



# The Bear Essentials

Theodore Judah Elementary Newsletter  
November, 2018

## A MESSAGE FROM Mr. Holding

Dear Theodore Judah Families,

It hard to believe that we are approaching the holiday season and the end of our first trimester is right around the corner! We have had an exciting, fun filled fall here at Judah and I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of these celebrations. I am pleased to see that each grade level is using more technology due to the purchase of two new computer carts. The new ELA curriculum is providing our scholars with more CCSS aligned curriculum which offers more support for all our learners. The school annual Harvest Festival was a great success thanks to our amazing PTA, and our Intermediate Intramural Sports Program is up and running.

As we enter the Thanksgiving holiday, I am reminded of how grateful I am to this community of staff members and families, partners and supporters who dedicate themselves every day to the mission and the work of the Judah community. It has been a year filled with many changes as we continued with reform efforts to ensure that all students in this district are offered a high quality education that prepares them for success in college or the workforce.

To our students and families: thank you for choosing Theodore Judah and for bringing to our community such diversity of talents, personalities, cultures, and accomplishments. We are so proud to serve your family and we look forward to building an even stronger relationship with you in support of our students.

I am humbled by this opportunity to serve this community as your principal. Enjoy your Thanksgiving break with your family and friends.

Respectfully,  
Troy Holding  
Proud Principal

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- November 12 No School- Veterans Day
- Fall Break- November 19<sup>th</sup>- 23<sup>rd</sup>
- November 29- December 7<sup>th</sup>- Minimum Day Schedule/ Parent/Teacher Conferences
- December 14<sup>th</sup>- Community Tour
- December 23<sup>rd</sup>- January 7<sup>th</sup> – Winter Break

### Theodore Judah Spirit Days

Show your school spirit every Friday by wearing the following:

- Your favorite TJ shirt (“Bear Wear”)
- Blue or Gold (our school colors)
- Bear Wear order forms will be coming out soon!

### Teacher/Parent Conferences

**Beginning Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> through December 7<sup>th</sup> you will be opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher. Our teachers look forward to taking the time to meet with you to discuss your child’s social/academic progress. Your child’s teacher will be reaching out to arrange a time and date to meet.**

**Minimum Day Schedule for these days:  
Primary Grades (1-3): 8:00am- 12:39pm  
Intermediate Grades (4-6): 8:00am- 12:39pm  
TK/Kindergarten are the normal times**

## Safety is our Priority

To ensure adequate supervision of our students, please be sure that your child **does not enter campus prior to 7:30 AM (breakfast), or stay longer than 15 minutes after dismissal. There is no scheduled adult supervision before 7:45AM, or after 2:27 PM (M, T, W, F) and 1:27 PM on Thursdays.** Thank you in advance for your cooperation! If your child participates in the afterschool programs, they need to report to their designated area immediately at dismissal.

### Parent Drivers:

- Take time to legally park your car.
- Do Not park and/or drop your child off in the red zone or in the middle of the street
- Do Not make U-turns in the front of the school or in the middle of the street**
- Be a good neighbor. Do not park in neighbor's drive ways, or move their trash cans
- Drive like your children go to school here, because they do! Please represent our community well.

**FYI: The pedestrian gate in the back of the school needs to remain locked due until the gate is properly fixed. This has created a safety concern. Please enter the gate open at the end of the playground.**

hallway bulletin boards throughout our campus. These programs are fully sponsored by all the hard work and efforts of our school PTA. We appreciate all that you do!

## November's Citizenship Theme: Gratitude

This month we recognize what it means to show gratitude. Someone who shows the character trait of gratitude recognizes with all honest and humbleness that there have been others who have helped them, encouraged them, and invested a part of themselves into their life, helping them to become the person of character they are today.

How do we instill this trait of gratitude into our children? Below are a few examples of things anyone can do:

- Verbalize our gratefulness to others. A heartfelt "thank you" is not only an appropriate thing to say, it also shows that you recognize their kindness.
- The art of writing "thank you" cards, letters, emails are another way of reinforcing the attitude of gratitude in our children.

### Contact Information Changes



PLEASE NOTE THE  
NEW ADDRESS &  
PHONE NUMBER

**Your contact information is very important to us in case of an emergency. If any information should change, please notify the school office so that we can update the information in our system.**

### Daily Attendance is Important

One of the basic foundations for success in school is regular school attendance. Additionally, teaching our children that regular attendance to school is important helps send the message that education is important. It also teaches the importance of keeping one's responsibilities. Our monthly attendance goal is 97%.

To that end, please be sure to stay home only when truly ill, or due to a real family need. See the attendance section in our school handbook for additional guidance. Remember to schedule appointments outside of the school day when possible, or to return to school when finished. Minimize early dismissals. Family vacations are not excused absences. Thanks to everyone for supporting daily attendance!

### PTA Funded Enrichment Programs

Students are attending Science Alive, Garden, Music and Art classes as part of the many enrichments that Judah offers at your neighborhood school. Check out all the great artwork on our