

Vista Heights Middle School

484 W. Pony Express Parkway, Saratoga Springs, UT 84045
Phone 801-610-8770 Fax 801-768-4226
vistaheights.alpineschools.org

Principal Todd Dawson Asst. Principal Jamie James Asst. Principal Derek Reynolds Asst. Principal Amie Sisam

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year! We are so excited for the new year to begin and have worked hard this summer to plan and prepare for your experience here to be as amazing as possible! Our school is an awesome place! We ask that you demonstrate the Vista Values of Respect and Responsibility. Here at our school you will find caring adults, challenging and fun classes, and a world of opportunities. Please come to school prepared to learn and participate in each class. Your positive attitude and work ethic will lead to the level of success you desire! Be awesome every day!

Sincerely,

Mr. Dawson

Important Dates

August 16	Open House	3:00 pm-7:00 pm
August 17	7th grade day	8:15 am-11:30 am
August 20	First day of school (all grades)	8:15 am-2:45 pm (A Day)
September 13	Parent Teacher Conference	3:30 pm-8:00 pm
February 12	Parent Teacher Conference	3:30 pm-7:00 pm
May 30	Last day of school (8:15-10:00am)	

Holidays/ No School Dates

Sept. 3	Labor Day
Oct. 18-19	Fall Break
Oct. 22	Professional Development
Nov. 21-23	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 20-Jan 2	Christmas Break
Jan. 21	Martin Luther King Day
Feb. 18	Washington-Lincoln Day
March 4	Professional Development
April 1-5	Spring Break
May 27	Memorial Day
May 30	Last day of school

End of Term Dates

Aug 20-Oct. 17	1st Term
Oct 18-Dec. 19	2nd Term
Jan 3-March 8	3rd Term
March 11-May 30	4th Term

7th Grade Day

We are happy to offer an opportunity for all incoming 7th graders to have a day to themselves to meet teachers and learn how to navigate the school while learning about policies and procedures that will make their experience here easier and more enjoyable. Our 7th Grade Day will be held on Friday, August 17th from 8:15-11:30 am and will be optional. However, we hope every 7th grader will take advantage of this great opportunity to be in the school prior to the official start of the school year. The first day of school for all students will be Monday, August 20th. Again, we encourage all 7th graders to come to our 7th Grade Day, even though it is optional. We promise an informative and fun experience. Buses will be running this day.

Buses

Our school is mostly bused, and routes will be posted outside the front office during Open House night on August 16th. Bus routes are also available on our school website vistaheights.alpineschools.org after August 16th.

Dress Code

Students should be covered from the top of the chest/shoulder to mid-thigh when standing straight. Underwear should not be visible. Specifics include:

- Sheer fabrics or pants with holes/shreds that reveal skin DO NOT COUNT as “covered.”
- Shirts should cover from the top of the neck and over the shoulder with no undergarment or flesh showing at the midriff or under the arms,
- Stomachs/midriff/upper legs must stay covered during routine movement. Shirts that rise up regularly to show stomachs or reveal underwear are not permitted. The length of shorts must have a minimum of a 4-inch inseam.

Certain types of clothing are not allowed, even if they comply with the above rules.

- Clothing that contains slogans, pictures, or advertisements for things not allowed at school should not be worn. This includes, but is not limited to, clothes with vulgar language, obscene or profane jokes or slogans, pictures/advertisements for alcohol, drugs, sex, or tobacco, etc.
- No Hats
- Head coverings, such as shirt hoods, hoodies, bandanas, hats, or masks, should not be worn in the building.
- Clothing that is intended as, (or considered to be) gang affiliated is not allowed.
- Clothing that is dripping wet or muddy, deliberately distracting, or ragged should be avoided.

Electronic Devices

Bringing cell phones, IPODs, iPads, or any other electronic games and devices to school is strongly discouraged. If you bring them, it is at your own risk. It is not the school's responsibility to relocate or replace these items if lost or stolen.

Fee Payment Procedures

Fee payment procedures are different this year. Please read this entire section!

The finance office will be closed until September 1. You can pay online at myschoolfees.com anytime **AFTER AUGUST 6th**. It is easy and convenient, and we highly recommend that you take advantage of this option. You will need your students ID# to set up an account if you don't already have one. Student ID#'s are located in Skyward as **other ID**. ACH (automatic monthly withdrawal) forms, and fee waiver forms can be turned in after September 1 to the finance office. You can still pay class change fees, and locker fees for 8th and 9th graders in the main office. **We can only take payments in the form of cash or check.** Any card payments will not be accepted at the school until September 1. Please contact the main office if you have any questions.

Fee Waiver (these forms can be turned into the finance office after Sept. 1)

Fee waiver forms are available online at www.alpineschools.org ➡ Parents/Students ➡ Student Forms ➡ Fee Waiver Application. You can also find the fee waiver form on the Vista Heights website.

Completed fee waiver applications are due on or before **October 31, 2018**. Those who complete applications after October 31, 2018 and qualify for the waiver, will be eligible for a waiver that is prorated forward only from the date the application is complete. No fee waiver applications will be accepted after **December 31, 2018**.

To qualify for fee waiver, you need to bring in documentation that your student receives **ONE** of the following:

- 1- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- 2- Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC)
- 3- Your student is in Foster Care (under Utah or local government supervision)

If you do not qualify for the criteria listed above, you will need to provide a copy of your 2017 Federal Tax return and three (3) current pay stubs. Your documents will be copied and the information will be reviewed by Administrators. After the information is reviewed, you will receive a letter stating your status. Applications will not be accepted without required documentations. Submit completed applications to the Finance Office only.

Immunizations/Medical Needs

All students must have their updated immunizations, including the 7th grade Tdap, 2nd Varicella & Meningococcal vaccine cleared before the first day of school. Please bring a copy of proof as soon as they are completed. If your records are not complete, your student will not be able to attend school unless you have a waiver, which can be obtained at the Health Department.

*Medical Needs - If your student requires medication &/or any medical needs while at school, this requires an Individualized Health Plan signed by parents and doctors. Please contact our School Nurse Micki Oliver with any questions about this at moliver@alpinedistrict.org

Lockers

Because of the number of lockers vs. the number of students, only 7th graders will be guaranteed a locker this school year. A Google doc is available on the home page of our website for all 7th graders, so they can sign up with a locker partner if they choose to do so. They may also opt out of a locker at that time. 7th graders who do not choose a locker partner but do still want a locker, will be randomly assigned a partner. 8th and 9th graders must opt in if they choose to have a locker. Beginning August 1st, 8th and 9th graders must pay the \$2 fee online or in the finance office, and then take their receipt to the front office where they can request a locker partner. Both partners must pay the \$2 fee before a locker will be assigned to them. (That applies to 8th and 9th graders only) 7th graders will see the \$2 fee on their fee schedule.

Lunches

Lunch accounts may be paid online at www.mealpayPlus.com. You may also pay for school lunches at our back to school night on August 16th. Applications for free & reduced lunches are available on our website at vistaheights.alpinedistrict.org. We will have limited copies available in the front office. You can mail your completed application to Alpine School District Food Services, 490 North State, Lindon, UT 84042, or bring it to the front office.

The lunch prices are: Breakfast \$1.10
 Lunch \$2.00

New Student Registration (By Appointment Only: 801-610-8771)

New student appointments begin August 7th. **You will need to make an appointment to register your student.** A check off list of documents needed must be completed in order to register your student. Please pick up a new student packet in the front office Monday-Thursday 8:00am-1:00pm, or go online and print the paperwork. After August 1st, our office will be open Monday-Friday 8:00-3:00pm. If you know of a new student in your neighborhood who will be attending Vista Heights Middle School, please share this information with them. When school starts, new student registration will continue to be by appointment only.

PTSA (Parent/Teacher/Student Association)

Students and parents may join PTSA at \$6 for each membership. The funds collected will help with enrichment activities for the school. You may pay online at myschoolfees.com or in the finance office.

Schedule Changes

Schedule changes are strongly discouraged. In the event a schedule change is necessary, you may obtain a schedule change request form in the counseling office after August 17th. You will be charged \$5 for a schedule change, after all fees have been paid. The \$5 and the completed form must be submitted for schedule change eligibility. **Class change dates are: August 22nd – August 25th. There will be no schedule changes after August 25th.** Students will use the schedule given them until their Counselor calls them down to make the change.

School/Yearbook Pictures

School/Yearbook pictures will be taken during your students English class on September 5th and 6th, depending on when he/she has an English class. Even if you are not planning to purchase a picture packet, your student must have their picture taken for the yearbook and also their activity card. Picture retake day is October 10th.

Skyward

We encourage you to use Skyward during the school year to keep yourself informed of your student's progress. Teachers will update grades on a regular basis in order to remain current. Skyward can be accessed by internet at vistaheights.alpineschools.org. You will need to know your login and password. You can access updated assignments, attendance, grades or leave an e-mail message for teachers.

Skyward Online Registration (update current student information)

For your convenience, most of the paperwork this year will be online through Skyward Family Access. Online student information will be available from August 1 through September 1, for you to update. Simply login to Skyward Family Access (parent log in only) select Vista Heights student and click on the Online Registration link titled "Start Registration for the 2018-2019 school year." Documents to be updated are:

- Student Information
- Race/Ethnicity
- Acceptable Use Policy (Internet) **(must be completed each year!)**
- Media Release (permission for us to use your students name/picture for honor roll, programs, yearbook, etc..)
- Student Personal Information Release (Emergency form)
 - (Change of address can not be completed until proof of residency is brought to the Registrar's office, as well as name changes)

Student Planner

All 7th graders will receive a student planner at the beginning of the school year. They are encouraged to use their planners to record assignments and important events. In some cases, 7th grade teachers may check the planner as part of their grade. The Blackhawk Handbook (policy book) will be given to all students on the first day of school.