

Santaquin Sentinel

January 2013

Sixth Grade Literacy Night

On Wednesday evening, December 11, the sixth grade teachers at Santaquin Elementary were excited to hold their *Parent Literacy Night*. This was an opportunity for parents and students to receive instructional strategies and tools to encourage writing at home and get prepared for the January Writing Assessment. *Books, writing supplies and several Christmas stockings filled with writing materials were given away to those in attendance at the end of the evening!* Families learned about Persuasive Core Writing through Four-Square planning. Thank you for supporting student learning through our Parent Literacy Night!

Message from Mr. Argyle and Nebo School District

The U.S. Department of Education stated on Monday, December 17, 2012, "Schools are among the safest places for children and adolescents in our country, and, in fact, crime in schools has been trending downward for more than a decade ..." Even though not all tragedies can be prevented, Nebo School District's schools have received training to handle crises, large and small, to keep our children and staff out of harm's way.

During the past week, district officials have been working to provide direction, support, and resources to school personnel as they work to address student and parent concerns, and to ensure student safety at each school and in each classroom. We felt it was best for students to receive reassurances from their own teachers, school staff, and principals. We thank our school leaders and parents for working cooperatively to help our children work through grief, sorrow, and worries this past week. We will continue to be diligent in supporting children.

As we move forward from this experience, Nebo District will continue to review and adjust our existing Crisis Management Plan and our student safety procedures. Our plan is solid and has been in place for over a decade with annual reviews and updates. This plan is a step-by-step emergency response protocol for principals and school leaders to use in the event that a crisis develops. The protocols are designed to efficiently manage and keep people as safe as possible during the event as law enforcement "First Responders" arrive on campus. Schools regularly use these guidelines to review emergency situations and conduct drills to help students and staff efficiently evacuate or locate shelter and safety. We have solid working relationships with law enforcement agencies within Nebo District. By working in concert with local law enforcement and Nebo administrators, we will continue to identify and implement best practices in school security.

ParentLink is one way for Nebo School District to communicate to our students, parents, patrons, and employees for announcements and emergencies. Please make sure your information is correct. Go to the **www.nebo.edu**, click the *Parents Page*, then *ParentLink* ... or go to **www.nebo.edu/parents/parentlink** in order to make changes or updates to your information. Nebo School District will continue to take steps to prevent and prepare for possible emergencies in our school district. Nebo School District officials, principals, staff and teachers continue to be your partner in education.

January Calendar

School Resumes	2 nd
Science Fair Info. (4 th – 6 th) Sent Home	2 nd
PTA Board Meeting	3 rd
Faculty Meeting	7 th
End of Term 2	9 th
No School – DDD	10 th
Term 3 Begins	13 th
Kindergarten Parent Night	15 th
"It Pays to Read" Celebration Assembly	24 th
School Community Council	23 rd
No School – Martin Luther King Jr.	20 th
Faculty Meeting	21 st
Literacy Collaboration	27 th
Science Fair	31 st

Counselor's Corner

Encourage your child to practice "random acts of kindness." Here are some great ideas:

- Hold the door open for someone
- Say good morning to others you see
- Offer to let a classmate go first
- Offer to walk a neighbor's dog
- Invite someone new for a play date
- Collects can food for a food drive
- Give someone a compliment
- Color a picture and send it to a senior center
- Donate your unwanted toys to children in need
- Write a thank you note to your teacher, your coach, or someone who has helped you
- Clean up the area around your school, park, and classroom
- Be extra kind to the bus driver ... say hello when getting on and thank you when getting off
- Call your grandparents
- Write a note to your parents and let them know how special they are to you
- Help around the house without being asked
- Be extra friendly to new student at your school
- Organize your clothes and give the articles that you never wear to charity

Smile ... it's contagious 😊

Ideas for Parents

- Read your favorite holiday story to your child and then have him/her read it back to you.
- Have your child write a holiday story or poem and illustrate it.
- Have your child copy his/her favorite holiday recipe and discuss the different kinds of **verbs** used, i.e., stir, fold, mix, blend, etc.

Pledge of the Santaquin Chieftains

I pursue excellence in everything I do.

I accept responsibility for myself.

I show respect for myself and others.

I will make a difference for good in the world.

School Websites

- <http://santaquin.nebo.edu>
- <http://santaquin.nebo.edu/content/santaquin-sentinel>
- <http://santaquin.nebo.edu/news>
- <http://santaquin.nebo.edu/information>
- <http://www.nebo.edu/>