



American Heritage School News

May 2006

Message From the Director

The last month of school is always charged with energy and anticipation. We are reminded with each breath of glorious May air that summer is just around the corner. Uniforms will be stowed away in closets. School projects and book reports will give way to swimming and camping.

On the last day of school, following celebration upon celebration, classrooms, auditoriums and hallways will fall quiet and still with each child who anxiously runs down the hall and out the door for the last time this year—not to return for a season. The echoes of laughter and the sounds of learning fade. Few look back.

But for some, in the stillness of a quiet moment, they will reflect upon the great significance of what has transpired in this place. They might even linger for a time. She might be a teacher who has taught her last class before retirement, or an eighth grade student who has finished his last year at American Heritage School. He might be a fifth grade student whose newfound passion for history has opened the world to his view, or a first grade student whose newfound ability to read words has given her the key to unlocking the priceless treasure of books. They might be any parent, child, teacher or administrator who has experienced within the walls of American Heritage School, even for an instant, an eternal truth that will never leave them.

In life we often perceive “endings” to be good or bad depending in large part upon what our desired outcome was from the onset of the event. In truth, any ending is only as good or bad as the conclusions that we have drawn from the process. This is one of the most basic and powerful lessons that any loving parent and teacher desires for their children to learn: that faith and strength can be drawn from both pleasure and pain - and that seeing the Lord’s face in all people, and his hand in all things, is the grand key to “good endings”.

Our Heavenly Parent patiently hopes that each of us will learn this lesson – that faith in Christ will help us to “profit”ⁱ from all things so that our “peace will be as a river” and our “righteousness as the waves of the sea.”ⁱⁱ

And so another year at American Heritage School comes to end. What have we gained? How did we finish? What has been our eternal profit? That’s a question for each one of us to answer in the stillness of a quiet moment.

Five years shy of a century on earth, the living Prophet recently stood before the world and in a rare moment of personal reflection, he spoke not of “endings” but “sunsets” – and then in one simple sentence he conveyed a lifetime of perspective: “We are all totally in the hands of the Lord.”ⁱⁱⁱ What a remarkably simple but profound conclusion to draw from 95 years of “beginnings” and “endings”.

Thanks to every student, teacher, parent, board member, and administrator who stepped to the plate in 2005/2006 to make American Heritage School the best that it could be, in the best way that they knew how! May we all continue to see the hand of the Lord at work in our lives and in the classrooms of American Heritage School!

CONGRATULATIONS EVERYONE AND WELL DONE!

Sincerely, --Grant Beckwith

ⁱ 1 Nephi 20:17

ⁱⁱ 1 Nephi 20:18

ⁱⁱⁱ President Gordon B. Hinckley, Conference Report, Ensign, May 2006, p. 81

Student Submissions

Reflections on “What I Learned This Year” (By Skilar Rawlings, 7th Grade)

This year I learned that many people lived, died and fought for my freedoms, such as John Lathropp, John Wycliff and George Washington - but most of all Jesus Christ.

I think we all need to be more willing to stand up for what we believe. If we don't, who will? Looking at the things that are happening in America today, it is easy to see that it will have to be you and me – many of the seventh graders of today – who will preserve the Constitution and our way of life.

Reflections on “What I Learned This Year” (By Audrey Edholm, 7th Grade)

One of the most important things I've learned this year is that my character needs to be strong! I live in a world of many wrong ideas. This year I have felt more drawn toward this subject of character. Our prophets warn us semi-annually in general conference that we need to be strong, true and faithful. President David O. McKay said, “What is the crowning glory of man in this earth so far as his individual achievement is concerned? It is character – character developed through obedience to the laws of life as revealed through the Gospel of Jesus Christ, who came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Man's chief concern in life should not be the acquiring of gold nor form nor material possessions. It should not be the development of physical prowess nor of intellectual strength, but his aim, the highest in life, should be the development of a Christlike character.” I am working to get my character stronger so I will be able to stand against the Destroyer.

Reflections on “What I Learned This Year” (By Camilla Unrau, 7th Grade)

I have learned many things this year. From the first book we read as a class, *A Shepherd Looks at Psalm 23*, I was reminded of the many ways that Christ, the Savior, is there for us. He will never leave our side. When we are in need of help or comfort, all we have to do is turn to Christ and put our trust in Him. If we do that, our problems might not be fixed, but we will

gain the strength to get through our trial or problem. One such example from American History was George Washington in the Battle of Trenton. It is amazing how much God's hand of Providence helped out the colonists to triumph over the English.

Reflections on “What I Learned This Year” (By Scott Housely, 7th Grade)

I learned that the Twenty-Third Psalm is much more than just words: it was truly heartfelt when David wrote it. I think that if we base our lives around the teachings of the Twenty-Third Psalm, we will feel truly happy.

I also learned that John Lathropp was willing to live his life for what he believed in. He was in jail when his wife was dying, but he sacrificed so his children could have the right to worship according to the dictates of their conscience. His actions lead to the privileges that we as Americans enjoy today.

Reflections on “What I Learned This Year” (By McKell Goodsell, 7th Grade)

Throughout my life, I have heard the phrase, “Christ loves you.” I knew that it was true, but until I studied the atonement of Christ with my class, I never knew just how much. He suffered, bled and died so that we could return to Him. President N. Eldon Tanner taught us, “The most important and most significant of all events that have happened in the history and life of mankind are the birth, life, death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, the only begotten of God, the Eternal Father.”

Reflections on “What I Learned This Year” (By Andrew James, 7th Grade)

One of the most important things I have learned this year is that our nation is a Christian nation and even though others may not think it is, we need to stand for that truth. At the beginning of the year, Mrs. Updike informed us that at the end of the year we would write an essay giving fifty evidences that the United States of America is a Christian nation. I thought that would be nearly impossible to do. After our study this year, it will now be easy for me. John Adams said, “The highest glory of the American Revolution is this: it connected in one indissoluble bond the principles of civil government with the principles of Christianity.”

Welcome New Teachers 2006/2007!

We are very pleased to announce the following new teachers for the upcoming 2006/2007 school year. If you would like to meet any or all of the new teachers before the “Meet the Teacher” day in August, most of them will be attending the American Heritage School Foundations Training (June 5-8) and you are welcome to come meet them here at that time. You are also welcome to come to the School on Thursday June 8, from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. for a brief reception where parents can meet new teachers and make introductions.

Tillman (Tip) Boxell, 8th Grade. Tip Boxell comes to American Heritage School with over 15 years of combined teaching experience at LDS Business College (American National Government, English Composition, Interpersonal Communication, Organizational Communication, Public Speaking, Genres of Film, Study Skills, Acting), Salt Lake Community College (Acting, Introduction to Film Studies, Theater History, and Survey of Communications) and University of Phoenix (English Composition and Humanities). Over the last 15 years, Tip has been an instructor in The Professional Actors Workshop for youth aged 10-13 and has served as a substitute teacher in middle and secondary schools throughout Utah and Salt Lake Counties. Tip has 29 years of military service in the United States Marine Corps and the Utah Army National Guard, including service in Vietnam and Iraq. From 1977 to 1991, Tip worked as a freelance, independent writer, produce and director including projects for the Utah State Office of Education, Utah Endowment for the Humanities, Utah Arts Council, National Endowment for the Humanities and National Endowment for the Arts. Highlights include *The Patrick Henry Project*, a national touring performance for the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution and *Kanosh, Legend of the Great Piute*, for the Utah State Historical Pageant System. Tip graduated from BYU in 1978 with a M.A. in Theater and Film and graduate minors in communications and educational administration. He graduated from Tufts University, Medford, MA with a B.A. in History and undergraduate minors in English and Philosophy. Tip has four children, all of whom are grown and have spread their own wings. His youngest daughter Catherine is engaged to be married this year. All who know Tip (including the American Heritage

School 7th grade students who gave him a standing ovation after his teaching demonstration) can attest that he is truly a “lively textbook”, that he is a walking encyclopedia, and that he is passionate about the Gospel and Christ-centered learning!

Penny DeSoto, 3rd Grade. Penny DeSoto comes to American Heritage School with a great love of children, a great love of the Lord, and a resounding principle-based philosophy for learning and teaching. After spending many years providing for her mother and siblings (nearly ten years working as a manager in the Ballard Medical/Kimberly Clark Corporation), Penny decided late in life to pursue her dream of becoming an elementary school teacher. Though Penny had been a seminary teacher and served in many teaching capacities for the LDS Church, the true desire of Penny’s heart was to teach in a primary classroom setting on a full time basis. Thus, Penny began taking night classes at Ricks College, BYU, and UVSC to complete her Elementary Education degree, which is a long road for anyone like Penny working full time during the day. Now, with only six credit-hours remaining before she completes her degree, Penny is elated to be the newest member of American Heritage School’s faculty! With the energy, love and positivism that Penny demonstrated for our Third Grade children, we are just as elated to have her!

Jenette Hill, 1st Grade. Jenette Hill comes to American Heritage School with 25 years’ experience as a full-time mother of five children, four-years’ experience as a private reading instructor in phonics, whole language and literature based programs for children, and four years’ experience working as both a full-time and K-12 substitute teacher for public school districts in California and Utah. Other experience that Jenette brings to American Heritage School includes active service in the LDS Church (primary and young women’s organizations) as well as in the Boy Scouts of America, where she successfully served as a den mother for a cub-scout pack of 12 boys - all of whom received the highest award of Arrow of Light. Jenette has organized and taught home-based preschools as well as home-schooled her own children from time to time. Jenette graduated from Brigham Young University’s teacher credential program in 1977 and completed post graduate work at California State University at Northridge in 2004 to receive California authorizations in multiple subjects for K-12. Jenette

served a full time mission to Melbourne, Australia prior to marrying and raising children. Jenette's love and nurturing spirit for young children – and particularly for the first graders at American Heritage School – is evident and we are thrilled to welcome her as one of the newest additions to our faculty!

Johanne Perry, Family History Instructor. Beginning in 2006/2007, American Heritage School 7th graders will have the opportunity to use a portion of their computer lab time to receive family history research instruction. This is a pilot course intended to supplement our history, geography and literature curriculum with a genealogy component that we believe will personalize the student's study of various history or geography lessons learned in their core curriculum. We will announce more details concerning the new family history course at a later date; however, we welcome Johanne Perry to our faculty as the new Family History Instructor!

Johanne Fréchette Perry is an enthusiastic family history consultant and has been a beta-tester for the LDS Church's new FamilyTree internet site (currently under development). But Johanne is far more than a family history consultant! In addition to being a wife and mother of four (ages 9-16), Johanne is an experienced public performer (Education Week, EFY, and youth conferences across the United States), a first-call studio soloist and vocalist for major area productions (including Michael McLean, Janice Kapp Perry, Desert Book, Especially For Youth, Orrin Hatch, etc.), and a substitute teacher for the Alpine School District. Johanne has traveled the world as a performer with the Young Ambassadors, and as a volunteer instituting a school library and a music program in Ghana. Johanne is very excited about the opportunity to blend her love of teaching children with her love of family history in a setting such as American Heritage School and we are honored that Johanne will be joining us!

2006/2007 Admission and Seating

General admission letters regarding acceptance for the 2006/2007 school year will be mailed beginning Monday, May 15. Once a family has received an admission letter, the nonrefundable Seating Fee to secure their child(ren)'s seat(s) must be received not later than June 1 (see admission letter for more details). Seating letters with specific class and

teacher assignments will be mailed by the end of July.

Standardized Testing Results, End of Year Report Cards, and Transcripts

Prior to any student receiving standardized testing results, end-of-year report cards or school transcripts, the following "check-out" procedures must be completed:

- ✓ Student tuition/fee account balance must be zero (fully paid);
- ✓ All library books must be returned (library books are due by May 15 and will not be checked out after that date); and
- ✓ All school property, including text books, must be returned.

Uniform Policy Changes for 2006/2007

For those that desire to begin their back-to-school shopping early, beginning with the 2006/2007 school year, the following uniform policy changes will take effect. These changes apply only to the Friday dress uniform (not the general Monday-Thursday uniform). There are 19 in-class Fridays on the 2006/2007 calendar not including special events.

Boys. The dress uniform for boys will be modified to require a white button-shirt and a solid navy tie. Our uniform supplier (Dennis Uniform) carries a navy-blue tie and a navy-blue clip-on tie for under \$10 and also carries white button-shirts for all grades K-8. We recommend the clip-on tie for grades K-5 so that it may be easily removed at recess time.

Girls. The dress uniform for girls will be modified to exclude white knee-high socks (black or navy tights are the two remaining options).

We remind all parents that pants for boys must be purchased from Dennis Uniform. Also, if a sweater for either boys or girls is desired for use in School, it must be purchased from Dennis Uniform.

From the Math Department

All families, please note that it is essential for incoming sixth through eighth grade students to have mastered their addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts by the time the 2006-2007 school year begins. A few minutes a day learning and practicing math facts through the summer will make a tremendous difference for your student next year. Daily drills using flash cards or a computer program such as Math Blaster or Quarter Mile Math have proven to be highly effective. It is difficult for upper-grade students to learn advanced math concepts if they are struggling with their basic facts. Students who master their basic math facts progress more rapidly and easily with increasingly advanced math concepts.

School Spring Service Day

Many Hands Make Light Work!



Our annual school spring service day will be held on Saturday May 20th from 8am to about 12pm. This is a fantastic way to fulfill service requirements and feel part of our school community. Family members age eight and up are

welcome to come for any or all of that time to help clean windows, wash chairs and tables, etc. We request no toddlers as there are cleaning supplies and ladders around. We are all so grateful for this amazing school and the many generous people who help make it so special. Let's all pitch in and help keep the school in good repair!



Foundations Training 2006

All parents are invited to attend this year's American Heritage School Foundations Training, to be held June 5-7 at the school. The \$200 registration fee for the public is waived for all current patrons of the School. See the Family Education Center section of the school's website for more information.

Calendar at a Glance

May 1-5	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 4	Seventh Grade Devotional 2:00 p.m.
May 5	Seventh Grade Devotional 8:40 p.m.
May 8	BYU Shakespeare Workshops 11:00 am 6 th – 8 th Grades
May 9	BYU Shakespeare Greatest Hits 2 nd – 8 th Grades 1:30 p.m.
May 11	BYU Acting Workshop 6 th – 8 th Grade 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
May 12	Teacher In-Service-No School
May 15-19	Art Show
May 15-19	Shakespeare Week
May 19	Shakespeare Play 6:30 p.m.
May 20	School Spring Service Day
May 23	Performance Day 4 th – 8 th Music
May 24	Performance Day Kinder-3 rd Grade
May 24	Graduation 7:00 p.m. Dinner 5:30
May 25	Field Day 1 st -8 th Kindergarten Thanksgiving Point
May 26	Awards Assembly
May 26	School ends 11:00 a.m.
June 5-8	AHS Foundations Training
June 12-29	Summer School Monday – Thursday 8:00 am-12:00 pm

35th Anniversary Celebration

The 35th Anniversary Celebration was held at the school Wednesday, April 26 with a ribbon cutting ceremony by American Fork Mayor, Heber Thompson. Everyone who attended enjoyed the celebration. Mrs. Swim, Chairman of the Board of Trustees honored founders of the school as well as the Family Education Center Board of Directors. The School was presented with a very special gift: a large canvas painting by Walter Rane of the Boy Joseph Smith praying in the Sacred Grove, entitled "The Desires of My Heart." This painting is now displayed in the center court of the School and captures the essence of our mission to develop hearts and minds! Also at the celebration, a 35th anniversary commemorative video was shown entitled "Educating Hearts & Minds" reflecting the great progress the school has made during the past 35 years. A copy of this video will be distributed to all families and friends of school along with a letter that outlines the future goals and needs of the School. We

need everyone's help as we continue to our School for the benefit of future children and families. Each one of us can make a difference. Please visit the American Heritage School web site and visit the "Opportunities for Giving" link if you would like to learn more about the needs of the School and the Educating Hearts & Minds Campaign.

Field Day!

On Thursday, May 25th, we will be having our annual Field Day.

WHEN: Times are 10:00-11:30 a.m. for 1st-4th grades and 12:30-2:00 p.m. for 5th-8th grades. From 2:00-2:45 p.m. we will have our annual Faculty vs. 8th Grade Kickball game.

WHAT TO WEAR: All students, uniform polo shirt, red is preferred for modesty during water games. Girls may also wear capris or jeans. Boys may wear jeans or uniform shorts. Hats may be worn out of doors. Please have your student apply sunscreen before they leave home.

KINDERGARTEN students will be going to Thanksgiving Point. They may also wear uniform shirt, jeans, capris, or uniform shorts.

AHS Yearbooks are Here!

Last chance to buy the AHS yearbook!! Price is only \$12. Come see a copy in the office if you're interested. Thank you to Mrs. Morse and the 8th Grade Design Team for putting our yearbook together.

Summer School

Summer school will begin on Monday, June 12 and extend through Thursday, June 29. Final invitation letters will be mailed not later than May 15. Although final details will be provided in the letter, please plan for class from 8:00 a.m. to noon each day Monday through Thursday (no classes on Fridays). For those students who attend, we plan to learn a lot and also have lots of fun! See you there!

Positions Available

Custodial Position Available

Custodial Part time custodial positions are available at the school! A tuition scholarship combined with an hourly rate is offered as compensation. For those who are interested, please contact Leslie Clark at the front office for application and to set up and interview.



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!
Shakespeare Week

May 15-19, 2006

Merchant of Venice

“All the world’s a stage and life is but a walking shadow.” Welcome one and all to our wonderful week of celebrating Shakespeare. Mrs. Brinkerhoff is directing the Eighth grade players in *Merchant of Venice*. One act per day will be performed, once at 10:30--11:30 and from 1:45--2:45

p.m. There will be an evening performance on Friday evening, May 19, at 6:30 p.m. In conjunction with the play segments each day, our music department and your students will be presenting Elizabethan music to precede each act of the play. If you would like to attend the matinee and music performance, the schedule will be as follows:

Date	AM (10:30-11:30)	PM (1:45-2:45)
M	First Grade	Third Grade
T	Fifth Grade	Fourth Grade
W	Kindergarten	Second Grade & K-PM
Th	Seventh & Eighth Grade	Sixth Grade

The Shakespeare Luncheon will be served Thursday at 11:30—Kindergarten included. We invite you to conjure up your creativity and fashion a costume for your young lords and ladies. **Please have the ladies dress as ladies, and the lords as lords however.** There are opportunities to rent costumes at Hale Center Theater, Taylor-Maid, and other costuming houses in the area. Deseret Industries has provided many of our more creative patrons with the basics for costumes. Some Disney costumes for the ladies work wonderfully, you may have them in your Halloween costume collections. There is a wonderful website, with great ideas for fashioning a costume or two—or please feel free to call the school for more ideas. **All of the students are welcome to dress up Monday through Friday--May 15-19.**

<http://costume.dm.net/index.html>

Leed, Drea. *The Elizabethan Costuming Page* (<http://costume.dm.net/>). ©1997-2000

We invite and welcome your participation. We are grateful for those of you that are planning the luncheon and serving on the committees. We welcome any and all of you to be with us throughout the week as we celebrate the life and plays of the Bard of the Bible, William Shakespeare. If you would like to participate with the planning committees or help in any way regarding Shakespeare week or any other activities or academic needs, please contact the school or Dana Lyman. Thank you!

May

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
	1 Teacher Appreciation Week	2 Teacher Appreciation Week	3 Seventh Grade Devotional Dress Rehearsal 8:40 Teacher Appreciation Week	4 Seventh Grade Devotional 2:00 p.m. Teacher Appreciation Week	5 Seventh Grade Devotional 8:40 a.m. Teacher Appreciation Week	6
7	8	9	10	11	12  Teacher In-service- No School	13
14	15 Shakespeare Week 10:30-11:30 1:45-2:45 Art Show	16 Shakespeare Week 10:30-11:30 1:45-2:45 Art Show	17 Shakespeare Week 10:30-11:30 1:45-2:45 Art Show	18 Shakespeare Week 10:30-11:30 1:45-2:45 Art Show	19 Shakespeare Week 10:30-11:30 1:45-2:45 Art Show Terms Ends	20
21	22	23 Performance Day 4th -8th	24  Dinner 5:30 Graduation 7:00 p.m. Performance Day K-3rd	25 Field Day Year Book Signing Kinder— Thanksgiving Point	26 Awards Assembly 8:40 Last Day of School Ends at 11:00 a.m.	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31			