Dear parents, teachers, and community friends,

The school year started off well at Glendale Middle School, the home of the mighty Lynx. Our veteran teachers came back refreshed and we added some excellent talent to our current faculty. Please join me in welcoming Glendale's new teachers, and many to the great state of Utah. I’d like to thank you for your support this new school year.

We work hard to provide a safe environment where all students are challenged to reach their potential. Help us accomplish our goals.

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**GLendale'S NEW TEACHERS**

**Shauna Ross** joins our art department as a Theater teacher. She is very excited to dust off the old costumes and wow us with a spring play production. Stay tuned for more details on our spring production.

**Saineha Hiehiapo**- Moving here from the sunny island of Tonga, Mrs. H. brings the best attitude about student learning to the CTE department. She believes all students should be exposed to rigorous, 21st century relevant technology curriculum. Her team lovingly calls her, “the best hire of the year”.

**Mark Gonzales**- Equally dedicated to GMS due to his student teaching experiences, Mr. Gonzales brings new ideas and energy to the 6th grade English Language Arts and Mathematics teams. Administration hired him due to his ultra-running passion; he’ll always have the energy to go the extra mile.

**Clint Hoffar**- Compelled to move beautiful Utah to climb mountains and ski our bottomless powder, Mr. Hoffar also enjoys teaching mathematics. He is loved by his students and team members!

**Sarah Gonzales**- Ms. Gonzales knew she wanted to remain at Glendale Middle a week into her student teaching. She loves our diverse community and understands the middle school mind. She has been a great addition to our English Language Arts team.

**Sylvia Platero**- Patient and kind beyond belief, Ms. Platero joins our
This year we added a homeroom class (Advisory) to our schedule. You ask, what is Advisory? The purpose of Advisory class is to create a strong support system that middle school students need to develop academically, socially, and emotionally. The primary purpose is to make sure that each student has an adult who can act as their advocate. Additionally, Advisory class is a time when teachers and students can address schoolwide issues in a safe place. In September, our focus was teaching our schoolwide expectations. We made sure all students knew how to act in the classroom, cafeteria, halls, bathrooms, auditorium, and outside at recess. More importantly, we started the conversation of being an upstander instead of a bystander in unsafe situations, such as bullying and fights during and after school. To help you support the conversation at home, a bystander is—someone who witnesses bullying or unsafe situations, but doesn’t get involved. An upstander is—the person who knows what’s happening is wrong and does something to make things right and just. It takes courage to speak up on someone’s behalf, to be an upstander instead of a bystander. We still have a long way to go; however, the students are using the terms upstander and bystander in every day conversations.

We added several new elective classes to the master schedule: Dance, History Fair, Theater, Crossfit, Outdoor Recreation, Journalism, Debate, Videography, and the Glendale Buzz. This edition’s elective class highlight is Outdoor Recreation taught by Coach Tucker and Ms. Records. The Outdoor Recreation class focuses on getting outside the building to enjoy what Glendale environs have to offer. We believe that exposing students to the outdoors and teaching respect for the natural world not only benefits the planet, but makes the student a better person. The outdoor elective curriculum provides opportunities for students to explore the Jordan River Parkway and the extensive city bike paths. Don’t be afraid if you see students high on slacklines across the Glendale field; they’re practicing balance skills for city biking! Some activities the students are looking forward to include: archery, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing, hiking the Foothills, and rock climbing.
Soccer Season Update
Our soccer team has been tearing up the field with their agile ball-handling skills and calculated passing. They met Bryant Middle on Thursday at Bryant’s makeshift field. Not only were the player’s skills exemplary, their sportsmanship behaviors were what the adults were talking about days after the game. Our players are respectful, responsible, safe, and very kind on the soccer fields as well as in the classrooms of GMS. Come ROAR with us; listed below is the schedule of the games. All games begin at 4:10 PM and end at 5:10 PM.

10/9-Hillside vs. Glendale @ Glendale
10/11-Hillside vs. Glendale @ Hillside
10/16-Bryant vs. Glendale @ Glendale
10/17-Bryant vs. Glendale @ Glendale
10/23-Clayton vs. Glendale @ Clayton
10/25-Clayton vs. Glendale @ Glendale
10/30-Northwest vs. Glendale @ Northwest
11/1-Northwest vs. Glendale

His response to the question, "How you doing, Ford?" is always "Better." When asked "Why better?", he responds with "If you’re not doing better than you were, then what are you doing?" Those that know him say he goes out of his way to build relationships by learning all staff and students’ names and he always stops to have genuine conversations about life.” Mr. Ford will be recognized and receive his award at the Utah Afterschool Network 14th Annual Jump Start Conference. Friday, November 2nd between 9:00 am - 10:30 am at the Ogden Eccles Conference Center on 2415 Washington Blvd. Ogden, UT 84401

UTAH AFTERSCHOOL NETWORK’S TEACHER OF THE YEAR
Afterschool educators and staff nominated Utah Afterschool Teachers throughout the state for their outstanding work improving the lives of youth through out-of-school time programming. Among the nominations, Vandal Ford stood out most and on behalf of the Utah Afterschool Network, and Glendale Middle School, we want to congratulate him!
Vandal’s nominators included the following statement: "Mr. Ford is always helping with afterschool program activities and events and expects nothing in return. He not only teaches Chess Club and helps with math in the afterschool program, he also supports the summer program. Before working at Glendale, he left his mark in Midvale where he influenced and impacted the community through afterschool programs.

AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAM
Erica Andino has gone above and beyond the call of duty this year. Our afterschool classes are AMAZING. There truly is something for everyone. A few clubs on the current schedule include jewelry making, ukulele, debate, theater, and many more. Please encourage your child to take advantage of at least one of these programs. Check out Glendale Middle School’s website for all the fun flyers and signup sheets.

GLENDALE SPORTS COLUMN
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