# PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER MAY 12, 2025

EVENTS 5/12-5/23 (school events, pta events, holidays)



# 5/12-5/18 (B-WEEK)

### 5/19-5/23

# Difference?

Term 4 Essential Guiding Question: How Can I Make a

Homeroom: We Identify and Celebrate Our Unique Gifts and Strengths

- 12 Ballroom 2:25-3:30
- 12 Percussion Concert 6:00-7:00 in Auditorium
- 13 All Library Books Due
- 13 ASD Board Meeting 6:00-8:00 @ District Office
- 13 Grand Concert 6:00-8:00 in Auditorium
- 14 Ballroom 1:25-2:40
- 14 Whole School Collaboration 1:30-3:30 in Library
- 14 Science Demo Team to Cedar Valley Ele. 8:00-2:00
- 14 Hall's Class to Discovery Park 10:30-2:00
- 15 9th Grade Awards Night 6:30-7:30 in Auditorium
- 15 8th Graders Turn in Chromebooks
- 15 Faculty vs. Track Team Event After School

# Term 4 Essential Guiding Question: How Can I Make a Difference?

Homeroom: Celebrations/Pod Activities

- 19 Ballroom 2:25-3:30
- 19 Track End of Season Party 2:30 in Cafeteria
- 20 9th Grade Lagoon Day
- 21 Drama/9th English in Auditorium 7:45-9:15
- 21 PGHS Graduation 12:00-2:00 @ BYU
- 21 Ballroom 1:25-2:40
- 22 Yearbook Day
- 23 Last Day of School 7:45-9:15
- 23 Timpanogos Graduation 9:00-11:00 @ UVU
- 23 Last Day of Term 4
- 26 Memorial Day
- 28 Report Cards Posted in Skyward

# **NEW INFORMATION**

# STUDENT MISBEHAVIOR WITH CHROMEBOOKS & FLECTRICAL OUTLETS

The following announcement was made by Mrs. Ross during Homeroom on Monday, May 12:

"Many of you are aware of the social media trend involving the misuse of school-issued Chromebooks. This behavior is considered willful destruction of the chromebook and will result in a \$310 fine. If you have Chromebook insurance, it will not cover willful destruction of your device and you will have to pay the full price for Chromebook replacement. Please note that this fee of \$310 must be resolved before another device will be issued to you next year. In addition, there are increasing incidences of students placing things in electrical outlets. This is extremely dangerous behavior and it needs to stop. There will be severe school consequences for anyone involved in this behavior along with potential criminal charges made by the Lindon Police Department. To be clear: Do not place any items in wall outlets or chromebook ports that are not designed for that purpose."

Parents, we need your help with this one. Please reiterate this message to your students.

# FEEDBACK FOR 2025-2026 AT OAK CANYON--LAST CALL

There are a few items we would love to gather some parent feedback about concerning items for the 2025-2026 school year. They are:

#### 1. School Start and End Times

Currently, Oak Canyon and Canyon View are the only two junior high/middle schools in Alpine School District that start at 7:45 and end at 2:15. This has been because it is the only way that the ASD Transportation Department can provide bus routes to all qualifying students in our area. However, due to some changes being made to bus routes effective next school year for secondary students, we have the opportunity to change our start and end times 30 minutes later and move into alignment with the other junior high/middle schools. Canyon View is considering this change as well. Some might be concerned that students would no longer be able to do school to school with classes at the high school if our bell schedule does not align with the high schools; however, all junior highs/middle schools in the district that start at 8:15 have found a way to do school to school with their feeder high schools that start at 7:45. A while back we surveyed our students about ways we could improve our school. One of the top responses from the students was to start school later. Research indicates that for adolescent students, it is better for them to start school later. That said, we would like parent feedback to be part of our decision making process. If we make the change, school will start at 8:15 each day and will end at 2:45 on M, Tu, Th, and F and at 1:45 on Wednesdays.

#### 2. Bark

Bark is a system that alerts the school and parents about concerning content created by students in their Google suite of tools (Google Docs, Google Slides, Google Sheets, Google Chat). This is content that is violent, profane, and/or sexual in nature. When concerning content is detected, administrators and parents can receive a notification. Our administrative team receives many of these daily. While a few valid concerns have been detected, over all, there have been many alerts in error. For example, if a student is writing about a war in their history class and talks about weapons, fighting, casualties, etc., their work is flagged for violent content, when there is nothing of actual concern. Some parents and students have expressed concerns that Bark is a violation of privacy. We have the opportunity to decide if we would like to use Bark again next year. Again, we do not want to make this decision without parent input.

#### 3. Cell Phones

This year PGHS has implemented a strict cell phone policy. The policy requires students to put their phones on airplane mode when they enter a classroom and to place their phones in a cell phone caddy for the duration of the class period. Students have been allowed to use their phones during class breaks and at lunch. We have been told that Timpanogos High School will be implementing this policy next year as well. As a junior high that feeds both of those high schools, we feel that our approach to cell phones needs to be at a minimum the same as the high schools. We are considering even more robust measures. We are aware that some students need access to their phones due to medical apps and monitoring facilitated by their phones. We would obviously have some way to address that. Ultimately, our concern is the constant distraction and disruption that cell phones cause to our students' learning and the overall learning environment. We absolutely need parent support in implementing this kind of change in our school next year. We would love your input!

Please click on the following link to share your thoughts about these 3 items by Tuesday, May 12: <a href="https://forms.gle/h16NSrvKexRez3Fi9">https://forms.gle/h16NSrvKexRez3Fi9</a>

# OAK CANYON ART SHOW

Each year, students in our art and ceramics classes are able to submit entries in our school art show. This year we had some incredible entries. The following students were recognized for their exceptional pieces:

2D Art

1st: A River's Color by Daniel Nielsen

2nd: The Floating Lights by Evelyn Haymore

3rd: Leopard by Gabrielle Moffitt

3D Art

1st: Mask-Shayla by Bailey Sweeten
2nd: Orange Juice by Georgia Hooley

3rd: Boot by Sage Hansen

The art show has been taken down and it is time to come get your artwork. Thank you for your participation!

# END OF YEAR ANNOUNCEMENTS--PLEASE READ

**Yearbooks:** Yearbooks are still available if you'd like to purchase one. They are \$40.00 online or at the Finance Window. Yearbook day is Thursday, May 22nd. Posters will be posted on the windows at the Finance and Office with student ID's of those who have bought one. Please have your student verify.

**Library Books:** All library books are due on Wednesday, May 14th. After that day, students will be charged for any unreturned books.

**Student Fees/Fines:** Student fees are due **NOW**. Fines will be given on May 15th for any school property that has not been returned or has been damaged. Students who have not paid their fees or fines by yearbook day will NOT receive their yearbook that day. Please avoid the LONG line on yearbook day by paying for fees now, helping your student get their stuff turned in, and taking care of any fines as soon asap. The Finance Office will NOT be taking calls on yearbook day due to long lines at the window. Remaining balances that are left after May 30th will be turned over to our collection company.

**Lagoon:** Lagoon is coming up for our 9th graders on **Tuesday, May 20th**. Information is on our **school website**. Parents or Guardians need to fill out the permission form FIRST then they can pay online at myschoolfees or at the finance window. Your student will not be able to go unless we have a permission form for them.

## LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Students that come to school on 5/23 will go directly into the auditorium to watch a movie (TBD) from 7:45-9:15. As we are required to take roll each day, we will be keeping track of the students who attend on 5/23 as they enter the auditorium. At 9:15, students are dismissed to go home. Buses will run as per usual.

# WORLD LANGUAGE WOWS

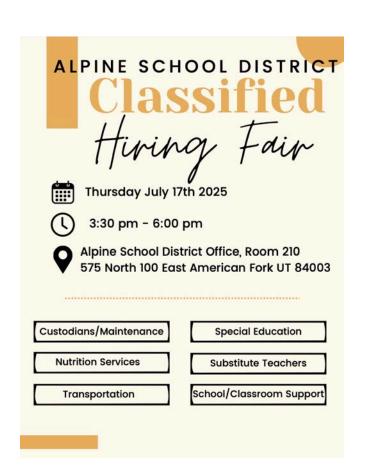
Our fantastic World Language department has put together a fantastic way to share with faculty and families the amazing things our World Language students and teachers are up to this year. Just click <a href="here">here</a> to access WOWS!

# JOIN OCJH BALLROOM 25-26



# COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS













We're getting excited for BYU Chip Camp 2025 and would love your help getting the word out! If you are interested in joining us, or know of others who would enjoy the camp, please share the information below. The camp typically sells out quickly, so don't delay if you know you want to attend this year!

#### What is Chip Camp?

Chip Camp is an immersive three-day experience designed for students ages 13-15 who are interested in electrical and computer engineering. Participants get the chance to

- engage in hands-on projects involving coding, robotics, and problem-solving
- develop leadership skills and learn how to work effectively in teams
- connect with mentors from the BYU Electrical & Computer Engineering department

You don't want to miss out on this amazing opportunity!

### Important Dates and Information

- Camp Dates:
  - Session I: June 24 June 26, 2025
  - Session II: July 1 3, 2025
- Location: Brigham Young University (BYU), Provo, UT
- Cost: \$189

Register Now