

# Huskies Newsletter

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Did you know that in a recent national poll teaching was listed as one of the top ten most stressful jobs in the United States. I've joked that the poll was probably taken right after parent-teacher conferences but, nevertheless, it is true. Meeting the needs of so many people is a very difficult task. Keeping 25 students and 50 parents happy can be quite stressful. I want you to know that each day I see teachers give their heart, soul and money toward doing their very best.

When I visit the classrooms, I am proud of the hard work and dedication of the Hillview Elementary staff. Just imagine taking 20 plus students into your home and getting them together in harmony for six hours a day for 180 days.

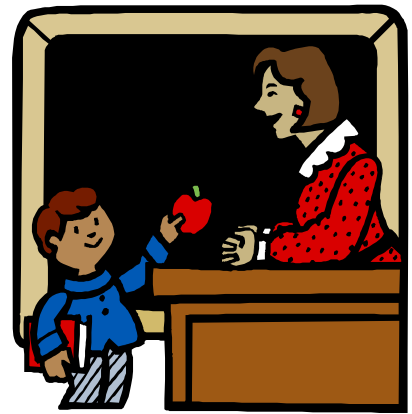
Many teachers give their lives to their pro-

fession, and that gift should be recognized and applauded. The students at Hillview Elementary School are in excellent hands.

Research shows that after five years of teaching

service 60 percent of teachers leave the profession. Hillview Elementary is fortunate to have the following educators most of whom have over five years of service (some with much more):

Karen Almond(31),  
 Jolene Anderson(16),  
 Corrine Brinton(20),  
 Deborah Charles (22), Heidi Crane(3),  
 Carrie Ford(13), Nikki Hackman(6),  
 Michelle Hammond(13), Lora Hansen(19),  
 Candice Harrison(2), Nora Dee Jensen  
 (40), Jennifer Kidd(9), Margarita Moody  
 (23), Laura Munson(13), John Ryszka(1),  
 Mark Sorensen(10), Brenda Storer(30),  
 Amy Taylor(19), Ashley Watts(1), Andy  
 Weller(13), Shelley Woolstenhulme(3),  
 and Diana Zinzer(21).



**Thank You teachers for making Hillview Elementary a wonderful school for our children.**

## DEAR PARENTS:

This informational letter is a reminder of some events, activities, issues and concerns in our school. We try to recognize students and staff members for outstanding work and accomplishments they have achieved in the past. Please call the school if you have any

questions concerning any of the information, 525-4460. We can also be reached by fax, 525-4461.

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# IMPORTANT EVENTS

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## PET FOOD DRIVE

The local Humane Society has asked our lunch ladies to help them collect pet food for the local shelter. Therefore, we will be happy to collect any dog or cat food that you would like to donate to the cause. The lunch ladies will set up some collection boxes in the cafeteria. We will run the drive from Monday, February 1st to Friday, February 5th.

## VALENTINE GRAMS

The PTO will do Valentine Grams on February 4th, 9th and 11th. The PTO will be sending home more information regarding these grams.

## EARLY RELEASE

The early release date for February is Monday, February 8th. There will be NO Morning Kindergarten.

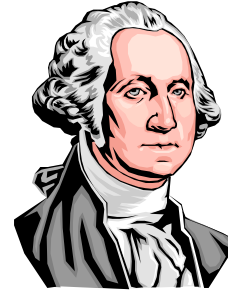
## NO SCHOOL

There will not be any school on Presi-

dents' Day, Monday, February 15th. We hope that everyone has a safe and happy holiday.

## WENDY'S NIGHT

On Wednesday, February 3rd the new Wendy's on Hitt Road will donate a portion of their sales to Hillview Elementary. So if you are looking for an excuse not to



Enjoy a safe and happy holiday.

cook take the family to Wendy's between 5 and 8 PM.

## LEUKEMIA DRIVE

The Hillview students have decided that they would like to help out the Leukemia Foundation. So we will do a fundraiser the week of February 16-19.

*Advice is like snow; the softer it falls, the longer it dwells upon, and the deeper it sinks into the mind.*

*Samuel Taylor Coleridge*

# STAFF BRIEFS

We are very proud of our faculty and staff at Hillview Elementary School. Each individual brings an expertise and personality which all help to positively influence the education of your child. We will continue to highlight one or two individuals each month to help introduce you to our staff members.

## PLEASE MEET MRS. HEIDI CRANE

Sixth Grade Teacher

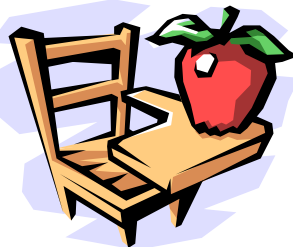
**Birthplace:** Rexburg, Idaho

**Family Members:** My husband, Tim and I have 3 children Hannah, Pierce and McKenna.

**Educational Background:** I attended Rigby High School. Then I went on to Utah State University and earned my Teaching Certificate.

### **First Job:**

I was a farm hand for my first job. One time when I



Thank you Mrs. Crane for caring so much for all of our children

was driving the farm semi, the back wheel slipped into a ditch, which caused the truck to tip over onto a fence. The truck tipped so slowly that I had a lot of time to think about my life.

**Favorite Pastimes:** Spending time with my family and reading.

**My Favorite Childhood Experience:** was going to Hawaii with my family. I really enjoyed playing on the beach, snorkeling and hiking to the waterfalls.

**My Dream for the Future:** I would like to earn my Doctorate and teach at the university level.

**What I Like Best About My Job:** I love the 6th graders and laughing with Mr. Weller and Sorenson.

**My Biggest Fear:** Is that Mr. Sorenson will get a job as a principal and end up moving.

**What I Like Best About Hillview Elementary:** I love every aspect of my job, especially the kids and the great staff that we have at Hillview.

**Why I Teach:** I teach because I hope that I can instill within the children a desire to become great and honest citizens and politicians.

# COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Wow! It's February already. It seems like the year is flying. We have some pretty exciting things happening this month. We are still working on the Rachel's Challenge for kindness and compassion. I have been so pleased with the students. They are taking the challenge seriously. I have seen the students reach out to each other in friendship many times. I have seen students be kind and considerate to others. We have seen fewer students in the office for fighting on the playground. It is great to see. It is also great to see the chain getting longer and longer.



**The "bear" fact is that your counselor cares about you.**

We are going to have a couple of fundraisers this month. The cooks have asked us to help with the Pet Food Drive, February 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> and we will be doing Pennies for Patients, February 16<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>. We will have an assembly on the 12<sup>th</sup> to kick it off. 'Pennies for Patients' is a national fundraiser to help find a cure for Leukemia.

We will also be having our Talent Show this month. We are planning on having the preview on February 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The Talent Show will be held on February 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 in the Gym. We are encouraging the students to share talents like singing, dancing, playing an instrument, gymnastics, magic or something that be presented to the whole student body. We trying to discourage lip syncing unless there has been great thought put into the performance. We have talented students here at Hillview and we would love to have them share with their talent us. Parents are invited to attend our performance. I will also be looking for parents to volunteer to help the show run smoothly.

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# FEBRUARY IS 'I LOVE YOU' MONTH

February is a month when we think about love. It is a good time to make a special effort to show your love for your child. There is no age limit for telling a child you love him/her – teenagers need to hear you say it as much as grade schoolers do. Here are some ideas you may want to try:

1. Each day during this month, make a habit of telling your child something you like about him/her. You may want to do it at a

regular time, perhaps at bedtime.

2. Sometimes actions speak louder than words. A simple hug or a smile can often say more than a lengthy compliment.

3. Try leaving notes for your child. You can tuck a note in a jacket pocket, post a note on the refrigerator, or include it in a lunch box. Those notes will remind your child of your love even when you are not together.

### DID YOU KNOW?

- The longest one-syllable word in the English language is "screeched."
- Maine is the only state whose name is one syllable.

# LUNCH BUNCH KIDS

We are continuing with our "Lunch with the Principal" student recognition program. This acknowledgement is given to students who are putting forth effort in their academics, citizenship, and social skills. These students have also shown consideration of other students, staff members and faculty. In addition, they are willing and cheer-



**Great job and keep up the good effort.**

ful. These qualities benefit the total school and set an example that reflects well toward Hillview Elementary School and their parents who should be proud of them.

**Sixth Grade:** Tessa Rowbury, Tyler Schmalz, Jessica Sorensen, Talor Warth, Nathan Weller and Carl White.

**Kindergarten Snack Pack:** Kyle Call, Gabriel Freeman, Koeda Garner, Cooper Gerdes, Kendahl Howell, Creighton John, Taliyah Martinez and Rylee Scott.



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## **BOX TOPS**

The quarterly Box Tops drawing will be held on Friday, February 5th. Prizes include Webkinz, Subzero certificates and Jamba Juice certificates.

## READING TIPS

One day your child will tell you that he/she wants to read a story to you. This is an occasion that requires special handling, and you're bound to have a few questions. Let's review a few of the questions.

### WHAT DO I DO WHEN MY CHILD GETS STUCK ON A WORD?

Help your child read for meaning before trying phonics, or "sounding it out." First, wait five to ten seconds to give him a chance to work it out then ask what word would make sense there. If there's a picture, have him use it as a clue. Then suggest that he keep reading and come back to the thorny word later, or that he start the sentence again. Now you can ask him to try letter sounds. Before he gets frustrated, tell him the word and move on.

### SHOULD I CORRECT MISTAKES?

Let them go, as long as your child gets the meaning of the story. If he reads "run" for "ran" it's no big deal; if he reads it as "rain," however, ask him if that makes sense. When correcting, be patient and positive—and most important, do not turn it into a reading



**PARENTS, THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR  
YOUR CHILDREN.**

lesson.

### HOW CAN I MAKE THIS A CONFIDENCE BUILDING ACTIVITY?

Encourage his first attempts by suggesting that he try to read a story he knows well—one that is not too difficult. Then, resist the urge to criticize, focus on what your child is doing well, giving positive comments early and often. Especially when he is having difficulty, let him know that you like the way he tried to figure out a word and what a good reader he is becoming. Remember that you want your child to believe in himself as a reader and you as an ever-appreciative listener.

## Counselor's Corner, Cont.

The Chess Club is going great. We have Mr. & Mrs. Vedros organizing and helping the students have a fun, successful time. The Craft club is always full of enthusiasm with students who are creative and happy. I appreciate the mothers who help make that day a success.

It takes all of us working together to make Hillview a great place to attend school. I am grateful for the friends I have made here and the time I can spend working with the tremendous staff, students, and parents who work together to create a wonderful atmosphere for learning.