



# Bluffdale Elementary PTA

## Changing the World One Child at a Time

September & October 2021

### Mark Your Calendar!

#### October

##### Read For the Win Month!

- 4 - Reflections entries due
- 7 - Family Literacy Night  
5:00-6:30 **Travel the World Through Books**
- 11 - Kneaders Spirit Night
- 14 - PTA Meeting 9:15
- 18-22 - No school  
(Fall Recess)
- 27- Parents and Pastries  
8:15-8:55 am
- 29 - Halloween Parade and Class Parties

#### November

- 1-5 - Red Ribbon Week
- 3 - Classic Skate 5:30-8:30  
**Round the World**
- 10-11 - Parent-Teacher Conferences
- 11 - PTA meeting 9:15
- 12 - No school (Elementary Compensatory Day)
- 16- Hearing screening
- 18- Papa Murphy's Spirit Night
- 19 - Flexible Friday
- 24-26 - No school  
(Thanksgiving recess)

## CALL FOR ENTRIES!



EXPLORE THE ARTS  
AND EXPRESS  
YOURSELF!



**I WILL CHANGE THE WORLD BY...**



DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY   FILM PRODUCTION   LITERATURE   MUSIC COMPOSITION   PHOTOGRAPHY   VISUAL ARTS

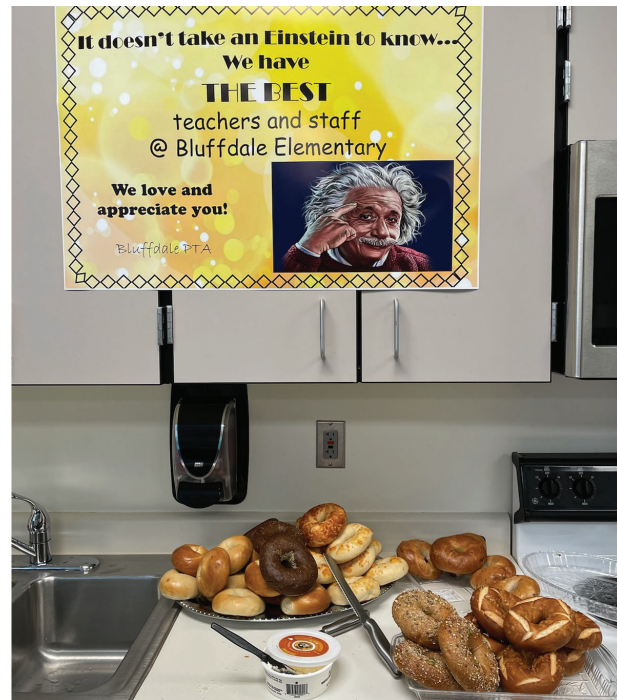
**2021-2022  
CALL FOR ENTRIES!**

[utahpta.org/Ref](http://utahpta.org/Ref)

Everyone is invited to create an entry for the PTA Reflections program! The theme is "I Will Change the World By...". Students may enter their art in one of the following categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts, and 3D Art. All entries will be submitted online. Go to [utahpta.org/Ref](http://utahpta.org/Ref) to find category guidelines and to submit your entry. If you have any questions, call or text Kara Allen at 801-664-5901.

## ENTRIES ARE DUE OCTOBER 4

This newsletter is a little longer than usual. Please read through all the pages for important Bulldog information!



## We Love Bluffdale Elementary Teachers!

Every month is **Teacher Appreciation** Month for Bluffdale PTA. We have already treated the teachers to a Bagel Day and Potato Bar to show them how much we appreciate everything they do for our students and school. Bluffdale Elementary has the best faculty and staff!



Thank you to everyone for making our **Spirit Nights** great! There's nothing like getting to mingle with our amazing school and eat. Zupas Spirit Night raised \$460 for our school, and Raising Cane's Spirit Night raised \$200. Go Bulldogs!

Bluffdale  
teachers and  
students  
need YOU!



The success of our PTA depends on parents like you! Volunteering in a classroom isn't the only way you can support your student's teacher. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator Michelle Cameron ([shellycameron@gmail.com](mailto:shellycameron@gmail.com)) to find volunteering opportunities that fit you and make a difference!

## Follow us!

Stay up to date with PTA events and announcements, join discussion, and connect with other parents at our school.



**Bluffdale Elementary PTA**



**bluffdale\_elementarypta**

## Bluffdale PTA Executive Committee

President - Chandra Childs  
President-Elect - Tracey Condie  
Secretary - Sara Bevan  
Treasurer - Tara Moyes  
VP of Advocacy - Cambrea Corbett  
Teacher Rep - Janae Young

Keep reading for important reminders and instructions from Mrs. Tingey!





# A Message From Mrs. Tingey

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year! The staff of Bluffdale Elementary School is excited to be working with you as we provide the best educational experience possible for your child.

## Reminders:

- The first bell rings at 8:55, and class begins at 9:00. Thank you for getting your students to school on time and ready to learn. School is dismissed at 3:35 Monday – Thursday and Friday at 1:00.
- The office is open from 8:30 – 4:00. The phone number is 254-8090.
- Any time you enter the school, ALWAYS check in at the office regardless of the reason for your visit that day. Students need to be checked out through the office. You may call ahead and we will try to have your child at the office waiting for you when you come in.

## Attendance:

Attendance Awareness Campaign has been launched. Let's establish a pattern of daily school attendance beginning in September and continue that great habit through June 3! Please remember that attendance at school is important for a variety of reasons. One important reason is academics. When students are absent, they miss content that builds throughout the school year. They also miss the valuable interactions with their peers that assist in increased understanding and activities that provide connections for learning. Lessons are integrated through multiple subject areas, so when a child misses reading, he or she also misses content for science, social studies, grammar, vocabulary, and comprehension.

Chronic absenteeism may cause concerns socially. Students learn social patterns, behaviors and acceptance at school. Being absent often may delay learning of these skills and hinder a student's ability to interact appropriately with peers or to understand established group routines. This can cause apprehension or anxiety about coming to school. Also, students learn the habit of being at a designated place on time and prepared to do work. That habit extends throughout their life. School is a great place to learn how to plan ahead and prepare to be somewhere on time.

## Absenteeism Facts:

- Chronic absence is considered 10% or about 18 days of the year. That is about 2 days a month.
- Chronic absenteeism in kindergarten can predict lower test scores, poor attendance and retention in later grades.
- Students with chronic absence patterns have a 7.4 times higher rate of dropping out of school.
- Kindergarten and 1st graders' absenteeism rates are as high as those in high school. 1 out of 10 kindergarten and 1st grade students are chronically absent.



Continued on the next page...

# More From Mrs. Tingey

## Drop Off/Pick Up:

Thank you; thank you for your patience as we work through easing the stress and improving the flow of traffic. As you may have observed, we have had many people coming out to observe traffic patterns. We are in the process of coming up with a plan. In the meantime, let me encourage some alternatives to minimize the congestion.

1. If you are within walking distance of Bluffdale boundaries, encourage your student to walk with a group of children to school.
2. Enjoy some additional time with your student and walk with him/her to or from school.
3. Arrange a carpool with someone in your neighborhood.
4. If your student rides the bus, make sure they know their bus number. Reinforce to your student the importance of getting to the bus as soon as possible after the school bell rings.

If you choose to drive your student to school, there are a few things you can do to make the experience more efficient:

## Drop-off

- Have student sitting on the passenger side of the car.
- Have your student ready with hair done, breakfast eaten, papers signed, and backpack ready before you get to the school.
- Be attentive to everyone around you at the school. Keep personal distractions to a minimum.

## Pick-up

- There are several buses to drive students home. The buses load and unload on the west side of the school. Keep the intersection clear of vehicles so the bus can turn into that loading area. Also, be aware that buses need a larger than normal space to turn. Give the buses the right of way to turn at all times.
- In the loading and unloading area, please remain in the car at all times.
- Park your vehicle if you intend to leave it for any reason.
- Only yellow curb areas are designated car loading and unloading areas.
- Have your student enter the car on the passenger side and secure his/her seatbelt; then please exit the loading area.

Thank you again for all of your support. I love being at Bluffdale Elementary. Our students are wonderful and our community is amazingly supportive. I know that as we work together, we will make great things happen for our students.

Mrs. Tingey

