March 16, 2021

We are anticipating that the end of the year, the COVID year, will be riddled with even more changes. Some of the changes that we expect to come our way will be some student activities. We are planning on a prom as well as a senior dinner dance. A third activity is in the works that should offer an opportunity for every student to participate. I am very excited that we get to have some of these activities. We are limited to three activities in total. All students that attend or participate in the activities must be tested for COVID-19. The tests will happen the day before each activity.

We have also heard this week that graduation ceremonies will not be held at the University of Utah as previously scheduled. We are working with the Skyline High School Graduation Committee as well as some parent volunteers from the PTA to create a ceremony that is somewhat similar to what occurred last year. This allows graduates to come to the high school and receive their diplomas so parents can view and take photos. The rest of the graduation ceremonies will be virtual. The combined speeches, performances, and promenade of graduates will be available to view sometime after the date of graduation. As these plans begin to firm up, we will be letting seniors and their families know so that they can make plans.

Please, continue to tell us stories of extraordinary teachers at Skyline High School. Think about the four components of our RISE program. Teachers are working hard and doing amazing things to help students be Resilient, have Integrity, Support themselves and others, as well as achieve Excellence. I appreciate your continued participation in recognizing the great teachers we have at Skyline High School. Here is a link to the survey: https://forms.gle/mDQPY7xybBCKnpg97.

This week, we will highlight Mrs. Melinda Reay. Mrs. Reay teaches AP U.S. History and Human Geography. She was named the 2019 Utah History Teacher of the Year by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. Her passion for teaching history is evident by her interactions with her students. Mrs. Reay continues to challenge her students with projects and activities that enlighten their view of the world. She is being recognized by the Skyline community:

“Mrs. Reay is a phenomenal AP US History teacher. She keeps her classroom time fun, interesting and engaging. My daughter thoroughly enjoys her lectures. The coursework is rigorous but is designed with the end goal in mind. Her correspondence with parents and students is superb; she does not want any miscommunication about expectations. What I particularly appreciate is the code of integrity that is expected from each student; Cheating now on tests to get a good grade in the class does not prepare you for the AP test. She does allow test corrections to be submitted because she wants the students to study and learn the areas that they are weak in. I feel that she is truly dedicated and committed to helping her students not only be prepared to take the AP test, but to pass it as well.”
“My son was in a near fatal accident and couldn’t come to school or even do much schoolwork for nearly two weeks. He was really struggling with how he was going to heal and get back into his academics. Ms. Reay went above and beyond by having the students in her classes write uplifting messages on get well cards and mailed them to him. She also worked with him to ensure he could catch up on all the work he was missing. It made him feel more confident in what he could accomplish.”

“She has original ideas and assignments and puts a lot of effort into her lessons. She cares about each individual student and their emotional well-being and genuinely cares about their education. She will do whatever she can to help them succeed.”

Congratulations Mrs. Reay! Thank you for all that you do to inspire Skyline students to RISE!

Sincerely,
Mitch Nerdin, Principal