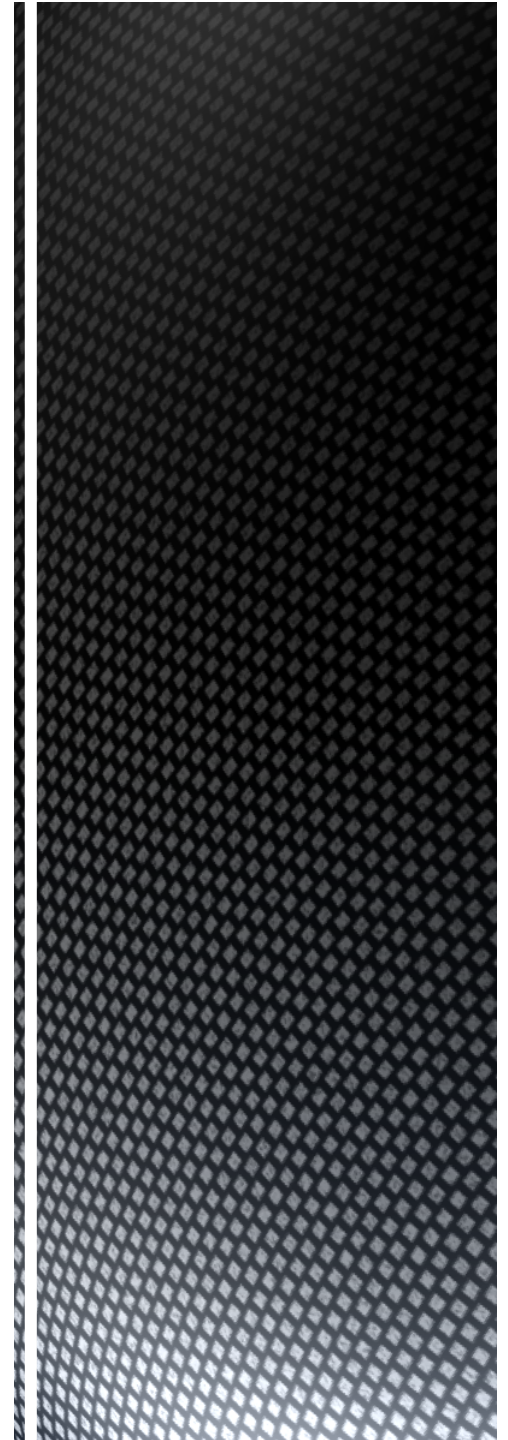


Who Will Warn Us of the Coming of the
Next Meteorite -- NASA, Pentagon,
Homeland Security, White House, or
Twitter???









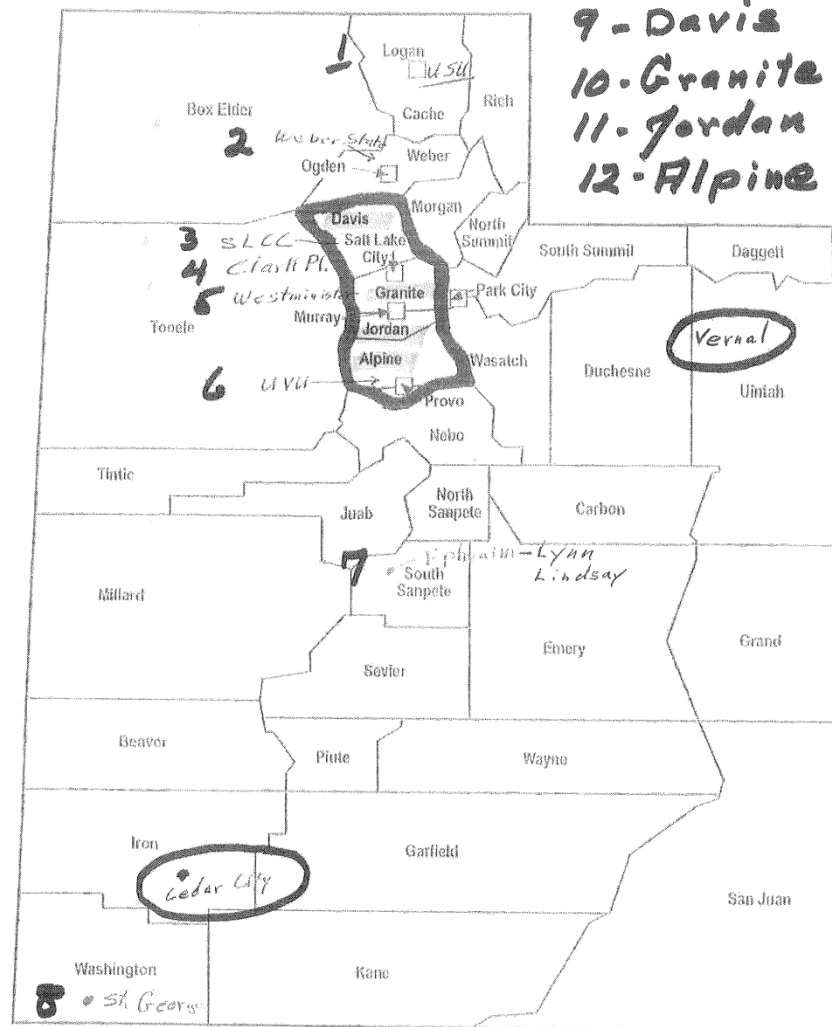






METEORITE PROJECT

UTAH SCHOOL DISTRICTS



Average Daily Membership (ADM), FY 2012

ID	School District	Total
		K-12 + SC
1	Alpine District	67,660.411
2	Beaver District	1,522.917
3	Box Elder District	11,111.539
4	Cache District	15,509.522
42	Canyons District	33,483.217
5	Carbon District	3,373.294
6	Daggett District	168.550
7	Davis District	67,288.561
8	Duchesne District	4,536.383
9	Emery District	2,312.022
10	Garfield District	919.433
11	Grand District	1,449.522
12	Granite District	66,319.850
13	Iron District	8,465.811
14	Jordan District	50,612.139
15	Juab District	2,307.756
16	Kane District	1,175.133
39	Logan City District	5,878.067
17	Millard District	2,802.939
18	Morgan District	2,438.639
40	Murray District	6,342.311
19	Nebo District	29,446.467
20	North Sanpete District	2,385.756
21	North Summit District	978.956
37	Ogden City District	12,472.167
22	Park City District	4,366.250
23	Piute District	314.828
38	Provo District	13,615.978
24	Rich District	492.906
36	Salt Lake District	23,665.450
25	San Juan District	2,898.956
26	Sevier District	4,517.733
27	South Sanpete District	3,051.867
28	South Summit District	1,443.128
29	Tintic District	209.433
30	Tooele District	13,609.067
31	Uintah District	6,886.411
32	Wasatch District	5,275.111
33	Washington District	26,034.544
34	Wayne District	531.433
35	Weber District	30,332.672
	District Subtotal	538,207.128
	Charter Subtotal	43,493.656
	Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind	249.456
	State Total	581,950.239

5 Meteorites - 50%



Press Release:
Ogden Standard Examiner
7 Dec 2013

USU's NASA
program donates
meteorites
to districts

By NANCY VAN VALKENBURG
Standard-Examiner staff

HILL AIR FORCE BASE — They came from outer space and soon will be in the curious hands of local Earth children.

Utah State University's NASA grant program on Friday gifted the Ogden and Weber school districts with a cleaned and semi-polished meteorite, composed of fused iron and lead, and weighing in at 12 pounds, deceptively heavy for its size.

A second gift was a similarly sized volcanic rock weighing just 1 pound.

The final gift was a framed slice of meteorite, cut with a diamond saw, showing the interlaced elements of iron and lead. The slice was coated in plastic, to prevent rusting.

"Having something like this is gangbusters for students to hold," said Steve Merkley, Ogden School District science and math specialist.

"It allows them to have a hands-on science experience with something that came from space. It enthralls them."

John Vanderford, USU NASA grant administrator, and Joe Orr, USU NASA grant director, were the bearers of the gifts, to be shared by the two districts.

"Kids get kind of excited," Vanderford said. "And the rocks start good conversations about weight, mass, gravity, physics and the universe."

With the addition of Weber and Ogden school districts, Vanderford has now given meteorite access to 15 Utah school districts, either through his own frequent presentations with a set of rocks, or through a set of meteorites and stones he lets districts keep and circulate among schools.

Davis School District was given a similar set of space and Earth rocks early this school year.

"We showcased it to all the sixth-grade teachers at training during September," said Rita Stevenson, Davis District's elementary science supervisor.

"Schools could sign up to have it for a week. Because we have 59 elementary schools, not all will get it this year, but those that don't get it this year will get it next year. Students are just so excited to know they are holding something that was flying around in outer space."

Stevenson said sixth grade is when elementary students begin to study space, so it's a natural fit. But junior high schools and high schools will also get a chance at the touring meteorites, as scheduling allows.

"We're going to get the meteorites to as many schools as possible," Stevenson said.

Vanderford said he travels each year to the Tucson Gem Show, where is he able to make the best deals with the money the NASA grant provides.

Duke Johnson, education manager for Clark Planetarium in Salt Lake City, also makes the trip and has forged working relationships with meteorite



NANCY VAN VALKENBURG/Standard-Examiner

TOP: Joe Orr, director of the Utah State University NASA grant, examines a brown igneous rock and a gray meteorite donated Friday to the Ogden and Weber school districts for educational use. **BOTTOM:** The Ogden and Weber school districts will share educational use of the brown igneous rock, the gray meteorite and the framed meteorite slice, donated by the Utah State University NASA grant program.

dealers in Argentina. "I tell students, 'Gosh, do you know where this meteorite has been?'" Vanderford said. "And they say, 'No, where?' And I tell them I don't know, but it was left over from the time the solar system was created."

Meteorites can also result from explosions or collisions in space, he said. "It gets kids thinking about time and space and numbers, and how many galaxies there may be, and how many suns."

Vanderford told Merkley to coat the meteorite with oil, to prevent the formation

of rust on iron portions of the stone.

Orr noted that holding the meteorite leaves hands with a metallic smell.

Merkley joked that he could have advanced students figure the weight of the rock before and after it was handled by thousands of school kids over the coming years.

"It's just a tremendous gift," he said. "These meteorites will inspire a lot of students."

Contact reporter Nancy Van Valkenburg at 801-625-4275 or nvan@standard.net. Follow her on Twitter at @S_ENancyVan.

