Principal’s Message
Wow, we have nearly made it to winter break! We have survived windstorms, power outages, long school board meetings, and other adventures. Thank you for supporting your students through all of these challenges.

The annual Emerson food drive raised $3216 which is 12,248 meals. In addition, we collected several carts of food that was donated to the Utah Food Bank. This effort helped support many families in the community experiencing food insecurity during the holiday season. Your generous contributions are appreciated. Thank you to Mr. Craner for organizing this annual event.

The Winter Wonderland holiday gift giving initiative is underway. Thank you for your contributions for Emerson families in need. Amazon orders are being submitted and gifts are being delivered to homes. Thank you to our counselor Zoe Romero and Linda Caywood in the office for organizing this endeavor. The generosity of the Emerson community never ceases to amaze me.

Emerson is beginning the planning process for providing in-person instruction as an option for our students beginning January 25. Currently, we are gathering information from teachers and families that is critical to this planning process. We are working with the Emerson school improvement council (SIC) and school community council (SCC) to provide input to as we develop a plan for student re-entry to school. As information becomes available, it will be communicated to you via school messenger. Thank you for your patience as we work through this complex undertaking.

Wishing our students, families, faculty, and staff a joyful, relaxing, and safe holiday season.

Reflections Art contest winners are exhibited throughout this issue.

Elizabeth (grade 6)
ClassZOOM activity:

- Ms. Holden’s third grade has been learning about grams, kilograms and rounding to the nearest 10.
- In Ms DeMille’s Kindergarten, they have started learning about Holidays Around the World. We are learning about 15 holidays/countries, writing in a journal, and making a holiday craft for each one!
- Ms Jepsen’s class is doing activities and learning about holidays around the world!
- In Ms Kinne’s class they have the "Wheel of Fun". We put rewards such as virtual dance parties, extra recess, show and share, etc. on the wheel and spin it when we earn 100 marbles in Zoom class. We do the activity each week for Fun Friday. The kids love it!
- Ms Oland-Wong’s class, third grade IP, has been working hard on presenting monthly book reports. Despite being online, we have still been successful at creating artistic book report presentations using bottles and cereal boxes. This month they are creating a puppet show highlighting their favorite scene in a historical fiction book. Students are becoming experts at sharing their screens, creating responses with Flipgrid and making breakout rooms places of learning. We are rolling right along and learning something new each day.
- Mr Dadok’s class is looking at artifacts from the Ancestral Puebloan people and Fremont people and making inferences about what life must have been like hundreds of years ago in our region.
- Ms Jensen’s 5th/6th IP classes are working on debate - the first virtual State Debate will be held in May.
- Ms Langi’s class start off each morning with a 3-minute breathing technique to help them stay focused and calm throughout our morning Zoom meetings.
- Room 6 (Schostek and Brockmyer – 1st grade Special Education) is using Zoom Breakout Rooms more often to increase each student’s opportunities for learning academic and social skills! We also had a virtual art class with Ms. Annie! (see attached pictures)
- Ms. Finerfrock’s 2nd grade class had Ms. Annie come and help them draw snowmen and winter scenes!
- Mrs. Allred’s first graders read stories and wrote about pets and what they need. Then they went on a virtual field trip to the Humane Society to see a variety of pets and learn how to care for them.
- Library: In December students (4-6) are asked to participate in a BreakOutEdu activity- “Edwardo is Missing”. BreakOutEdu are games to help students work collaboratively to solve puzzles so whether it’s with the family or friends online encourage your student to put on their thinking hats and start solving the puzzles.
PTA in the school:
- The main goals of the PTA include whole school and individual teacher appreciation and financial support, hosting of extracurricular programs to compliment the school curricula (Día de los Muertes, STEM night) and striving to create and support pride and inclusion in the greater school community.
- Back in October during the SEP advisory meetings the PTA expressed their gratitude for the hard work the teachers put in getting individual evaluations ready to meet with parents. Normally, the PTA provides a dinner at the school while teachers work late but this year – with all the electronic interactions, the PTA gave the teachers Amazon gift cards to thank them for their hard work.
- In December, the PTA will provide $100 to each teacher’s classroom funds. This can help teachers buy what they need to support themselves and their classes. In lieu of the (unfortunate) lack of need to support field trips this year, the PTA hopes to increase classroom support in the spring – depending on community donations.
- To further support our teachers, the PTA will be putting out a request for donations to help stock the teacher’s lounge and to help us create mini-lounge spaces in the copy rooms in the two hallways – through the purchase of two minifridges and two microwaves. This way teachers from throughout the school can take advantage of the goodies provided by PTA (and keep their lunches cold until they want to make them hot).
- The annual PTA fundraiser (Move and Groove) started in October and will continue year-round. There is no good time to ask for support in a year like 2020, but our school still deserves our support however we can provide it. If you would like to donate to the PTA please follow this link. Donations over $100 will be acknowledged with an Emerson Pride yard sign.
- Giving for free – don’t forget to sign up for a non-profit partner – like the Emerson PTA – with your Amazon smile account. Under your Amazon account > Your Amazon Smile > set your non-profit to PTA Utah Congress Emerson Elementary PTA and then use smile.amazon.com as your purchase location.
- Look for a STEM night survey in late January or February. The PTA is planning to provide a stimulating take home STEM activity for each family but we’d like to plan for demand by asking for your interest prior to the assembling of these free kits.

PTA Utah Congress Emerson Elementary PTA has received $273.31 as of November 2020
Reflections:
Reflections is a PTA sponsored Art contest that happens each fall. Each year students create works of art (in ten categories) that reflects the year’s theme. This year’s theme was “I matter because...” Emerson students submitted artwork in November and the top category (Awards of Excellence winners) will progress to the next level which is the Region 4 Competition in December. Award of Merit winners are second place finishers. We thank all participants for their contributions.

Awards of Excellence (will proceed to district competition)
• Elizabeth Yost
• Hutch Schwabenlander
• Annie Jia
• Neil Nabhay
• Morgan Nicholson
• Sebastian von Stackelberg

Award of Merit
• Bay Schwabenlander
• Neil Nabhay
• Emery Heys

Snowflake Holiday Gift Giving Program Fundraiser
It has been a longtime tradition at Emerson to help families in need of a little extra cheer during the holidays. In the past, people could walk past the office and grab a snowball that had an item on someone's “wish list.” However, with the effects of COVID, the needs of our families are greater than ever. Our GoFundMe campaign raised over $4000 to help families receive gifts like books, games, clothing, and toys. These gifts will be purchased online and sent directly to the families to ensure safety of our school community.
In a year of financial, educational, and social instability even the littlest counts. Thank you for your generosity and if you have any questions please contact Zoe Romero at zoe.romero@slcschools.org.

Email suninsaltlake@gmail.com to contribute articles or photos to the Eaglet newsletter.
Happy December! Out in the garden we’ve planted garlic, covered it with straw, and are waiting for spring to return. Looking back on 2020, we’ve had a pretty amazing year. We grew almost 800 pounds of fresh vegetables, fruits, and herbs for our community! Where did all of that food go?! Most of it went home with families who participated in our u-pick sessions, some went to teachers who were in the building over the summer, and over 200 pounds were donated to the school district’s Community Learning Centers’ family meal distributions. Before school was dismissed in the spring, we worked with 12 different teachers to bring garden-based learning to their classrooms. Since the pandemic started, over 250 seeding kits have gone home with students, and 60 packets of dried marigolds were included in the PTA’s Día de los Muertos take-home kits. All things considered, it’s been a great year to grow! Thank you for your support of the Emerson Garden this year. We could not have done it without you!

The garden may be sleeping, but there are still lots of seasonal foods to enjoy this time of year. Check out the recipe below for a tasty and kid-approved way to incorporate extra veggies into your breakfast routine! Did you know that carrots that are grown in the fall and winter are amazingly sweet? This happens because there isn’t enough sunlight or warmth for the plant to grow in the winter, so the plant stores all of the sugars (plant energy!) it has built in the root. The plant will save these sugars to use for new growth once warm weather returns. Lucky for us, we get to reap the sweet benefits of plant science!

**CARROT PANCAKES**

Servings: 4  
Preparation time: 10 minutes  
Cooking time: 20 minutes

**INGREDIENTS**

- 1 ¼ cup all-purpose flour  
- 2 Tablespoons finely chopped pecans (optional)  
- 2 teaspoons baking powder  
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon  
- ⅛ teaspoon salt  
- ⅛ teaspoon ground ginger  
- 1 egg, lightly beaten  
- ⅓ cup packed brown sugar  
- 1 cup milk  
- 1 cup grated carrots  
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

**DIRECTIONS**

1. Combine dry ingredients. In a large bowl, combine flour, pecans (if using), baking powder, cinnamon, salt, and ginger.  
2. Combine wet ingredients. In a small bowl, combine egg, brown sugar, milk, carrots, and vanilla. Stir wet ingredients into the dry ingredient mixture just until combined.  
3. Cook pancakes. Pour batter ¼ cup at a time onto a hot griddle or skillet greased with butter or cooking spray. Flip when bubbles form around the edge and top of the pancake and bottom is golden brown. Cook until the second side is golden brown, then remove from the griddle. Repeat with remaining batter. Serve with butter and maple syrup or other desired toppings.
Emerson Community,

The Salt Lake City School District Board of Education voted in favor of a phased re-entry of students to in-person school. The phased plan is as follows:

- K-1 students returning the week of January 25
- Grades 2-3 returning the week of February 1
- Grades 4-6 returning February 8

The choice to remain on remote instruction is also an option for families.

On Monday, December 7, you will be receiving an emailed survey connected to each of your children that will ask you to indicate your choice of in-person remote education services, or staying with your child's current teacher regardless of the service delivery mode. This survey must be completed and submitted by December 11. I encourage you to complete the survey as soon as possible. In order to plan we need 100% of Emerson families to complete the survey. Parent response data is critical in the re-entry planning process for Emerson.

As we move through this process, we will work to meet the needs of our students. Keep in mind that Emerson is a unique school of three programs; the special education hub, ELP magnet-Spanish dual immersion, and general education programs. We will be planning by grade levels in our general education classes and by individual classes in our district programs because there is only one teacher at each grade level. Unfortunately, we will not be able to meet the request of every family and we cannot guarantee that your child will remain with his/her current teacher. We will do the best that we can.

We will be working with the Emerson school improvement council (SIC) and school community council (SCC) to gather input and create a schedule and plan that works for Emerson. As detailed information becomes available, we will push it out to our community.

We know that this is an unpredictable and emotional time for families and teachers. Let's be thoughtful and work together to serve our students in the best way possible for the remainder of the school year.

Sincerely,
Ms. Reynolds & Ms. Deleon

Annie (grade 2)
Hi,

If you have read this far you are a dedicated Eaglet enthusiast. I’m looking for someone who enjoys passing along information and helping Emerson community feel united and informed. It takes about 3-5 hours a month to assemble the Eaglet, including attending PTA meetings to find out extracurricular school information to include. Translations is done by the district to create the Spanish edition. I assemble the Eaglet in Adobe InDesign but other programs could be used. If you are a parent of a kindergardener through 4th grader who would like to help for a year or two, please let me know. I’ve done the Eaglet for four years and my daughter is in 5th grade. I can help train and support next year, but we need someone else to step up.

Heidi
Eaglet Editor (2016-2020)
heidi@biochem.utah.edu