



Diamond Fork Jr. High

Diamondbacks

PTA NEWSLETTER

September 2009

Principal's Message

One of the constant challenges we face as a school is creating opportunities for timely remediation for students who fall behind. If not caught soon enough this problem compounds in severity and ultimately leads to poor academic performance. It is our school-wide goal this year to decrease the number of students with D and F grades by five percent from last year. Over the past two years we have collected data on student achievement and discussed how to address low performance. From these discussions teachers have expressed a need for more time to teach and work with students who have missed concepts or need re-teaching in a particular area. To gather additional ideas, we looked at other districts and how they addressed such needs. This

led to the creation of our new program called E-time. E-time is comprised of two key elements—time for extra help and time for enrichment.

E-time's main purpose is to help achieve higher academic levels overall by requiring students who fall below a C- or who receive an "I" grade (in-progress grade for not reaching concept mastery) to receive extra help. Students will receive a miniature report card at the end of their 3rd period each day which will determine whether they go for extra help or go to an enrichment activity. If students need extra help based on their grades, they will report to that teacher whose class they are deficient in. If that teacher, however, is not available because they are involved in an enrichment activity that day, the student will report to a general remediation study hall or to another teacher if they have multiple deficient grades. Our math teachers will be available everyday for remediation and our other core teachers

(English, science, social studies) will be available two or more days per week. **E-time will run everyday after 3rd period from 10:30 to 10:55 with the exception of Wednesdays.**

Students who do not have deficient grades are able to choose from a variety of enrichment activities to attend during E-time: computer labs, outside sports, open gym, open library, board games, scrapbooking, merit badges, chess club, drama club, art club, sewing club, movies, weight lifting, paper crafts, stress management, etc. It is our hope that E-time will be another tool to help us reach our goal of lowering the number of students with low grades and at the same time be an incentive for others to keep them as high as possible. **We are seeking parent volunteers during E-time to help supervise activities, teach an enrichment activity or help tutor students.** If you are interested in helping or have any questions or concerns regarding E-time, please give us a call.

Sincerely,
Mr. Peterson

E-Time Volunteers Needed!!!

In order to make the most of this program we are asking for **4-6 parents a day** to volunteer half an hour of their time supervising the students on the field. **E-Time runs every day except Wednesday from 10:25-10:55 am.**

Any time that you could give would be greatly appreciated; whether it's one day a week, one day a month or even one day a year, please come! It is parents like you that really make a difference! Thank you!!!

To volunteer for E-Time, or for more details, please contact Jana Kessinger at 801-798-1638 or email to janakessinger@gmail.com .

General PTA Meeting

Friday, October 2 @ 9:00 am

Reflections Contest

Theme: **Beauty Is...**

Deadline: Wednesday, October 14

Contact: Vicki Mitchell 801-873-3256

Red Ribbon Week October 5 – 9

Diamond Fork Junior High is participating in Red Ribbon Week. We will be distributing wristbands for the students to wear this week.

Wearing a red ribbon symbolizes our commitment to drug prevention and education. **During this week we express gratitude for all the lives that remain drug free, we pledge to live a drug-free life and we remember those who have lost in the fight against drugs.**

We would invite you to participate at home by having discussions with your children around the dinner table about awareness and prevention this week.

Also, to commemorate this week there will be a **Drug Prevention Night** at the new **Maple Mountain High School** on **Wednesday, October 7, 2009**. We invite parents and students alike to come and participate in the evening's events.

Nebo School district has authorized a **2 hour detention credit** for any student

attending with a parent the Drug Prevention Night at Maple Mt. High on **Wednesday, October 7 @ 7:00pm**. This credit is applicable towards tardies and unexcused absences.

T-Mobile

PTA and T-Mobile have teamed up to give PTA members' exclusive discounts on wireless mobile service and equipment! To take advantage of special offers please call 1-866-464-8662 and mention promo code **9788TMOFAV**. If you are already a T-Mobile customer, please call 1-877-453-8824 to receive the PTA discount (14% discount on monthly recurring charges).

It's not too late to sign up!
Just send \$5 to the office with your child in an envelope marked PTA DUES.

Dates To Remember:

Seo 21- Book Fair

24

- Sep 24 Parent-Teacher Conference
3:15-8:00 pm
- Sep 25 no school (Teacher
Development Day)
- Sep 28 CTE Day Care Day
- Oct 01 Picture Retakes
- Oct 02 General PTA Meeting
- Oct 02 Diamondback Day Activity at
Thanksgiving Point
- Oct 05 Red Ribbon Week Begins
- Oct 07 Drug Prevention Night at
Maple Mountain High School
- Oct 14 Reflections Entries Due
- Oct 15 no school (fall break)
- Oct 29 1st term ends
- Oct 30 no school (Teacher
Development Day)

Sponsors

Diamond Fork Jr High and the PTA are looking for individuals and businesses interested in donating items, services, or money to help support the great programs we offer. If you are interested please call Roxanna Maurer or email her at [<roxanna@sfcn.org>](mailto:roxanna@sfcn.org).