

July 21, 2017

TO: ALL *Tooele High School* Parents and Students, **2017-2018**

FROM: Jeffrey D. Hamm, Principal
Tooele High School

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome back to *Tooele High School* for the **2017-2018** school year! It's hard to believe that another Summer is already winding down!! I am excited, grateful, and humbled for the opportunity to continue serving as your Principal at *Tooele High School*--great students, terrific staff, and wonderful community--I am so proud to be a part of buff nation!!! This is going to be another terrific new year!

The beginning of school brings anticipation and excitement unlike any other time of year; as always, this year includes many changes and great opportunities for ALL of us!! The pressure is always on to accomplish more with less. Our entire staff is excited and looking forward to the opportunity of working with you on behalf of your student(s) in our school and in our community. We have an excellent staff who believes that ALL children can learn, and we are committed to helping each student achieve his/her potential.

We realize that schools were created to serve and to educate students. We intend to maintain high standards of academic excellence and to establish high expectations for student achievement. With these goals in mind, we anticipate a very productive and rewarding school year. Each of our teachers offers unique educational experiences that will help students to learn and to grow, as well as to develop intellectually, socially, physically, and emotionally.

We also recognize that the parent is the primary educator of the child, and we encourage you to participate and get involved in the activities at our school. We believe that "it takes a village to raise a child," which includes a combination of home, school, and community members working together, resulting in a more effective and positive educational experience for everyone.

The purpose of this letter is to share some information (old and new) with you about our school for the upcoming year, as follows

- 1) New Classification; New Region; New Attitude: Welcome to **Class 4-A** *Tooele High School!* We are excited for the opportunity to compete with the BIG(ger) boys and girls in the newly-formed **Region 11** with the following schools:

- ❖ Ben Lomond
- ❖ Bonneville
- ❖ Juan Diego
- ❖ Ogden
- ❖ Park City
- ❖ Stansbury

We look forward to the challenges that lie ahead, and we are confident that our student-athletes can compete with ANYBODY! That being said, a word about sportsmanship . . .

Student athletes are students first, and we realize that schools were created to serve and to educate our students. We intend to maintain high standards of academic excellence and to establish high expectations for student achievement. With these goals in mind, we anticipate another very productive and rewarding school year!

Buffalo class and sportsmanship should always shine through--our collective character is always showing. We compete hard--to the best of our abilities--and we play to win fairly, between the lines and according to the rules. We applaud good performances on the other side of the field when they are warranted. Then, at the end of the day, we hold our heads high, and we congratulate our opponents on a game well-played--win or lose.

We have the highest expectations for ALL our student-athletes--both on and off the field--and we would remind them (and all those who support them) that representing *Tooele High School* in the athletic arena, in the classroom, in the stands, at home, or on the road--is a privilege. We expect to be the BEST--and we hold ALL involved with any extracurricular programs associated with *Tooele High School* to the highest of standards.

- 2) Campus Improvements: Looking back over just the past two years, we have been able to get a number of projects completed, several of which are still in the works, including the following:

PROJECT	COMPLETION
✓ New Tennis Courts	Done
✓ New Bell System	Done
✓ Intercom Upgrade(s)	Done
✓ Document Cameras in Every Classroom	Done
✓ Wireless Sound Systems in Every Classroom	Done
✓ Projectors in Every Classroom	Done
✓ New Sound System on Football Field	Done
✓ New Sound System in Gym	Done
✓ New Phone System	August 2017
✓ Wi-Fi Upgrade(s)	August 2017
✓ New Track	August 2017
✓ New Restrooms on Football Field	August 2017
✓ New Concessions Stand on Football Field	August 2017
✓ New Storage Facilities on Football Field	August 2017
✓ Safety Fence on Football Field	August 2017
✓ <i>Promethean</i> Boards in Every Classroom	January 2018
✓ New Camera System	January 2018
✓ Band Lockers Replaced	January 2018

Special thanks to our **School Board** and **Tooele County School District Administration** for recognizing the need(s) and for helping us get these projects completed in a timely manner. We also wish to give a shout out to our **Community Council** for ALL their hard work and foresight in approving our 3-year technology plan through the **Trust Lands** program, and for helping us get caught up into the twenty-first century with document cameras, projectors, *Promethean* Boards, and wireless sound systems--in EVERY classroom.

We also wish to thank our TERRIFIC custodial staff and secretaries for their tireless efforts throughout the summer. They have worked diligently every day--cleaning, cutting checks, enrolling new students, fixing, mowing, paying bills, typing, etc.--to ensure that everything school-related is up and running for the beginning of the new school year. Their job(s)--and the corresponding work--never ends, and we appreciate ALL our custodians and secretaries at *Tooele High School*--they are the BEST!!

3) Comings and Goings: We say goodbye to the Teachers listed below from **2016-2017**, and welcome their respective replacements, as follows:

- ✚ Kyle Brady (P.E.); replaced by Nolan Stouder.
- ✚ Melissa Chalmers (Art); replaced by Ruth Nichols.
- ✚ Nichole Dickson (Drill Team); replaced by Rachyl Mears.
- ✚ Jennifer Dustin (Math); replaced by Carolyn Bushman.
- ✚ Todd Hansen (Spanish); replaced by Matthew Mecham.
- ✚ Kourtnei Haskell (Cheerleading); replaced by Allison Evans.
- ✚ Boyd Hazzard (Sp.Ed.); replaced by Jamie Maiello.
- ✚ Jennifer Jones (ELA); replaced by McKenna Simmons.
- ✚ Paul Larson (ELA); replaced by Polly Tolbert.
- ✚ Michael Lebreuz (German); replaced by Carrie London.
- ✚ Phillip Lundgreen (Chemistry); replaced by Alexandria Hickle.
- ✚ Kayla Lutes (Severe Sp.Ed.); replaced by Joseph Kruger.
- ✚ Matthew Parker (Counselor); replaced by Lauren Pfledderer.
- ✚ Mel Roberts (Swimming); Annie Walgamott.
- ✚ Rick Spencer (Athletic Trainer); replaced by David Giles.
- ✚ Lynn Stuart (Sp.Ed.); replaced by Jeff Lewis.
- ✚ Marilyn Syra (Band); replaced by Orient Landis.
- ✚ Kylie Warner (FACS); replaced by Anthony Barbiero.
- ✚ Alan Watts (Orchestra); replaced by Amanda Kippen.
- ✚ New (Math); filled by Veronica Bentley.
- ✚ New Ag. (Part-Time); OPEN.

We also bid a fond farewell to the Classified Employees listed below from this past year, and welcome their corresponding replacements, as follows:

- ✚ Erin Dixon (*AmeriCorps* Aide); replaced by Leana McNicol.
- ✚ Gwen Jackson (Copy Center); replaced by Melissa Simmons.
- ✚ Melissa Simmons (ISS Aide); replaced by Stephen Duggan.
- ✚ New (Office Aide); filled by Arlene Mair.
- ✚ Sarah Lynn Camper (Scholarships); OPEN.

Thanks to each of these people for their dedicated service, their commitment to students, and for ALL their positive contributions to *Tooele High School*. Obviously, we still have a little bit of hiring left to do--with one vacant (part-time) teaching position and our scholarship coordinator opening--but we expect to be fully staffed by the first day of school!

4) Online Registration, Registration Dates and Times, and Student-Parent Handbooks: ALL students are required to register online through *Tooele County School District's* website beginning **August 1, 2017**. In addition, *Tooele High School's* registration dates and times have been established, as follows:

- **Wednesday-Thursday, August 9-10** from 1:00-7:00 p.m. (Returning Students)
- **Monday, August 14 @ 9:00 a.m.** (New Juniors)
- **Monday, August 14 @ 11:00 a.m.** (New Sophomores)
- **Monday, August 14 @ 1:00 p.m.** (New Freshmen)
- **Thursday-Friday, August 17-18** (New Seniors may register by appointment on either day)

Any problems, questions, or concerns with registration? Please contact us at the enclosed (email) address and/or telephone number(s). Moreover, our Student-Parent Handbooks will be passed out during our first week back to school.

~Important Dates to Remember~

AUGUST:

Senior Pictures:	Tuesday-Wednesday, August 1-2 (8:00 a.m.-Noon)
Back-to-School Night:	Monday, August 21 (4:00-6:00 p.m.)
Classwork Begins:	Tuesday, August 22
School Pictures:	Tuesday-Wednesday, August 29-30

SEPTEMBER:

Labor Day:	Monday, September 4 (NO SCHOOL)
Parent-Teacher Conference #1:	Wednesday, September 13 (4:00-7:00 p.m.)
Makeup Monday #1:	Monday, September 18 (3:00-4:00 p.m.)
Community Council: (Library)	Wednesday, September 20 @ 5:00 p.m.
Mid-Terms Go Home:	Friday, September 22 (via email only)
Homecoming:	Friday, September 29 (vs. Ogden)

OCTOBER:

Makeup Picture Day:	Wednesday, October 4
TCS D Techttoberfest:	Friday, October 6 (NO SCHOOL for Students)
UEA CONVENTION:	Thursday-Friday, October 19-20 (NO SCHOOL)
Makeup Monday #2:	Monday, October 23 (3:00-4:00 p.m.)
1 st -Term ENDS:	Thursday, October 26 (45 Days)
TCS D Data Day:	Friday, October 28 (NO SCHOOL for Students)
2 nd -Term BEGINS:	Monday, October 30

Just like last year, our Back-to-School Night will be an open-house format where parents can come and meet with their children's teachers during any time between the hours of **4:00-6:00 p.m.** We will have maps available for parents to help find their student's teachers, and we can print schedules as needed.

- 5) Secondary Early Out on Wednesday: Just a friendly reminder that the early release day for ALL secondary schools in Tooele County School District is **Wednesday**.
- 6) Makeup Mondays and P-T Conferences: This year we will have 8 Makeup Mondays prior to each mid-term and end-of-quarter where Teachers are contracted to stay an additional hour after school--from **3:00-4:00 p.m.**--to be available for meeting with students and help them get caught up on their missing work and/or late assignments. These Mondays are in addition to our regularly-scheduled 4 Parent-Teacher Conferences at mid-term of each quarter (please see attached schedule).

- 7) Mid-Terms via Email; Report Cards Mailed Home. Just like last year, **mid-term grades will only be emailed home**--in order to save on postage; but report cards will continue to be mailed home at the end of each quarter through the U.S. Postal Service. This makes registration at the beginning of the year critical, in that **we need valid email addresses for parents in order to communicate**--not only with our monthly newsletters--but also with the mid-term grades for parents and guardians.
- 8) Citizenship Policy. There is supposed to be a new Districtwide Citizenship Policy being implemented for this current school year (**2017-2018**), which has not yet been Board-approved. In the interim, *Tooele High School* has adjusted our Citizenship Policy to make ALL U's equal to two hours of makeup time per "U," regardless of circumstance.
- 9) Dress Code: Please see attached of *Tooele County School District's* Student Dress Code.
- 10) Reunification Site(s): In the wake of recent school tragedies at other schools across the country, we think it is important to remind parents of where both our Primary and Secondary Reunification Sites are located in the event of an actual emergency:

- ❖ **Primary Reunification Site(s)**:
 - West Elementary School*
(451 West 300 South, Tooele)
 - Blue Peak High School*
(211 South Tooele Blvd., Tooele)
- ❖ **Secondary Reunification Site**: *Deseret Peak Complex*
(2930 Utah 112, Tooele)

The Primary Reunification Site(s) would be used if we ever had to evacuate the building but were able to walk to *West Elementary* or *Blue Peak High* for accountability purposes, while the Secondary Reunification Site would involve *Tooele County School District* busing us to *Deseret Peak* for more serious emergencies. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please contact us at the enclosed email address/telephone number(s).

- 11) Community Council: At this time, we would like to encourage your participation and solicit nominations for *Tooele High School's* Community Council. To this end, if you are interested, please peruse the following related information . . .

*A Community Council shall be formed at each school to provide a sounding board for the principal to be used in the performance of his/her designated duties and responsibilities. Actions of the school Community Council shall be advisory in nature. Community Councils shall consist of at least **seven (7) members, including four (4) parents/guardians, and three (3) employee members (including the principal).***

Each school Community Council shall:

- 1) Annually evaluate the school's assessment results and use the evaluation in developing a School Improvement Plan.
- 2) Develop the School Land Trust Program.
- 3) Develop and implement a Professional Development Plan.
- 4) Develop a child access routing plan and make recommendations relating to the community environment for students. **(Elementary)**
- 5) Develop a Reading Achievement Plan. **(Elementary)**
- 6) Create subcommittees and/or task forces as needed.

Tooele High School's Community Council is tentatively scheduled to meet **bimonthly in the Library @ 5:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every other month**, as follows:

***Wednesday, September 20, 2017**
***Wednesday, November 15, 2017**

***Wednesday, January 17, 2018**
***Wednesday, March 21, 2018**
***Wednesday, May 16, 2018**

We would like to thank you for your ongoing patience, understanding, and support as we have gotten everything up and running this year and, hopefully, gotten everyone working together on behalf of ALL our students. Again, we appreciate the opportunity we have to work with you on behalf of your student(s) each and every day. I know that I am thrilled to be at *Tooele High School*, and I am definitely looking forward to tackling whatever new challenges lie ahead!! Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns; I can be reached at the enclosed (email) address and/or telephone number(s) during school hours at your convenience.

Thank you for your interest in and continued support of *Tooele High School*-we look forward to working with you!



Sincerely,

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