

As I completed my first year as the Park City School District Superintendent, I have realized that education is more than just a career; it is a passion. It is an exciting time to be a superintendent as education is in a state of transformation. This is a journey toward excellence that requires us to persevere, celebrate success and work effectively as a team. From the innovations in learning with the support of technology in the classroom to the growing preschool program, Park City School District students have opportunities presented before them that require a background in critical thinking, collaboration skills, and mastery of skills. The commitment is to ensure that our students are prepared for the national and international job market. In order to reach these requirements, Park City School District has embraced the academic rigor of the Utah Core Standards while incorporating the important learning opportunities in music, art and physical fitness.

New this year through an award of the Beverly Taylor Sorenson Grant and the Park City Education Foundation, two dance specialists were placed at two elementary schools to support content learning through movement and dance. In addition, three additional specialists were added to expand the gifted and high achievement program, which placed a specialist in all four elementary schools and Ecker Hill Middle School. With these additions, elementary students will be learning the inquiry process through a program called, “Elementary is Engineering”, which compliments the after school programs already in place, “Adventures in Engineering. This increase of science into the elementary classrooms aligns to the improvements being made in the secondary schools to support the foundational learning needed to continue our excellence. This excellence is

continually exemplified at the high school level. Park City High School continues to be recognized as one of the best high schools in the state and nation. For the past two years, Park City High School was named as the top AP School in Utah and last month, the two top AP students in the state are current Park City High School Students.

With all of the success, Park City School District is dedicated to excellence and innovation. Staff members continually evaluate the practices and improve the art and science on a daily basis. As education transforms to have students meet national and international competitive standards, Park City School District will continue to be leaders in student learning. We believe that through the values of teamwork, perseverance and teamwork, Park City School District will achieve the goal of being the best school district in the nation and the students will receive an excellent education to ensure they are prepared for college and careers.

Ember Conley