

Superintendent's Corner

"Sterling Scholars, a great effort"

The Northeastern Utah Sterling Scholar competition provides fifteen high schools an opportunity to present their best students in fourteen different academic areas. The students are judged on their accomplishments as documented in a portfolio as well as their ability to respond to questions during an interview. Those students who are involved in the music competition, are also provided an opportunity to perform for their judges.

The "real" competition begins much earlier than the student's senior year in high school. Academic accomplishments, community service, leadership skills, participation in school activities, and special skills or talents are all important aspects of an impressive portfolio. The opportunities to begin the process of "enhancing a student's resume" begins during their freshman year in high school if not before. The portfolio becomes a meaningful documentation of the first seventeen or eighteen years of a student's life.

Our Sterling Scholars, as well as those from North Summit High School, were recently honored at a banquet held at Larry's Spring Chicken Inn and sponsored by the Holcim corporation. Morgan participants were also given a cash prize provided by the Morgan Education Foundation. Each Sterling Scholar was featured in an article published in the *Morgan County News*, while several others won scholarships to various colleges and universities within the state for their efforts. The thrill of being recognized for their accomplishments in front of an auditorium full of family members, students from fifteen different school districts, school administrators, and their friends is certainly a highlight for each student. The most lasting memory will be the portfolio that they've worked so hard on to develop and present.

The Board of Education as well as the entire staff of the Morgan School District is proud of each of these students and their accomplishments. We're also excited over the fact that we had more students specifically recognized during the competition (nine) than any other high school as well as the most students named as the Sterling Scholar in their individual area (four). This year's representatives from Morgan High School proved to be one of the most successful groups we've ever entered into the competition.

Those students who participated included:

Kendal Babbitt – Music
Monique Freestone – Math
Timothy Wright – Social Studies
Cheyenne Schmid – Runner-up in Science
Bailey Lubeck – Runner-up in Visual Arts
Thomas Johansen – Runner-up in Computer Technology
Tiffany Olson – Sterling Scholar in Foreign Language
Camille Moore – Sterling Scholar in Family & Consumer Sciences
Rashel Clark – Trade & Technical Education
Tarran Sowder – Sterling Scholar in Speech and Drama
Rebekah Miner – Runner-up in English
Zach Stanford – Sterling Scholar in Business & Marketing
Emily Kimball – Dance
Susie Lyon – Runner-up in General Scholarship

A special thanks goes to Linda Morrison and Carol Pentz who have worked with these students throughout this process.

There are reasons to celebrate success in our school district each and every day. April 20th provided this year's Sterling Scholars with their opportunity. When you put good kids coming from supportive families into a school system with a strong, dedicated instructional staff good things are going to happen. Welcome to the Morgan County School District!