



AMERICAN HERITAGE
SCHOOL & FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER

January 19, 2017

All Parents
American Heritage School

Enrollment, Tuition, and Programs 2017–18

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to School and Happy New Year! Below and attached please find the following information that will be helpful to you as you register for the upcoming 2017–18 year:

- (1) *Instructions for Online Application for the 2017–18 School Year.* Applications for priority re-enrollment of current students and also adding new students from currently enrolled families are available online via your Veracross Parent Portal beginning the week of Monday, January 23rd. You will be notified by e-mail as soon as the enrollment portal is open. To ensure priority reservation of your seats for the upcoming year, current patrons should submit completed online applications by February 20 when Open Enrollment for the general public begins. Each year, all currently enrolled families must reapply. Currently enrolled families desiring to add *new students* must complete a separate online application, instructions for which will be provided on the enrollment portal. For assistance with enrollment, contact Nancy Morrill, Admissions Director, at nmorrill@ahsmaail.com, 801-642-0055, ext. 311.
- (2) *School Programs 2017–18.* Please take some time to review upcoming programs and offerings. We have updated this letter to include information about elementary, middle, and high school.
- (3) *School Calendar of Days, 2017–18.* The Board has approved the upcoming school year’s calendar, as it does each January. Please do not confuse it with your current school year calendar.

Tuition. Effective June 1, 2017, the monthly per-student tuition rates for the 2017–18 school year will increase as follows:

Grade Level	% Increase	\$ Increase (per month)
K (Half Day)	0.00%	\$0
K (Full Day)	0.00%	\$0
1-6	3.77%	\$20
7-8	4.59%	\$25
9-12	3.94%	\$25
International	4.32%	Annual Prepay

As in the past, the Board is very sensitive to the added burden that any increase in tuition, no matter how small, places upon families—particularly those families with multiple children enrolled at the school. We have historically (including this coming year) set tuition rates at approximately half of the actual cost of a seat at AHS. We hope that you will be sensitive to the purposes for tuition increases, which include

compensation for teachers (the majority of the tuition increase each year goes directly to teachers), adjusting for inflation and increased costs of living, and improving the overall quality of the educational experience at AHS.

Financial Aid. Over the years we have significantly increased the amount of financial aid available to families in need. Through both need-based and merit-based scholarships, our Scholarship Committee is taking a more proactive approach to helping students and families see their way through the financial commitment that AHS represents. For more on financial aid, visit our website at <http://american-heritage.org/OnCampus/Scholarship>, or speak with an administrator.

“Educating Hearts & Minds” Annual Fund Campaign Progress Report. Since 2006 when the school launched its “Educating Hearts and Minds” Annual Fund, the school has received numerous donations that have sustained and magnified our mission, including a 40,000 sq./ft. building expansion, an additional one-acre parking lot north of the school, a new music wing, new science, math, and art rooms, books for classrooms, listening/reading centers, reading tables, special reading and math software, musical instruments, P.E. equipment, bleachers, computer and networking equipment, professional development and faculty enrichment opportunities for teachers, distance education program development, voice amplification systems, new science lab equipment, special art supplies, and more. Many parents have even made cash contributions directly to our faculty bonus pool so that we can provide Christmas bonuses for teachers and staff.

A tremendous amount of good has been accomplished through the generosity of our school community, past and present. Through donations, we continue to be able to keep our tuition as low as possible while improving the quality of education that we offer. If we factored in all of the donated improvements to the school each year, the tuition at AHS would easily exceed \$10,000 per student per year. Clearly, our current tuition rates do not reflect the true market value of an AHS experience. But charging that much would make the school inaccessible to hundreds of devoted families who are already here, and to generations of our own children and grandchildren. Most of them will only be able to afford the school if we keep tuition as low as possible, and they will likely need AHS even more than we do. Your financial assistance allows us to keep tuition low, and more importantly it helps to maintain the spirit of sacrifice that we cherish at American Heritage. **Sacrifice consecrates our efforts.**

At the beginning of the school year we announced an \$800,000 Annual Fund goal for two key priorities: student financial aid and teacher compensation. **We are pleased to report that we have raised \$425,000 of our overall \$800,000 goal so far this year. THANK YOU! We are on track, and STILL NEED YOUR HELP. With over 400 families at the school, this is a very achievable goal if we will each take some personal responsibility.** For example, approximately \$900 from each family—or about \$180 per month for the next five months—would accomplish our goal by the end of the school year. We are sensitive that for some families, additional giving may not be possible, and we are deeply grateful for your sacrifice already. If you *can* do more, we hope you will consider helping us by lifting wherever you stand. **Our dollar goal, however, pales in comparison to the importance of our participation goal of 100% of our current families making a donation – in any amount – to demonstrate to each other and to our major supporters that we are all grateful stewards of an educational experience that would simply not be possible without the help of donations small and large, past and present.** Thank you all for helping us to meet this year’s Annual Fund goal, and thank you to those who have so generously given already!

***Campus Expansion Update.* We are pleased to report that since last year, donors to the school have made possible the acquisition of 28 acres of land surrounding the school.** The timing of land coming available for purchase, combined with the incredible support from donors to help the school secure the land while it was still available, has been nothing short of a miracle. In addition to the land acquisition, we also have been moving forward with planning for new facilities that will allow us to more fully magnify our mission and programs. **Attached please find a current site map showing the anticipated construction phases. With \$1.25 million pledged already for phase 1A, we are seeking approximately \$450,000 more before we begin construction of the outdoor athletic facilities phase (Phase 1A),** including an eight-lane track, a regulation soccer field, an outdoor tennis/volleyball/basketball facility, and possibly additions to our playground equipment for elementary school. We expect to begin some portion of Phase 1A this spring in time for Fall 2017 use, and we expect to apply for entry into the Utah High School Activities Association (UHSAA) in Fall 2017 for games beginning in Fall 2018. **Other phases of our campus master plan will begin only when donated funds are sufficient to complete a project. As in the past, the Board has resolved not to raise tuition or to use debt financing in order to fund capital improvement projects.**

***A Culture of Parents Who Serve.* THANK YOU for the myriad ways that you serve, seen and unseen, at the school. We have a school culture that not only encourages but also expects parental involvement in their children’s educational experience.** Your service and sacrifice is very much needed here. Service hours are a condition upon which admission and seating are determined. As more families apply for increasingly limited seats, we look to service hours as one of the most important indicators of a family’s commitment and long-term compatibility with the school. We recognize that various circumstances require flexibility in terms of how and when service hours are filled, but please rededicate yourselves to achieving the minimum requirement of 30 hours per family per year. A blank Parent Service & Training Record log is unacceptable and demonstrates a lack of one of the most fundamental qualities that we seek in seating a family at the school, which is willingness to serve. **Please record your hours and how you served. The Parent Service & Training Record log is located on the Veracross parent portal in the “Portal Links” section.**

Please know that the Board and Administration are constantly mindful of the great and humble legacy that has been left for us by generations of past trustees, administrators, teachers and parents. We are mindful of how difficult it is, if not impossible, to satisfy all the various desires and interests of the families who come here. As we continue to discuss what is most needful and required—may we have a spirit of gratitude and patience for each other, and stay mindful of what the Lord requires, which is “the heart and a willing mind.” (D&C 64:34). In this spirit, we hope that parents will not hesitate to discuss with Administrators or Board Members any questions that they may have with respect to the upcoming 2017–18 school year. Thank you for your service, sacrifice and commitment!

Sincerely,

Board of Trustees
American Heritage School