



# PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

May 2019

Hello Panther Families,

We've been very busy over the last few weeks. Family involvement activities, field trips, and a great school-wide Panther Pride activity were all squeezed into one month. We couldn't have done all of this without great support from you. We just began RISE testing, completed K-2<sup>nd</sup> state benchmark assessments, and are preparing to wrap up the year.

I would like to introduce you to the new teachers that will be joining us as Peruvian Park Panthers next year as some of our teachers leave for new marriages, babies, and to return home out of state. I am excited to bring experienced and highly-recommended educators to join the superstar teachers already at our school. Their passion for working with children was evident in their interviews and from their references. See the next page to learn a little bit about these great educators.

We have the next few weeks to finish up end of year assessments and activities. Thank you for sharing your children with us this year!

Warmest regards,

Ms. Jewkes



## Mary had a little lamb...

The kindergarten students in Mrs. Butters' and Mrs. Bond's classes were shining stars as they presented the annual Nursery Rhyme Program to the school and parents. Each student had the opportunity to individually recite a nursery rhyme. Thank you to our teachers and parents for all of your work in helping the children get ready for their big performance!



## MEET OUR NEW PANTHER TEACHERS



### CALBERT BECK -- 1st Grade SALTA

Mr. Beck is a SLC native who earned his Master's degree in Elementary Education from the University of Utah and has spent nine of the last 11 years teaching first grade in Murray School District. "I am very excited to start at "The Park", joining what clearly stands out as an amazing 'village' of school and neighbors." He will be joining Mrs. Marchant as we add another SALTA 1st grade. Calbert's references noted, "He is an exceptional educator on all fronts, communicates very well with parents, and has the ability to motivate students to be their best person." He was described as a great role model for his students. After his interview at our school, he took a little tour and ran into a couple of his former students. They were absolutely "giddy" when they saw him. It was obvious that he is a teacher who makes a great impact on his students.

### ERIN STEINER -- 3rd Grade SALTA

Just a single master's degree is not enough for Erin, as she is well on her way to completing a second one at the University of Utah. With advanced education in curriculum/instruction and educational leadership and third grade experience, Erin will provide great insight for the third grade SALTA team. She is finishing up her tenth year of teaching at Renaissance Academy before she moves to Peruvian Park for the 2019-2020 school year. Her references said, "She maintains wonderful connections with students and parents. Her passion for learning is contagious, and she fosters academic ability and personal value in each of her students." You might hear her singing throughout the year as she is a finalist in the Utah Idol contest!



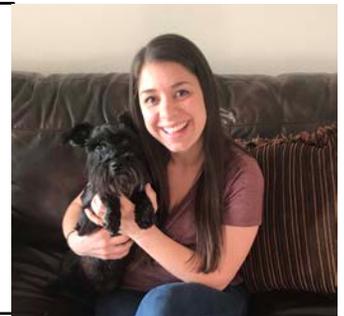
### JOY PARSONS -- 4th Grade SALTA



Joy is moving to Peruvian Park from Jordan School District. She has taught for 14 years with the last six years in 4th grade. Math is her specialty which will come in handy to build complexity and rigor in her classroom. She comes to us highly recommended by her current principal who said, "She will be fantastic teaching in a gifted/talented program." Joy lives in West Jordan with her husband, daughter, two dogs and two cats. She graduated from the University of New Mexico. She enjoys reading, watching movies, hiking, and visiting Utah's state and national parks and monuments. Her husband is a radio announcer on B98.7 and once in a great while, she gets to fill in as his morning show partner.

### NATALIE THORNLEY -- 5TH GRADE

Natalie is moving to Utah from Idaho where she is currently teaching at Harold B Lee Elementary. With six years experience in both secondary and elementary education, she will be a great addition to our fifth grade team. Both her current principal and superintendent described her as "the best of the best." She grew up in Idaho, but is a Utah State Aggie through and through, since she attained her Bachelor's and Advanced Bachelor's degrees there. She loves the outdoors, hiking, reading (Harry Potter nerd alert) and playing with her furry little sidekick, Cub. "While I have always loved Logan and Utah State, I am thrilled to be in Sandy and to learn from the great kids here. I look forward to getting to know all of you."



### GENE CRESSLER -- 5th Grade



Gene will be making the move from Colorado Springs to Utah to join the Panther staff in the fifth grade. Throughout 19 years of teaching, Gene has gained vast experience in working with students at various levels, including fifth grade. He attained two Master of Arts degrees, one from George Washington University in Washington, DC and the other from McDaniel College in Maryland. He has extensive training and experience in teaching English language learners and will be a great addition to the Peruvian Park Staff. One of his references noted, "Mr. Cressler is a nurturing, engaging teacher. He loves his students." Another reference advised us to snap him up quickly because it is a privilege to work with him as he brings invaluable experience and expertise.

### Panther Pride Celebration -- How to Train Your Dragon

We worked together to earn over 6,000 Panther Pride tickets by demonstrating respect, responsibility, and safety. We celebrated at a party with a picture booth, Viking hats, the sheep toss, and ring of fire!



### Family Involvement Activities

We hope you have enjoyed the family involvement activities held the last few weeks. We love to give the children an opportunity to share their learning and talents. Here is a little bit of the fun from the second grade Wax Museum, third grade Simple Machine Fair, and the First Grade Tea. We have more events in the upcoming weeks and hope to see you there!



See the upcoming events and watch for teacher notices with specific details for your child's family involvement activity.

### Library Books Due

As the end of the school year approaches, Mrs. Petersen is completing inventory in the library. Please take a look at home for any lost library books that need to be returned to school.

**LAST DAY OF SCHOOL SCHEDULE**

**KINDERGARTEN:** May 31– Celebration 9:00 a.m. and 12:00 p.m.

**1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> GRADES:** June 6 dismissal at **12:20 p.m.**  
All students will exit through the front doors.

**Farewell to our retiring friend...**  
We wish Mrs. Page, one of our math interventionists great adventures in retirement. Mrs. Page has worked at the school for 24 years. We appreciate the dedication she has shown serving the students at Peruvian Park!



**Volunteer Luncheon**  
**Wed, May 15 11:15-1:00**  
**Library**

Thank you to all of our volunteers for the hundreds of hours donated to make Peruvian Park a special place for our students and teachers. We appreciate the classroom volunteers, field trip chaperones, PTA volunteers, and those that helped in many other capacities. Please join us next week on Wed., May 15 from 11:15-1:00 p.m. in the library. You may wish to come at a time that aligns with your child's lunch, so you can visit with his/her teacher. We hope to see you there!

K , 2<sup>nd</sup> — 11:15  
1st grade teachers— 11:30  
3rd grade teachers— 11:45  
5th grade teachers— 12:00  
4th grade teachers— 12:15

We would like to say a big THANK YOU to the PTA for a great school year! We loved the exciting fun-filled activities you provided for our students and staff. We appreciate the field trips, software, and great learning environment you have created at our school.



**Upcoming Events**

- May 8 - May 10 -- BOGO Book Fair
- May 8 -- Public Health Emergency Drill
- May 10 -- 3rd SALTA Simple Machine Fair/Lego League 9:00
- May 10 -- 1st Grade Tea in classrooms 12:15
- May 15 -- Volunteer Luncheon 11:15-1:00**
- May 15 -- 2nd Planetarium Trip
- May 17 -- 3rd Trip Living Traditions Trip
- May 17 -- Box Tops Due
- May 21 -- Acadience (DIBELS) State Benchmark Assessments 3rd-5th
- May 23 -- Kinder Zoo Trip
- May 24 -- Park Day 5<sup>th</sup>
- May 24 -- SCC candidate forms due
- May 27 -- Memorial Day No School**
- May 29 -- Choir Concert
- May 30 -- SCC Election
- May 30 -- Orchestra Concert 8:45 a.m.
- May 31-- Last Day of Kindergarten** (See teacher notes for times of K Celebration)

- June 3 -- 4th Science Spectacular 8:45 start in gym
- June 3 - June 5 -- Kindergarten KEEP Assessments by appointment
- June 3 -- 5th Wax Museum in Gym 1:30 p.m.
- June 4 -- Field Day
- June 6 -- Last Day -- School Farewell and Send-Off**  
**12:20 Dismissal** through front doors

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- Aug 15 -- Panthers and Popsicles/Back to School Night 3:30-5:00
- Aug 19 -- First Day of School 1st-5th 2019-2020
- Aug 19-21 -- Kindergarten Assessments by appointment
- Aug 22- First Day of Kindergarten

If you have a question or concern, feel free to call and leave a message 801-826-9100 or email me at [leslie.jewkes@canyonsdistrict.org](mailto:leslie.jewkes@canyonsdistrict.org) .