



**"IMAGINE....BELIEVE....ACHIEVE...."**

**17<sup>th</sup> Annual Utah Paraeducators Conference**

October 24, 2011

Executive Director  
City Academy  
555 E. 200 S.  
Salt Lake City, Ut

Dear Partner in Education,

The Seventeenth Annual Paraeducators Conference Committee would like to inform you that Alex Nygaard was chosen to receive the Resource Outstanding Paraeducator of Utah Award. We received many nominations and it was an extremely difficult choice because all of the nominees are truly outstanding. Those chosen display exemplary skills and professionalism in their area of service to children and youth in our State.

They will be recognized and given an award which will be presented during the Friday evening activities at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Utah Paraeducator Conference on Friday, November 11, 2011 in the Grand Ballroom of the Provo Marriott. The Marriott is located at 101 West 100 North, Provo, Utah. If you have the opportunity and would like to attend, you are more than welcome.

It would be nice if you would recognize this Outstanding Paraeducators in your School. You are fortunate to have this caliber of employee.

Sincerely,

Kathy Chartier  
Chair, Utah Outstanding Paraeducator Awards



**"IMAGINE....BELIEVE....ACHIEVE..."**

## **17<sup>th</sup> Annual Utah Paraeducators Conference**

October 24, 2011

Alex Nygaard  
Charter Schools  
City Academy  
555 E. 200 S.  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84102

Dear Alex,

Congratulations on being selected as the 2011 Utah Outstanding Special Education Paraeducator for Charter Schools Award winner. This honor distinguishes you as one of the best paraeducators in the State of Utah. The award will be presented at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Utah Paraeducator Conference on Friday evening, November 11, 2011 in the Grand Ballroom of the Provo Marriott. Hotel accommodations at the Marriott Hotel Friday night and your conference registration have been paid in full. The Marriott is located at 101 West 100 North, Provo, Utah. Just let them know that you are on the master list with the Paraeducator Conference and give them your name. The Conference is Friday, November 11<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>.

Please send us a picture of you alone and several pictures of you working with your students no later than October 28<sup>th</sup>. Send your emails as JPEG images to [twoolsey@graniteschools.org](mailto:twoolsey@graniteschools.org) or mail the pictures to Tonya Woolsey at 382 East 3605 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84115. We need these pictures so we can get the presentation put together for the Awards Ceremony. If you have any questions, please call Tonya at (385) 646-4531.

Also, please email your RSVP as soon as possible so that the accommodations for the hotel and registrations are confirmed to [kchartier@dsdmail.net](mailto:kchartier@dsdmail.net).

To view the time of the awards, as well as the conference schedule, please check the web site at [www.utahparas.org](http://www.utahparas.org) or [www.updc.org](http://www.updc.org). We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,

Kathy E. Chartier  
Chair, Outstanding Paraeducator Awards Committee

Kathy Prewett  
Co-Chair, Outstanding Paraeducator Award Committee

# ***PRESS RELEASE***

## **More Than 8,000 Utah Paraeducators Invited to Attend 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

**Over 8,000 paraeducators throughout the state of Utah** have been invited to attend the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Utah Paraeducator Conference. This conference is sponsored by the Utah State Office of Education and the Utah Personnel Development Center. The conference will take place Friday and Saturday, **November 11 and 12** at the Provo Marriott Hotel and Conference Center in Provo, Utah. In honor of the service paraeducators provide students in the public schools, Governor Herbert has declared the **week of November 15 to 19 as the state's Paraeducators in Education Week**. Registration is available at <http://updc.org/registration/> and <http://www.utahparas.org>.

A paraeducator is an individual who works under the supervision of a teacher or district personnel. The paraeducator assists in the implementation of educational and support service programs and the assessment of student progress within those programs. The purpose of the conference is to provide paraeducators an opportunity for on-going skill enhancement.

This year's conference theme is **“Imagine...Believe...Achieve”**. The conference targets all paraeducators from preschool to high school in all of Utah's school districts and charter schools. An important part of the conference is the **recognition of the outstanding paraeducators** who are chosen from nominations by all of the school districts and charter schools. Those chosen as **outstanding paraeducators will be honored on Friday evening, November 11<sup>th</sup>**.

The conference kicks off on Friday night with three Early Bird Sessions that will be dealing with Bullying, Social Skills, and Stress Management. The Keynote Speakers for Friday night are: Ben Springer; Dr. Giles and Annette Brinkman; and Lt. Stan Penrod. Friday's Keynote speaker is Keith Hawkins, an international presenter.

Saturday's Keynote is Dean Barley, Ph.D., a licensed psychologist and clinical social worker. He will be discussing “cultivating optimism in children.” Topics for multiple breakout sessions will include: ELL/Preschool, Autism, and Effective Behavior Management Strategies. Additional workshops will be offered throughout the day on Saturday. Some workshop topics will include: Teaming, Post-Secondary Education, Stress Management, Assessment and Data Collection, Small Group Instruction, Reading, Writing, Math, Pre-Literacy, Paraeducator to Teacher, and Autism.

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*For further information, contact Marilyn Likins at 801.363.0822 ext.221 or [marilyn@nrcrepara.org](mailto:marilyn@nrcrepara.org) or Margo Thurman at cell 455.6089, 801.486.4546, or [margothurman@comcast.net](mailto:margothurman@comcast.net). Information also available at [www.utahparas.org](http://www.utahparas.org) and [www.updc.org/conference](http://www.updc.org/conference)*