barbara has choreographed, costumed, and produced annual ballroom concerts for the past 6 years. Her competition teams have reached the gold level multiple times. She is thrilled to be a part of the American Heritage Team and teach such outstanding students. Welcome, Mrs. McOmber!



Jake Sivert, Assistant Director of Facilities and Security. American Heritage School is pleased to announce that it has hired Jake Sivert to fill the role of Assistant Director of Facilities and Security. Jake was born and raised in Orem, Utah and is from a family of 10. He started a plumbing career at age 17 and never stopped. He served an LDS Mission in Billings, Montana.

Upon returning home he continued his plumbing career and married his high school sweetheart, Marianne. They now have three beautiful children, the oldest being a first grade student at American Heritage School. Jake enjoys spending time with his family, boating, being outdoors, sports and traveling. He is very grateful for the opportunity to start his career with American School. Welcome, Mr. Sivert!



PaulSquire,HelpDesk/SupportTechnician.AmericanHeritage is happyto announce that we havehiredPaulSquire as aHelpDesk/SupportTechnician.He is working along withTraceyWilson as part of theTechnologySupport team.

Paul is currently attending school at Utah Valley University, studying Information Systems with an emphasis in Health Information Systems. He plans to complete his Bachelor's degree in Information Systems in Fall of 2013. Prior to attending there, he received an Associate degree in General Studies.

Paul served an LDS Mission in Richmond Virginia from Oct 2002 – Oct 2004. He is an Eagle Scout. In December of 2010, Paul met his wife Erika. They were just married this past October and they live in Provo. Welcome, Mr. Squire!



Cynthia Bingham, *Kindergarten Aide*. AHS is pleased to announce that it has hired Mrs. Cynthia Bingham to fill the role of Kindergarten Aide at AHS. She is working with Mrs.

Deborah Hobbs. Mrs. Bingham has a wealth of experience to offer as you can see below:

Cynthia Bingham and her husband Spence live in Lehi with their three children Dennis, Roman and Arista. Her and her husband have been married for almost 25 years. They first found each other when they both started school at Ricks College in Rexburg, ID.

Cynthia has been a volunteer at American Heritage School since the school moved to its new current location in 2002. Also during that time Cynthia has been involved in starting three companies with her husband and has managed the financing, bookkeeping and managing partner of all three businesses. She first came in contact with AHS during an open house as she was looking for a kindergarten school for Dennis. She was so touched by the spirit that she came home that night and enrolled her husband in supporting the vision that AHS has to offer their children. All three of her children currently are attending the school.

Cynthia also works most early Saturday mornings as a volunteer for Bountiful Baskets—a food co-op that helps bring affordable food for those willing to participate in the organization.

Cynthia has grown to have a deep appreciation and love for the Teachers and Scholars of AHS and is very much inspired to be working in the Kindergarten. Welcome, Mrs. Bingham!



Julianna Blake, Lower Elementary (K-3) Accompanist and Music Aide. AHS is happy to announce that it has hired Julianna Blake to work with our elementary music program. She is very excited to be at American Heritage School. Julianna was born in Lubbock, Texas, but spent

most of her younger years in American Fork with her three brothers and two sisters. Now she lives in Provo with her husband Jeffrey, to whom she was married at the end of January. Julianna has a passion for music and for teaching children. After earning a Bachelor's Degree in Music from Utah Valley University, she spent time at a children's grief centre in Midland, Texas, helping to develop music classes. She also spent time at Meridian School as the teacher for Pre-K through 12th grade music. Now, she teaches piano and voice lessons at the Utah School of Music and Dance in Lehi. Julianna loves film, composing, writing, and baking. She also loves theatre, and has recently partnered up with her husband and younger brother to open up The Echo Theatre in Provo. She looks forward to getting to know everyone at AHS. Welcome, Mrs. Blake!



Field learning at KSL-TV for "Advocacy Day" in Principles of Leadership Course, 10th Grade.

<u>Fire and Earthquake Drills</u> By Bob Wheeler Director of Facilities/ Safety & Security

Emergency preparedness and evacuation plans outline faculty and staff responsibilities in times of emergency. Ongoing training is necessary to help ensure that faculty and staff are aware of and understand their duties and responsibilities. Fire drills serve as an opportunity for faculty and staff to demonstrate, under simulated fire conditions, that they can perform their duties and responsibilities safely and efficiently.

Fire drills are more than an exercise designed to evaluate faculty and staff response to a simulated emergency. They also test our evacuation plans. Occasionally we have simulated an obstruction at an exit, requiring faculty and staff members to find an alternate, safe route out of the building. Fire drills give us the opportunity to test our fire alarm system. We communicate with Dispatch at our alarm monitoring center, test our audible alarms, flashing strobe lights and ensure that the fire doors close to contain an actual fire to the point of origin. This helps to prevent a fire from spreading throughout the building.

We improve with each fire drill; however, not all fire drills run as smoothly as we would like. This is a learning time for faculty and staff. Each fire drill is critiqued so that any problems encountered can be addressed. After input is requested from faculty and staff, an Incident Report is completed. Training is provided to faculty and staff members during Teacher In-Service Training at least once a month.

Another reason we have fire drills is because the law requires it. Utah Administrative Code R277-400-6 B (1) and C state in part: "During each school year, elementary schools shall conduct fire drills at least once each month during school sessions... Schools shall hold at least one drill for other emergencies during the school year."

On April 17, 2012, American Heritage School will participate in the "Great Utah Shake Out". This is a statewide effort to prepare ourselves for a major earthquake, magnitude 7.0 or greater. Over 830,000 Utahans have committed to participate in this event sponsored by The State of Utah, FEMA and other organizations. We will be practicing "Drop, Cover, Hold On" as students may only have seconds to protect themselves in an earthquake before strong shaking creates dangerous circumstances. For more information go to: <u>www.shakeout.org/utah/login/</u>.

Being prepared cannot be overstated. I was an emergency first responder to the Northridge Earthquake (Southern California) on January 17, 1994. Neither the community nor the emergency responders were truly prepared for the 7.1 magnitude earthquake. I am grateful to all the teachers, staff, parents, and students in the American Heritage School community who have been so supportive of our ongoing emergency preparedness efforts.

Faculty News and Notes

In addition to welcoming new members to the school, here is more exciting news in the lives of American Heritage staff:

The Boden's welcomed a new addition to their family recently! Chloe Jean Boden was born on Dec. 31st,

2011, weighing 5 lbs. 13 oz., and 18.5 inches of pure heaven. We are excited for **Heidi Boden**, AHS K-3 Art Teacher, and her family!



In February, we were sad to have a dear AHS friend leave us but we are excited for what lies ahead for her! Elementary Accompanist and Music Aide Nicole Thurston is pursuing further education, inspired by the AHS students with whom

she worked. In her own words, "Hello, American Heritage families! It is with sadness I say farewell to you. I am working on a Masters degree and certification in Elementary Education, and have found that I can no longer balance school and work and family. I want to thank you for all the support and sweet gifts you've given me, but most of all thank you for the opportunity to work with your wonderful children. They have inspired me to take this step in my life, and they will always hold a place in my heart." Best wishes in your educational pursuits, Mrs. Thurston!

Melonie Mullen (Previous AHS Ballroom Teacher) has been called to serve on a mission with her husband. He will be presiding over the Spokane Washington LDS mission. They enter the Provo MTC this July. Congratulations, Mullen's!

Physical Education instructor **Leann Brinton** is currently training for the *Women of Steel* sprint triathlon in May! She has been taking swimming lessons all winter to learn how to swim properly. Best wishes to you, Leann!



Parent Organization President Announced <u>for 2012-2013 School Year</u>

We are pleased to announce that **Jill Murdock** has graciously agreed to serve a second term as AHS Parent Organization President! She is excited for the 2012-2013 year, and, with one year's experience, will "hit the ground running" this coming year. We have been so grateful to her and our Parent Organization leaders for all of their work this year and are looking forward to what next year will bring.

Jill and her husband Marshall feel blessed to have two children at American Heritage: Hannah is a 4th grader and Paige is in Kindergarten this year. Not only has Jill been our Parent Organization President this year, but she has also found time to substitute teach and help as an office assistant. Jill is a Licensed Massage Therapist and also enjoys reading, summer walks, doing crafts, eating Tootsie Rolls, playing games with her girls, and holding hands with her husband. Thank you for your continuing support, Mrs. Murdock!



Jill Murdock, AHS Parent Organization President for the 2012-2013 year, her husband Marshall, and their six children.

Edline Tips – More Important <u>Than You May Think!</u> By Tammy Morse

Did you know that in a school-wide emergency situation, our ability to communicate with you depends upon how diligently you have updated your e-mail and cell phone information on Edline? Did you know that if only one parent is getting important e-mail announcements and reminders from Mr. Beckwith each week – you can add multiple e-mail addresses and phone numbers?

Keep Your Contact Information Updated. Make sure that the Edline website has your current email addresses so that the school can send important alerts to you via email.

- 1. From the **My Edline** menu, select **My Account**, and then **Manage Account** to access the Manage Account page.
- 2. Add or change your email address in **Email Settings**:
 - To enter a new or additional email address, click **Add Email Address** to access the Add Email Address page.

Type the new address in the **Email Address** and **Reenter Email Address** fields.

Click Save and Return.

Important: The status of the new address is set to pending until you verify it through a confirmation email sent to your email account.

• To remove an email address, click **Delete** from Manage Account page.

To Receive Phone and Text Messages Via Edline

You can add your phone number to receive emergency calls or text messages from your school (AHS uses the Edline Mass Notification feature for emergencies, inclement weather closures, etc.).

- 1. From the **My Edline** menu, select **My Account**, and then **Manage Account** to access the Manage Account page.
- 2. To configure the phone /(and or) message settings, complete the following steps:
 - In the Voice Dialing / (and or) Text Message Settings section, click Add a Phone Number for Voice Dialing.
 - Type your phone number in the Voice Phone Number field.

Important: Do not type dashes, parenthesis, or periods between the numbers — type a SPACE between the numbers. Do not type the prefix before the area code (do not type the "1"). Example: 555 555 5555. Type the number again in the **Re-enter Voice Phone Number** field.



Chemistry students at BYU, came to AHS 4th grade science classes to do a chemistry demonstration. They did demonstrations with liquid nitrogen, dry ice, and a variety of chemicals.

Positions Available

Upper Elementary Core Teacher 4th-6th grades (**FT**) (posted 2/7/12): Minimum two-years of experience, preferably in formal elementary school setting. Bachelor's degree or higher preferred. Teacher certification a plus, but not required. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Competitive wage based upon experience. Position open until filled. Starting date is August 1, 2012.

Lower Elementary Core Teacher K-3rd grade (FT) (posted 4/6/12): Minimum two-years of experience, preferably in formal elementary school setting. Bachelor's degree or higher preferred. Teacher certification a plus, but not required. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Competitive wage based upon experience. Position open until filled. Starting date is August 1, 2012.

AP English Literature and Composition Instructor (PT/FT)(posted 2/9/12): Minimum two-years of teaching experience at advanced or AP level,

preferably in formal high school setting. Must have a bachelor's degree or higher. Teacher certification a plus, but not required. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Competitive wage based upon experience. Position open until filled. Start date is August 1, 2012.

Physics and AP Physics Instructor (PT / FT) (posted 12/16/11): Minimum two-years of experience, preferably in formal high school setting. Bachelor's degree or higher required in Physics or related field. Teacher certification a plus, but not required. Expertise in Chemistry or Biology also a plus. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Competitive wage based upon experience. Position open until filled. Starting date is August 1, 2012.

Math Instructor (PT / FT) (posted 3/2/12): Twoyears' teaching experience in formal high school or middle school setting preferred. Must have a bachelor's degree or higher. Teacher certification a plus, but not required. Must have an enduring love of youth, love of teaching, and love of the Restored Gospel. Competitive wage based upon experience. Position open until filled. Start date is August 1, 2012.

For qualifications and more details on these job openings, see the "Opportunities" page of our website at the following link:

http://american-heritage.org/Home/ApplyForEmploy



LaDawn Jacob (left), and her mother Shirley Andersen (right). Shirley and her husband, Verlan, were instrumental in the founding of AHS in 1968 when the BY Academy closed.

AHS Honor Roll – Second Term

American Heritage School posts the Honor Roll each term for grades 4 and higher. Students qualify for the Honor Roll through exemplary performance in either academics (minimum 3.70 grade point average) or self-government (highest self-government grade of "Outstanding" in all classes). A student receives an "Outstanding" self-

Adam B. Sheets Adam Bushman Addison Symonds Alaynia Winter Alex Hill Alexandria Bigelow Alexia Latimer Alyza Jones Amanda Chipman Amber Sessions Amy Boyle Andrew Knecht Andrew Sessions Angelina Hu Anna Andelin Anna Burton Anna Griffith Annabelle Park Arvn Jones Ashley Willardson Asia Ford Aubrey Pierce Audrey Meade **Bailey** Condie **Baylor Sandberg Bethany Bailey Braelynn Harris** Brenden McGhie Brenley Mason Brenna Johnson Caitlyn Young Caleb Brown Caleb Uhl Camilla Huhem Carlynn Raubenheimer Carsyn Lofgreen Casey Raubenheimer Cayla Larson Chandler Helvev Charles Valverde Chelsey Carlson China Harbaugh Chitra Satyanarayan Chloe Morrill Christopher Hales Christopher Holmstead Clarissa Chipman Clarissa Hales Clark Miner Connor Uhl Courtney Giles

Cynthia Chan Daisha Van Der Watt Dallen Lofgreen **Daniel Jones Daphne Boggess** David Pack Dorie DeSpain Douglas Henke Draeton Bybee Dylana Valverde Elisa Huhem Eliza Lee Ellie Williams Ellie Woo Else Peterson **Emily Anderson Emily Sanders** Emilynne Carr Emma Brady Emma Todd Ethan Morrill Evan Meade Gabrielle Lambert Garrett Johns Garrett Ostler Grant Frazier Guillermo Bustamante Hannah Davies Hannah Fee Hannah Murdock Hannah Swim Hannah Tolman Havden Wade Ho Seok Lee Hyrum Cowley Ian Boggess Isaac Reid Ivonne Hilton Jackson Graham Jacob Burr Jacob Frazier Jacob Gardner Jacob Lundskog James van der Beek Janice Chan Jasia Strong Jayden Monson Jens Jorgensen Jerusha Bitter Jesse Boggess Jiho Lee

John Burton Jordan Williams Joseph Andersen Joseph Holmstead Josh Jorgensen Joshua Barlow Joshua Blair Joshua Sperry Joshua van der Beek Kaden Hunsaker Kaleb Hansen Kara Han Karen Andelin Karina Dixon Karina Hansen Katelyn Handy Katelyn Spangler Katherine Bennett Kathy Andelin Keegan McGhie Kelsey Carlson Kelsey Crawford Kelsey Wade Kennady Call Kennedy Peck Kenzie Brandon Klaesara Bybee Kristelle Bruno Lacey Monson Laelle Pack Lauren Hall Lauren Johnson Lauren Mulvev Lauren Willardson Leah Pierce Lindsey McGuire Linnea Miner Madison Johnson Madison Smith Magdalene Crawford Malissa Lytle Marinn Duncan Matthew Law Matthew Ng McKay Pierce Mckenna Brown McKenzie Hill Megan Holmes Mia Wilkins Michael Sorensen Michelle Morris

Misha Duncan Natalie Miner Natasha Huhem Nathan Holmstead Nicole Curzon Noah Jones Oak Jones Olivia Bushman Olivia Sutton Paisley Harbaugh Parker Hunsaker Porter Pierce Porter Roskelley Rachel West Rebekah Crawford Reed Knecht Rosie Monson Sabrina Glathar Sadie Veach Samantha Burton Samuel Beckwith Samuel Weyland Sarah Bowen Sarah Cowley Sarah Curzon Sarah Jensen Sariah Henke Scott Hilton Sophie Sheets Stephanie McGuire Sumner MacArthur Taeven Bybee Tanlen Raubenheimer Taylor Anderson Thomas Holmes Truman Gunther Tyler Bell Valerie Arguello William Jensen Woo Seok Lee Zachary Veach

AHS Honor Roll – Third Term

American Heritage School posts the Honor Roll each term for grades 4 and higher. Students qualify for the Honor Roll through exemplary performance in either academics (minimum 3.70 grade point average) or self-government (highest self-government grade of "Outstanding" in all classes). A student receives an "Outstanding" self-government grade who demonstrates exceptional respect, effort, and work ethic; makes significant or frequent contributions to the class; and completes and submits all in-class and homework assignments on time during the term (unless otherwise excused by the instructor).

Adam B. Sheets Adam Bushman Adam Peterson Addison Symonds Alayna Betts Alexandria Bigelow Alexia Latimer Alyza Jones Amanda Chipman Amber Sessions Amelia Andersen Amy Boyle Andrew Knecht Andrew Sessions Angelina Hu Anna Burton Anna Griffith Aryn Jones Ashley Willardson Asia Ford Aubrey Pierce Audrey Meade Bailey Condie Benjamin Larson Benjamin Weyland Bethany Bailey Brenden McGhie Brenna Johnson Caitlyn Young Caleb Brown Caleb Uhl Camilla Huhem Carlynn Raubenheimer Carsyn Lofgreen Cayla Larson Chandler Helvey Charles Valverde Chelsev Carlson China Harbaugh Chloe Morrill Christopher Hales Christopher Holmstead Clarissa Chipman Clarissa Hales Clark Miner Courtney Giles Daisha Van Der Watt Dallen Lofgreen Daniel Jones

Daphne Boggess David Pack Dorie DeSpain Draeton Bybee Dylan Wooden Dylana Valverde Elisa Huhem Ellie Williams Ellie Woo **Emily Anderson** Emily Sanders Emilynne Carr Emma Todd Ethan Morrill Ethan Peterson Evan Meade Gabrielle Lambert Garrett Johns Garrett Ostler Grant Frazier Guillermo Bustamante Hannah Fee Hannah Murdock Hannah Swim Hannah Tolman Havden Wade Heather Petersen Hyeweon Kang Hyrum Cowley Ian Boggess Isaac Reid Ivonne Hilton Jacob Burr Jacob Frazier Jacob Gardner James van der Beek Janice Chan Jasia Strong Jayden Monson Jennis Andelin Jens Jorgensen Jesse Boggess Jiho Lee Jordan Williams Joseph Andersen Joseph Holmstead Josh Jorgensen Joshua Barlow Joshua Blair

Joshua Sperry Joshua van der Beek Kaden Hunsaker Kaleb Hansen Kara Han Karen Andelin Karina Hansen Katelyn Handy Katelyn Spangler Katherine Bennett Katherine Harvey Kathy Andelin Keegan McGhie Kelsey Carlson Kelsey Crawford Kelsev Wade Kennady Call Kennedy Peck Kenzie Brandon Klaesara Bybee Kristelle Bruno Lacey Monson Laelle Pack Lauren Johnson Lauren Mulvey Lauren Willardson Leah Pierce Leah Rickenbach Lindsey McGuire Linnea Miner Madison Johnson Madison Smith Magdalene Crawford Malissa Lytle Marinn Duncan Matthew Law Matthew Ng McKav Pierce Mckenna Brown McKenzie Hill Melanie Rosa Mia Wilkins Michael Sorensen Michelle Morris Mikaela Arnson Misha Duncan Natalie Miner Natasha Huhem Nathan Holmstead

Noah Jones Oak Jones Olivia Bushman Olivia Sutton Parker Hunsaker Porter Pierce Porter Roskelley Rebekah Crawford Reed Knecht Rosie Monson Sadie Veach Samantha Burton Samuel Andersen Samuel Beckwith Samuel Weyland Sarah Bowen Sarah Cowley Sarah Jensen Scott Hilton Sophie Sheets Stephanie McGuire Taeven Bybee Tahara Vosters Tanlen Raubenheimer Taylor Anderson Tavlor Hall Truman Gunther Tyler Bell Valerie Arguello William Curzon William Jensen Zachary Veach



AHS Essay Contest for All Ages!

Over the past four decades, American Heritage School has had a profound influence in the lives of many who have entered its doors. Its influence has continued to reflect in each of the remarkable lives of its students and families. This is your opportunity to write an essay of 300 words or more that includes specific references to the school and its legacy, and that answers one of the following questions (choose one):

Option 1. "How has AHS and its mission changed your life? What sacrifices have you made in order for these changes to happen?"

Option 2. "What do the three words: 'Always' 'Honor' and 'Serve' mean to you? How does keeping the AHS Honor Code advance the mission of the school?"

Option 3. "What does the AHS motto 'Educating Hearts and Minds for Latterday Families' mean to you? How is this motto implemented in your home?"

Eligibility: All students (K-12), alumni, parents, and employees within the American Heritage School community are eligible to participate.

Submission: Each entry must be accompanied by a completed entry form (this form) and be submitted to homeroom teachers or the front office by Tuesday, May 15, 2012, to qualify. Entries must be typed or neatly handwritten. Entries may be discussed with parents, but not composed by them. Each entry must have a title on the original document that matches the title listed on this form. The student's name should NOT appear on the essay itself.

Student's Name:			
Student Age:	Grade:	Teacher:	
Title of Entry:			
Parent Names: _			
Email:			

I certify that this essay is my own work.

Student Signature/Name

Categories & Prizes: Winning essays will be published in the School Newsletter and all winners will have opportunities throughout the upcoming year to present their winning essays at major school and community events! Cash awards will also be given in four participant categories.

Grades K-3 First Place: \$20 Second Place: \$10 Third Place: \$5

<u>Grades 4-6</u> First Place: \$60 Second Place: \$40 Third Place: \$20 Grades 7-12 First Place: \$150 Second Place: \$100 Third Place: \$50 Adult First Place: \$150 Second Place: \$100 Third Place: \$50

AHS Essay Contest Judging Criteria

Each entry will be judged anonymously by Parent Organization representatives and a committee of AHS administrators. Essays will be judged on each of the following criteria using a four-point scale:

4 = Excellent; 3 = Good; 2 = Fair; 1 = Weak

In each category the essays with the highest overall scores (by consensus of the judges) will receive the awards.

____ 1. Ideas and Information:

The essay answers the essay question in an inspiring way; it conveys a clear and effective purpose. The essay contains accurate, specific, interesting information.

The author uses a thought-provoking title.

The essay does not just scratch the surface of a topic, but has depth and completeness.

____ 2. Organization:

The author uses a purposeful organizational pattern. The writing has logical divisions and sequence. The author uses transitions between sentences and paragraphs to make the writing smooth.

____ 3. Voice:

It is evident the author sincerely cares about the topic and audience. Voice is appropriate to the intended audience and purpose.

_ 4. Word Choice:

The author uses good words which are appropriate to the purpose.

Nouns and verbs are specific.

Modifiers often appeal to the spirit and the senses.

Words are selected to fit meaning, not just to impress.

Vague words and overused expressions are avoided.

Many phrases seem fresh and original. The reader gets the impression that nobody has said it exactly like this before.

5. Smooth, Well-crafted Sentences:

Each sentence is well-constructed.

The writing flows smoothly and clearly from one sentence to the next.

Sentences vary in length and don't all begin in the same way.

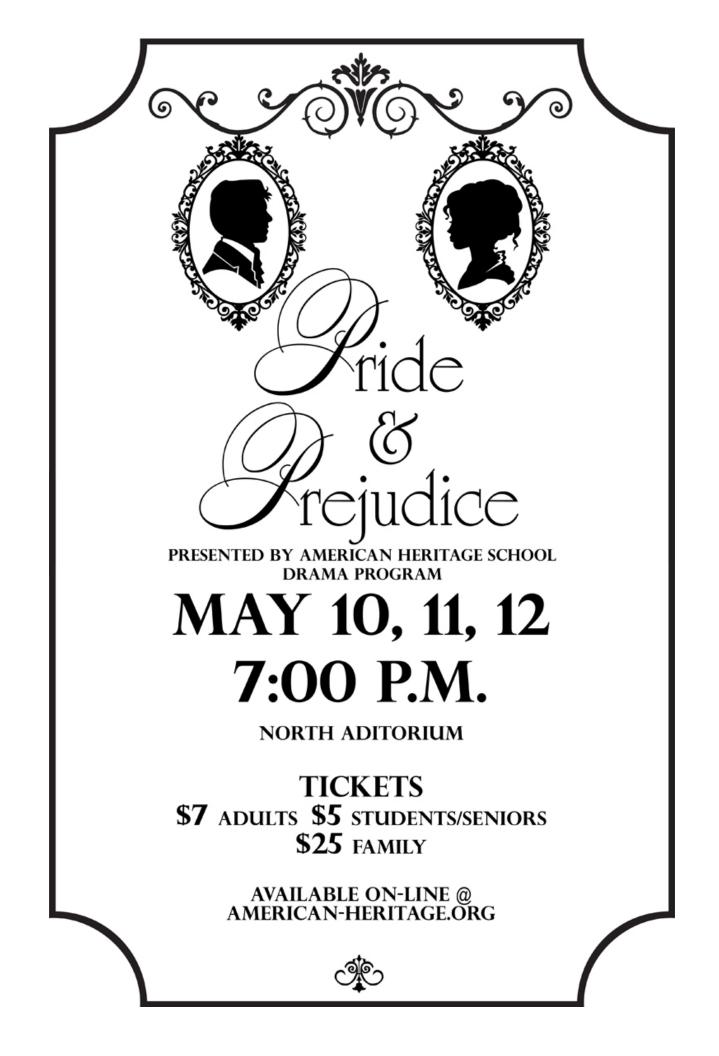
The sentences should not seem choppy and disconnected, nor should they ramble (or run on) without a sense of direction, order, or closure.

_ 6. Conventions:

The essay is carefully edited for clarity, brevity, usage, and mechanics. Clarity means that the meaning is clear. Brevity means that it is not wordy or repetitive. Usage refers to acceptable language, word choice, and grammar. Mechanics means appropriate punctuation, spelling, and capitalization.

_7. Presentation:

The essay satisfies the length requirements (minimum of 300 words) Handwriting, font, margins, and spacing make the paper neat and readable. Any graphics used (optional) aid the reader or audience.

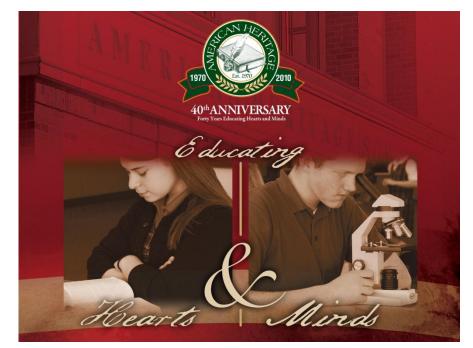


MISSION STATEMENT OF AMERICAN HERITAGE SCHOOL

American Heritage School exists for the purpose of serving parents in assisting in developing the minds, the hearts, and the bodies of students in order that they may:

- 1. Be useful in the hands of the Lord in building the kingdom of God on earth;
- 2. Increase faith in and knowledge of the Plan of Salvation;
- 3. Develop a love, understanding and appreciation for America and the Founding Fathers;
- 4. Develop the basic academic knowledge and skills necessary to be able to make self-education a life-long pursuit;
- 5. Learn to reason and discern between right and wrong, truth and error;
- 6. Develop character and self-discipline of mind and body; and
- 7. Conduct themselves in all aspects of life as Christians.

All activities, teaching, governance, and administration are to be accomplished in light of the above objectives and insofar as possible in harmony with revealed principles of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ and laws of the land. All teachers, staff, administrators, and Trustees shall strive to be living examples of the values, principles, and skills taught at the school.



VISION STATEMENT

American Heritage School will be an effective educational resource for parents worldwide in assisting children and families to maximize their divine potential.

Welcome to American Heritage School



"The Lord requireth the **heart** and a willing **mind**" - D&C 64:34

the Patriots

Patriots are sons and daughters of liberty. In the American Revolution, they were Pminutemen, chosen for their youth, ability, and enthusiasm. They signed a covenant upon enlistment that they would serve as the early response and first defense against the enemy. "Inspired by a better cause," they loved liberty more than life, and fought for a "patriot dream that sees beyond the years" (America the Beautiful, Alma 43:45). Patriots at American Heritage School remember all the great patriots who defended our Promised Land, and know that AHS stands for "Always Honor & Serve" (AHS Honor Code). The early patriots looked to the Old North Church tower for a signal of their cause. Today, AHS Patriots look to God for strength and direction, always ready to stand for truth. We "stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ has made us free!" (Gal. 5:1)