

September 25, 2017

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

FROM: Jeffrey D. Hamm, Principal, *Tooele High School*

Dear Parents and Students:

We are off and running--again--hard to believe that it is already mid-term of the first quarter!! It's been a busy--and rewarding--inaugural five weeks, to say the least!! From our Back-to-School Night to the "Howdy" Assembly; from School Pictures to our first Fire Drill; from College & Career Readiness (CCR) Day to hosting our first Makeup Monday-- we've gotten our school year off to a FANTASTIC start!!! And ALL of this, of course, is in addition to ALL the athletic and extracurricular activities going on in between.

Attached you will find your child's mid-term grades for first quarter. Remember that we will no longer be mailing hard copies of mid-terms home to parents--only final report cards at the end of each quarter. So please review these with your student(s)--including accessing the fuller, more detailed report on the *SIS (Aspire)* grading system--and then contact your children's teacher(s) if you have any additional questions or concerns regarding their grades. We would also ask you to review your student's attendance periodically--and consistently--with them so that there are not any surprises at the end of the quarter (or year) with "U's" and/or any other potential truancy issues.

Accreditation and School Grading: After passing off our Accreditation process with flying colors at the end of last year--we are now a fully accredited high school through the end of the 2022 school year--here comes the state of Utah's school grading. Unfortunately, we were assigned a letter grade of "D" for this past year, based upon our standardized testing results. *Tooele High School* has been flirting with the line between a "C" and a "D" ever since the state began assigning letter grades, and there are a lot of different elements factoring into it--including the cut scores being raised (again); our number of opt-out letters more than quadrupling last year; and not being able to *SAGE* test our Junior class at all, who historically delivers our best testing results.

But I am well aware that we are a results-driven profession--judged upon the bottom line--and this past year we fell grotesquely short of our goals. Heck, I was disappointed in the "C" from the year before! In any event, I take full responsibility and ownership in the "D," with my only commitment to all our stakeholders being that it will improve. I just want everyone to know that *Tooele High School* is so much more--and so much better--than a "D" school. Great, amazing, wonderful things happen here every single day with our staff and your student(s), and the last thing we want is to fall into a stereotype--or to be labelled--as a "D." Our faculty, staff, and students work really hard each day to be our collective best--this is the expectation that we have set for ourselves--and we will get better!!!

Finally, please reference the attached dates of importance to keep up with what's going on at our school. Specifically, you will note that, among many other happenings, this week is Homecoming (vs. Ogden), with a full slate of activities planned, as follows:

Homecoming Week: **Monday-Saturday, September 25-30**

- Meme Monday:
 - Senior T-Day - Seniors meet at the base of the "T" at **9:00 a.m.**
 - Kickball Tournament - **4:00 p.m.** at the softball fields by the swimming pool.
 - Light the "T" - Meet at *St. Marguerite's* @ **7:00 p.m.**; Light the "T" @ **8:00 p.m.**
- Tourist Tuesday:
 - Volleyball at Home vs. Ogden @ **6:00 p.m.**
 - Homecoming Queen Pageant - **7:00 p.m.** in the Auditorium.
- Walt Disney Wednesday:
 - Seminary Luncheon at the Seminary Building during BOTH Lunches.
 - Powder Puff Football Game - **7:00 p.m.** on the football field.
- Throw-Back Thursday:
 - STATE Tennis at *Liberty Park*.
 - Seniors vs Faculty Softball Game - **4:00 p.m.** pm at *Elton Park*.
 - Kickball Finals - **6:00 p.m.** on the Practice Field.
 - Pep Rally/Chalk Fight - **7:00 p.m.** on the Practice Field.
- School Spirit Friday (Purple Out):
 - Senior Luncheon during BOTH Lunches at the Pratt Aquatic Pavilion - Seniors in attendance will be excused for 4th period.
 - PM Pep Assembly on the Football Field.
 - Parade @ **5:00 p.m.** - Meet at the LDS Stake Center near the Cemetery.
 - Pregame Festivities begin @ **6:00 p.m.**
 - Football Game vs Ogden @ **7:00 p.m.**
- Super Saturday:
 - Saturday School - **8:00 a.m. - Noon** (4 U's can be made up during this time).
 - Homecoming Dance - **8:00-11:00 p.m.** in the Commons.

We want to remind everyone that the *Tooele County School District's Dress Code* will be enforced at ALL Homecoming activities--including each dress up day and our Homecoming dance. You can reference the Dress Code in *Tooele High School's Student-Parent Handbook* on **pages 34-37** to research any questions or concerns you may have.

As always, 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. We appreciate the opportunity we have to work with you on behalf of your student(s) each and every day. 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.

*Looking Ahead to October

✚ Bus Evacuations (A.M.):	Wednesday, October 4
✚ Makeup Picture Day:	
✚ Techtobertfest (NO School for Students):	Friday, October 6
✚ NetSmartz (Dual Assembly Schedule):	Friday, October 13
✚ Flu Clinic @ THS:	Monday, October 16
✚ UEA Convention (No School):	Thursday-Friday, October 19-20
✚ Makeup Monday #2 (3:00-4:00 p.m.):	Monday, October 23
✚ Region Pathways to Professions:	Wednesday-Thursday, October 25-26
✚ 1 st -Term ENDS (45 Days):	Thursday, October 26
✚ Monster Mash (8:00-11:00 p.m.):	
✚ TCSD Data Day (NO School for Students):	Friday, October 27
✚ 2 nd -Term BEGINS:	Monday, October 30

Thank you for your interest in and continued support of *Tooele High School!!*

Sincerely,

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