



District appoints new assistant superintendent

Davis School District Superintendent Reid Newey has appointed veteran educator Dr. Jacqueline Thompson to serve as an assistant superintendent.

In her new role, she will be working on diversity and equity issues as well as work that will take place following the district's recent settlement with the Department of Justice. Thompson begins her position in early December.



Thompson

"We believe Dr. Thompson will be key in moving us in a definitive direction as we move forward in our efforts to do better for all students," Newey said. "She is a valuable resource and someone who understands better than anyone where we need to go."

Thompson retired from the Davis School District in 2018. At that time, she was serving as the Director of Educational Equity. Her duties and responsibilities included the District's Parent Equity Committee, multicultural education, civil rights issues, Respecting Ethnic and Cultural Heritage (REACH) training, Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID), and the Village Program.

Prior to joining Davis School District in 2000, Thompson taught public school in Idaho and California, worked as a gender equity specialist and education specialist in the Utah State Office of Education, and as an Equal Employment Opportunity specialist at Hill Air Force Base.

During her career, Thompson has received numerous awards and national recognitions including the Spirit of the American Woman Award for Public Education in 1994 and the Utah Women's Achievement Award presented by the Governor's Commission for Women and Families in 1998. She served as Mrs. Utah in 1999 and was the recipient of the Salt Lake Branch NAACP Martin Luther King Award for the year 2000. Additionally, she was the 2011 recipi-

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Celebrating veterans



Students at Boulton Elementary line the sidewalk and welcome veterans to their school. Schools across the district celebrated Veterans Day with breakfasts, performances and flag ceremonies.

Latinos in Action honors assistant superintendent

During the Utah Latinos in Action (LIA) Gala, Assistant Superintendent John Zurbuchen was recognized for being the first district leader in Utah to partner with LIA when founder Dr. Jose Enriquez first pitched his idea to districts throughout the state.

When Zurbuchen met Enriquez during a Title III meeting 12 years ago, LIA was still in its infancy. Enriquez had just begin reaching out to high schools in the

state, hoping to provide English as a Second Language students with more access to programs and growth opportunities.

"Latinos in Action looks at students with English as a Second Language as an asset, not a liability," said Zurbuchen. "For too long, we had those students taken out of our regular education classes to get special instruction in English. Latinos in Action says, 'Your duality is your reality.'"

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ASSISTANT, From Pg. 1

ent of the Drum Major Award for the Utah State Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Commission and recognized by the Idaho State University Alumni Association with the Professional Achievement Award at its 2015 Commencement.

On Nov. 12, 2012, Gov. Gary Herbert appointed Thompson to the State Multicultural Commission. She also served as the Education Chair on the Utah State Martin Luther King, Jr. Human Rights Commission.

Thompson is a native of Nashville, Tenn. She is the oldest of nine children. She is married to Edward Thompson, who retired as a contracting supervisor at Hill Air Force Base. They have two sons, two daughter in-laws and four grandchildren.

LIA, From Pg. 1

Initially LIA was offered to high schools in the area shortly after Zurbuchen met Enriquez, but at the time, no one took advantage of the opportunity. Two years later, the LIA program was presented again as a class period for students during the school day.

Now LIA has a national reach with chapters across country. Utah has over 100 chapters, including 18 chapters in Davis School District junior high and high schools.

“In Davis School District, the secondary



Assistant Superintendent John Zurbuchen accepts the LIA Champion Award.

school offering LIA has grown and the students we've been able to reach has increased," said Zurbuchen. "It has become part of the fabric of who we are."

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Students gain college credit through immersion programs

A unique milestone is approaching within Davis School District. While the district's first dual-language immersion students from 2005 have since graduated, students in the last immersion program added to the district at Lincoln Elementary are now eighth graders at North Layton Junior High.

Once they enter 10th grade at Northridge High in a year and a half, every high school in the district will offer at least one 3000 level world language course, known as a Bridge upper-division university course. Most of the students enrolled in Bridge courses come from the elementary dual-language immersion programs.

That means several hundred high school students have the opportunity to further their language development each year and earn college-level credit at the same time, according to World Language Specialist Jo Carmiol. Students enrolled in Bridge courses can earn up to nine language credits from the Bridge courses, which is just two courses shy of a language minor.

“We are instilling in them a mindset of being college ready while they are taking academically challenging college-level courses, said Carmiol. “Having the language component makes them more marketable and opens up job prospects. While many are not language majors, most are pursuing other degrees and are grateful to have finished their language.”

When the state piloted the first Bridge course in 2016, Davis School District had 73 students enrolled in a Spanish Bridge course. This year, there are 472 students in the district enrolled in Bridge courses for Spanish, French and Chinese, Carmiol said.

There are a host of students in the district coming up the line that will be eligible for Bridge courses. What began in 2005 with the first Spanish immersion program of 114 students at two elementary schools has now grown to 3,600 students at 12 schools with dual-language immersion programs — five schools with Spanish, four schools with Chinese and three schools with French. The district also has nine junior high schools that offer immersion continuation courses, currently with over 1,500 participants.

Farmington High Language Teacher Fermín Soriano helped transition the first Spanish immersion group into the Bridge program in 2016. At the time, he said, there were only four high schools from two school districts in Utah participating in the new program. Six years later, there are more than 80 high schools in Utah with Bridge courses in Spanish, French and Chinese.

“I feel so fortunate to be one of the pioneers of this immersion adventure,” said Soriano. “The students who have participated in the immersion program have a set of skills that make them think differently. The exposition that the immersion students have had to another language has provided tools that they will keep for life, even if they don't make language a career.”

Employees, students honored for achievements

- **Emilie Larsen**, school psychologist at South Clearfield and Ellison Park elementary schools, was honored with the School Psychologist of the Year Award by the Utah Association of School Psychologists.

- **Farmington High** took second place and **Davis High** took third place in the Utah Red



Larsen accepting the School Psychologist of the Year Award by the Utah Association of School Psychologists.

Rocks State Marching Band Championship for the 6A Division.

Both bands then competed in the

Bands of America Regional Championship, where Farmington High placed third and Davis High placed fifth.



Olson

- **Alexa Olson** of Bountiful High School was selected

as Most Valuable Educator by Instructure, the makers of the Canvas Learning Management System, in partnership with the Utah Jazz. She receives a \$1,000 classroom grant and was honored at a Utah Jazz game.

- Snow Horse Elementary Principal **Joni Slater** and employees were recognized by Resilient Utah for their efforts to build resilience in Utah schools and communities.

- The **Bountiful High Girls Volleyball Team** are the 5A state champions, making it their third state volleyball title.

- Seventh-grade student **Alison Holt**, Syracuse Junior High won first place for the north and south continents during the Annual Chinese Bridge Competition. The competition is an annual worldwide Chinese speaking and performance competition.

- **Jill Hart**, Adelaide Elementary, received a \$2,500 Back-to-School scholarship from Western Governor's University towards her B.A. in Special Education and Elementary Education.

- Twenty five teachers at **Kay's Creek Elementary** became MIE-Ex-



Bountiful High Girls Volleyball Team celebrates their 5A state championship.

perts, helping their school remain a Microsoft Showcase school for the third year in a row.

Currently, Kay's Creek Elementary has the most MIE-Experts in the state.

- In the month of November, the Davis School District Board of Education recognized **Peggy Strong**, Reading Elementary, for her dedication to students in the district.



Strong

Martin Luther King, Jr. district speech contest winners

Students from throughout the district competed in the annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Speech Contest.

Students first compete at the school level and then move onto the district contest.

Winners include: category one — first place: Eleanor Tensmeyer, second place: Nathan Potter, third place: Tessa Nielsen;

Category two — first place: Grant

Cowdin, second place: Carson Hatch, third place: Bryan Coronado;

Category three — first place three-way tie: Jesus Garcia, Dexter Hansen and Rhea Li Young, second place: Isaiah Buchanan, third place: McKenzie Nish;

Category four — first place tie: Beatrice Etter and Shydra Williams, second place: Patrycja Pogorzelska, third place: Demsey Bradshaw.



A student performs a speech during the district competition.

CELEBRATING NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



A dancer's regalia is an important part of the dance.



A dancer performs a jingle dance.



Lincoln Elementary Teacher Patricia Johns performs the shawl dance for students.



A dancer uses hoops to create various designs.



Showing the extensive, handmade beading on one of the dresses.



Teacher Patricia John explains to students that every Native American dance tells a story.

In honor of National Native American Heritage Month, students at Lincoln Elementary were able to watch several Native American dances, including a performance by one of their school's teachers, Patricia John.

"We dance to make other people happy and share a message," John told students before one of the dances.

"The hoop dance relates to the circle, each of us all created equal in this sacred circle, which represents our world. It tells a story with hoops creating a flower, bee, and an eagle as it soars across the sky."