



American Heritage School News

August 2005

Message From the Director

Dear Patrons,

Thank you for your warm and kind reception in my first few weeks here at American Heritage School. Your spirits are strong and I am continually humbled by the love and dedication that sustains the children, parents, faculty, and mission of this School.

This newsletter submission is my first opportunity to communicate with many of you. I look forward to many more such opportunities, but particularly to meeting each of you in a more personal setting to learn of you and to share with you some of the "things of my soul" (2N 4:15).

In the meantime, permit me to share with you a few thoughts that I hope we can all find useful as we reflect upon the past, present and future course of the School.

In the summer of 2002, Gaylord Swim, a longtime friend, paid a visit to me and my wife Candice at our home in Virginia. Candice and I had recently given birth to our first child and Gaylord had come to visit us and see the baby. When he arrived on our doorstep, he had under his arm a three-to-four foot cardboard tube that contained what I thought to be a map or a picture (as best I could guess). He set it aside and paid no attention to it until after dinner. When he finally revealed the contents of the tube, I could see that they were the blueprints and artist's renditions of a school. It was American Heritage School's new campus, construction for which had been recently completed.

There was no talk of my joining the School, but I will never forget the flash in Gaylord's eyes and the excitement and emotion in his voice as he proceeded to read out loud the words inscribed over the entrances: "Humility..., Faith..., Charity..., Courage..., Self-government..., Virtue..., Industry..., and Wisdom." Candice and I listened intently as he described the School, its history, its mission, its parents and children, and its faculty and staff. It was immediately and unmistakably clear to me that his devotion was not to the structure (beautiful as it was), but rather to the people and the principles for which it stood. A seed was planted in my heart that day.

Earlier this year, not long after Gaylord's funeral, I found myself sitting in an interview with the Board of Trustees of American Heritage School. One of the Trustees, Maxine Kerttula, herself a previous administrator at the School, spoke openly of Fred Robert's gift for loving and knowing each of the children individually and by name. Numerous others, including parents and faculty, have expressed a similar sentiment about Mr. Roberts. And thus I pay tribute and thanks to each of the previous administrators, and particularly Mr. Roberts, for setting such a high standard of love, compassion, and nurturing with respect to all who come here to learn and grow - and I am honored and humbled by the opportunity to be engaged, alongside each of you, in this work of educating hearts and minds at a Christ-centered place of learning.

And so, as we prepare for the 2005-2006 academic year, it is my hope and prayer that American Heritage School will continue to stand in harmony and unison alongside our homes and our temples as a "house of faith, a house of learning, a house of glory, a house of order, a house of God." (D&C 88:119).

Grant Beckwith is the Principal of American Heritage School, and the Director of the Family Education Center, both of which he joined in the summer of 2005. He and his wife Candice came with their two children from Washington D.C. where Grant had been practicing law for four years prior to joining the School's administration. Grant is a graduate of the BYU Law School and also holds a masters degree in accountancy and information systems from the BYU Marriott School of Management.

<u>Calendar at a Glance</u>	
Aug. 22-26	Teacher Training
Aug. 24	Meet Your Teacher
	Open House 3:00-6:00 p.m.
Aug. 24	Parent Meeting
	Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
Aug. 29	First Day of School
	Flag Ceremony 9:00 a.m.
Sept. 1	Classroom Orientation
	Core & Specialty Classes
	6:00-6:55, 7:00-7:55, 8:00-8:55
Sept. 2	In-service-No School
Sept. 5	Labor Day-No School



AHS School Directory

The AHS School Directory is being created and will be available through the front office for \$3.00 to cover the cost of binding and printing. We will be passing out a draft directory at the Parent Meeting, August 24th, to give you the opportunity to update your address, phone numbers, and email addresses, and to opt out if desired. The directory will clearly state that it is intended for school purposes only.



Classroom Orientation

Please mark your calendars for Classroom Orientation on Wednesday, September 1, 2005.

There will be three sessions of core classroom and specialty classroom training: 6:00-6:55, 7:00-7:55 and at 8:00-8:55 p.m. This should allow for families with multiple children to attend the orientation in the classroom for each of their children. These orientations are critical to the success of your child and your family's experience here at American Heritage School. We strongly urge you to attend these orientations.



Lunch Programs

We will be continuing our Pizza Monday Program, at \$1.00 per slice, and our Hot Sandwich Wednesday Program, at \$2 per meal, ordering a month at a time. Hot Sandwich Wednesdays will be a selection of tacos, sloppy joes, hamburgers, corn dogs, hot dogs, or ham and cheese. The main entrée on Wednesdays will include a fruit or veggie, chips or side dish, and a drink. Please send your enclosed order form on the first day of school. Pizza Monday will begin September 12th. Hot Sandwich Wednesday will begin September 14th.

WELCOME!



Blaine Hunsaker, Assistant Principal

Blaine first came to American Heritage School as a music teacher in 2002. He and his wife Adrienne are the parents of three boys and love being associated with the School. "I am grateful to be a part of a school that teaches principles which build the Christian character of each child," he says. Blaine is a graduate of the BYU School of Music and has a minor in history. Blaine joined the American Heritage administrative team in the summer of 2005.



Cheri Hancock, Music 4th-8th

Cheri Hancock grew up in San Jose California. She comes from a musical family of ten children. She went to BYU majoring in voice and music education. She was the lead in several opera productions. She was in acapella choir on tours to Israel and Greece, and was a founding member of BYU Singers traveling with them to Eastern Europe and Russia. While living in Boston she was a member of the Tanglewood Festival Chorus, which sang with the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the Boston Pops. She currently sings with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. She has taught voice in her home for twenty years. She is excited to be teaching music at American Heritage this year.



Deborah Otteson, Music K-3rd

Deborah R. Otteson was born in Oakridge, Tenn. She is the eldest of nine living children. She graduated from Ricks and BYU (Provo) with a degree in Secondary Music Education.

After serving a mission in the Oregon Portland Mission, she started teaching music in her hometown of Shelley, Idaho and spent her summers in Hartford, Conn. earning a degree in the Kodály Method at the KMTI. During her time in Idaho, she was also involved in many musicals, operas and singing groups.

Deborah has three children (Michael, Vanessa, and Rachel) and lives in Draper, Utah. In 2001 she started teaching music to the nursery (3 and 4 year olds) at The Waterford School in Sandy. She loved every minute and benefited from wonderful associations and much growth in many ways. While there she refreshed her knowledge of the Kodály Method at InterMuse for three summers. It was a wonderful time of growth and knowledge.

At the end of the 2004-2005 school year the Waterford administration made cuts in the specialty programs and her position was given to the full time teacher so he could remain full time. "I don't regret this in the least because I knew it was time to make a change and I had faith that the Lord would continue to lead me and guide me in my endeavor to find a new teaching job that I could do and still meet the needs of my family," says Deborah. "The Lord did lead me; I am excited to be at American Heritage School and to be teaching music to K-3rd grades! I am thrilled to be able to teach the gospel and music at the same time without worry! I love what I teach and I am excited to teach the children here at this school."



Cindy Bowles, Science 5th-8th

Cindy Pennell Bowles is very pleased to be the science teacher for American Heritage School upper grades and excited about the subject she is teaching. "God has given us such a beautiful world full of wonder that is unique and dynamic. Since I believe this to be true, there is one method of teaching science that I abhor! That would be the boring method!" says Cindy.

Cindy joined the L.D.S. church when she was a young teenager. She graduated from B.Y.U. Idaho with a great enthusiasm for geology. This enthusiasm has stayed with her for her whole life. She served a mission for the church on the Navajo Reservations and later taught at the M.T.C. for several years. Cindy graduated from B.Y.U. (Provo) and was hired to teach seminary as a full-time teacher. Cindy has taught at several high schools along the Wasatch Front.

"Because many of us including our children learn by doing, I want to bring the world into our classroom. One of the ways I plan on doing this is to have a hands-on activity and/or experiment weekly. This experiment will be accompanied by a lesson strong in the values of Christ and his creations. I believe each child is precious and has a purpose to fulfill. I have a genuine fondness for children and young people that is truly felt with all my heart. I have a strong testimony of the restored gospel; I mention this to you because I am entrusted with teaching your children. I teach science with God at the center. I am not perfect and all knowing on the subject of science, however, I will promise to do the very best that I know how, fully believing that God will assist me. Some of your children may say I am a bit strict. This may be true, however, I am fair because I don't show favoritism and I do like to laugh."

Recently, Cindy has been at home to rear her two wonderful children. "I snowshoe in the winter, and watch for animals and study their habits. I walk in the summer and drag my children and husband all over southern Utah to the natural wonders we have right here. I look forward to getting to know each of you this year. It is going to be a great year in science! "



Kathy Jewell-Science K-4th Grades

Kathy Jewell is looking forward to meeting everyone and getting to know the students at American Heritage School. She was born on Long Island on Good Friday. She moved to Washington State at the age of four. Kathy joined the church when she was sixteen. She graduated from Granite Falls High School and attended BYU (Provo) the

very next fall. Kathy loves learning and will be a student for the rest of her life. She graduated from BYU in Education. She is married and has five children, Ashley 14, Myles 12, Kora 10, Levi 7 and Kali 5. She loves spending time with her family, playing games, reading, going over lessons and just spending time with them. Her hobbies are making books, scrap booking, reading, crafts, and trying new things.



Chris Culver, Art 4th-8th Grades

Christine Goudy Culver grew up in Bountiful and Centerville, UT. A graduate of Bountiful High, she began her art studies at the University of Utah with an art scholarship. Cupid struck and she was married in her sophomore year, after which she took a break from art to raise her children. Christine has four- two boys and two girls; all are young adults now. Her first career was starting a restaurant chain called "Fresh Choice". Christine returned to the University of Utah in 2000 to complete her Fine Arts Degree. Christine is a landscape photographer but teaching children art is her passion. She is proud to be a faculty member at American Heritage. "I am especially blessed to teach in a school where I can practice my belief system while working in my profession. Priceless."



Camille Allred, Third Grade Teacher

Camille Allred was born in Ogden, Utah, but grew up in Salt Lake City. She graduated from the University of Utah with a degree in Elementary Education. She taught one year of fifth grade and two years of third grade in the public school system. She is married and has six children, five of whom are living: Curtis 18, Kim 16, Craig 14, Cameron 11, and Kyle 8. When her children came along, she wanted to be a stay-at-home mom, so she tutored for several years, and then she operated an in-home Kindermusik studio for 12 years, followed by an in-home preschool for 3 years. Coming to American Heritage School is something that wasn't necessarily in Camille's plans as her preschool program was flourishing, but the Lord seemed to have other ideas. Camille has felt strongly guided that American Heritage is where the Lord wants her at this time and she is thrilled to be here and to be teaching 3rd grade. Camille looks forward to teaching a curriculum that incorporates teaching the gospel along with secular knowledge. She looks at it as a divine mission the Lord has called her to.

Camille's interests are in music: she sings and plays the guitar. She also enjoys art, but never seems to find the time to do it! Most importantly she loves teaching children and has spent her whole adult life doing it!



Mabel Lopez, Seventh Grade Teacher

Mabel Angela Lopez comes to American Heritage School with five years experience teaching at Montclair College Prep School in Northridge, California, and four years experience teaching within Simi Valley Unified School District. She attended Ricks College, in Rexburg, Idaho and received her BA from BYU (Provo) in 1976.

Mabel served a full-time mission for the church in the Dallas North Mission. She has a natural love of teaching and enjoys becoming involved with the learning process of her students, whatever the venue. She is thoroughly bilingual in Spanish and English. She has studied French and Portuguese as well.

"After the birth of our second child, I discontinued full-time paid employment to dedicate myself to full-time mothering--the most enjoyable and rewarding undertaking I have ever done. During this period, and at irregular intervals, I taught private Spanish classes at home and did major evening translations of lessons and materials on self-sufficiency, hygiene and food-storage for the Welfare Department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on an as-needed basis."

Mabel has traveled extensively in South and Central America and Europe, minimally in Asia. She is interested in and familiar with several different countries and cultures. Mabel is "curious, highly creative, and not easily discouraged." We believe she will be a wonderful addition to our faculty.



Melanie Bills, Third Grade Teacher

Melanie Bills is a Utah native. She was born and raised in Orem. She graduated from Orem High School and attended Utah Valley State College until she was married. She and her husband, Mike, moved to Highland shortly after their second child was born and have resided there ever since. They have three children: Brandan (11), Brittani (10), and Andruw (6), who will all be attending American Heritage this year.

Melanie is an avid reader, and loves education. She enjoys camping, hiking and four-wheeling with her family. She has served in the Primary and is currently serving in the Young Women's Presidency in her ward. She enjoys good music and scrap booking. She has had children attending American Heritage School for six years, and has enjoyed helping in classrooms and in the library. She loves the school and is very excited to be one of the newest members of the staff.

Help Wanted

We are currently looking for an Executive Secretary. Competitive salary, based upon experience, includes full benefits. (Don't worry, Leslie is not leaving, we're just growing!) For more details, please call Leslie Clark @ 642-0055 ext.301.

Volunteer Opportunities

PARENT ORGANIZATION SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

- Book Fair
- Box Tops for Education
- Carpool*
- Christmas Tree/Teddy Bear Project
- Concert Moms*
- Essay Contest
- Event Set Up*
- Eye Screening
- Fall Festival *
- Field Day
- Forgotten Lunch Program
- Hot Lunch Program*
- Library Volunteers*
- Lunch Room Duty*
- Patriotic Program*
- Picture Day*
- Pizza Mondays
- Room Mothers
- School Directory*
- School Supplies*
- Science Fair*
- Service Hours
- Shakespeare Luncheon
- Snow Sculpture Day*
- Spelling Bee
- Toddler Room*
- Uniform Swap
- Website
- Yearbook*
- 8th Grade Graduation*

***Team Leaders Needed ASAP!**

**A Message From the
American Heritage School
Parent Organization**

Dear Parents,

August 1, 2005

Before we know it, pencil boxes will be full, lunches made, backpacks loaded, and off to school we go! As the new leadership of the Parent Organization, we are really looking forward to a great school year!

One of the advantages of being a patron of American Heritage School is our smaller, more personal school community. Because of our limited enrollment there is a greater opportunity to get involved and really make a difference in the quality of education your child receives. As parents extend themselves and dive into service opportunities both in and out of the classroom everyone benefits, especially our children!

Listed below are ways that you can get involved in the 2005-2006 school year:

1. We are seeking Parent Organization Board Members. You may join the board as a Special Event Team Leader or as an official Parent Member. The Board will meet the first Wednesday of every month at 9 a.m. at the school. For information on these opportunities please call Dana Lyman @ 772-0401.

2. Listed below are opportunities available to help with Parent Organization sponsored activities. We are seeking Team Leaders and Committee Members for all of these different events.

3. **Fall Festival, Fall Festival, Fall Festival!!** This is our one and only fundraiser scheduled for October 28th. We need Team Leaders and committee members for advertising, ticket sales, silent auction, decorations, food, & entertainment. This will be our #1 priority at the September 7th Parent Organization Board Meeting and we would like to see every family participate in some way with the Fall Festival!

4. We are looking for parents interested in working with their child's teacher as Room Mothers in the following positions:

Classroom Volunteer Coordinator - This individual will coordinate classroom help for the teacher such as reading groups, homework, correcting, filing, etc.

Holiday Coordinator - This person will be responsible for organizing the holiday celebrations such as Harvest, Christmas, and Valentines & will also work to coordinate a Teacher Appreciation Week class project.

Special Events Coordinator - This individual will work to coordinate help needed for special classroom events such as Pilgrim Day or Colonial Day. This parent will also assist with preparations needed for class devotionals and help to coordinate field trips & drivers.

Sign ups for these positions are available now by e-mailing parentorg@ahsmail.com or will be available in your child's classroom at "Meet Your Teacher" on August 24th.

5. When you attend the "Meet Your Teacher" event on August 24th, please remember to speak with your teacher about how you can assist in the classroom. Supporting our teachers with reading, correcting & filing gives them more freedom to plan and develop their curriculum, which will directly benefit your child.

We look forward to seeing you at the August 24th Meet Your Teacher event from 3-6 p.m. and Parent Meeting at 7 p.m. We will be available to answer any questions you may have and to assist you in signing up for these different opportunities. To contact the Parent Organization please use our new e-mail at parentorg@ahsmail.com or you may call Dana Lyman directly at 772-0401.

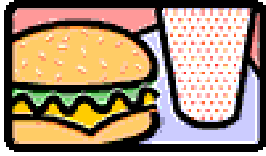
We want to thank you in advance for all that you will contribute this year. There is no time like the present to get involved and make a difference and if everyone will do a little, then no one will have to do a lot!

Sincerely,

The Parent Organization Executive Board

Dana Lyman, President
Lori Welch, Vice President
Julie Mc Namera, Vice President
Jennifer Christensen, Secretary

P.S. - If you tried to contact Dana Lyman over the summer at lymans@mobileblue.com, I apologize for not responding. My internet provider went out of business. Please send all requests and questions to parentorg@ahsmail.com. Thank you!



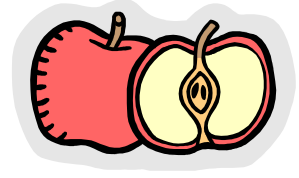
Hot Lunch Sign-ups for September

Please return with check (NO CASH) no later than Wednesday, August 31st, 2005.

Make a separate check payable to **DRY CREEK FOOD**.

I wish to purchase Wednesday lunch as indicated below for my child/children.

Lunch for the three Wednesdays in September starting on September 14th, 21st, and 28th will be \$6.00 per child.

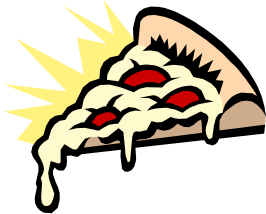


Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____



Pizza Monday Sign-ups for September

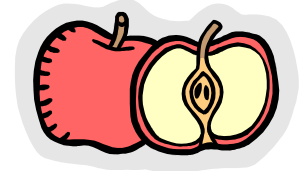
Please return with check (NO CASH) no later than Wednesday, August 31st, 2005.

Make a separate check payable to **American Heritage School**.

I wish to purchase Monday lunch as indicated below for

my child/children. Pizza for the three Mondays in September, starting September 12th, 19th, & 26th will be \$1.00 per slice.

Please indicate # of slices next to choice of pizza.



Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Pepperoni _____ Canadian Bacon _____ Cheese _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Pepperoni _____ Canadian Bacon _____ Cheese _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Pepperoni _____ Canadian Bacon _____ Cheese _____

Name _____ Grade _____ Teacher _____

Pepperoni _____ Canadian Bacon _____ Cheese _____

AMERICAN  HERITAGE
SCHOOL & FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER

FAMILY LECTURE SERIES

WITH



Chieko N. Okazaki

GETTING LOST TOGETHER IN A GOOD BOOK:
FAMILY READING

Author, educator, and former first counselor in the Relief Society General Presidency, Chieko Okazaki is known for her wonderful ability to tell a story. A child of humble Japanese laborers on a plantation in Hawaii, she converted from Buddhism to the LDS faith when just 15 years old. She later married Ed Okazaki, a Congregationalist, who eventually joined the LDS Church as well. Together they had two sons. Ed passed away in March of 1992, but Sister Okazaki has carried on in a way that has been an example to us all by writing *Lighten Up!* Other publications include *Cat's Cradle*, *Disciples*, and *Aloha!*

Date: Friday, September 9, 2005
Time: 7:30 pm-9:00 pm
please be seated by 7:25 pm
Place: American Heritage School
736 N. 1100 E. American Fork
directly east of Mt. Timpanogos Temple
Who: All are welcome - ages 14 and up
Cost: Free
Info: Ckarr@AHSmial.com or 642-0055

The Family Lecture Series is offered the second Friday of each month during the school year and is free and open to the public. Our next lecture is Friday, October 14th with author, family counselor, and BYU professor, James McArthur

AMERICAN HERITAGE

SCHOOL & FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER
736 North 1100 East, American Fork, UT 84003



Introducing the NEW American Heritage Home School Curriculum

History – Year One: Creation to the Middle Ages is designed for preschool through sixth grade and is easily adapted to various age groups. All lessons incorporate an LDS perspective utilizing the STAR process (see below). To view a sample lesson visit www.american-heritage.org under Family Education Center. Authors of the curriculum are LDS home school parents with a combined experience of over 107 years and include Karen Arnesen, LaDawn Jacob and Jill Bigelow. Lessons are designed to be taught twice a week in 45-minute sessions. A CD is included with the curriculum for duplication, providing student stories, worksheets, maps, writing ideas, memorization selections, coloring pages, timelines, and time-line figures. This unique one-year history curriculum contains 892 pages and is priced at \$145; however, we are offering an introductory price of just \$125 if you order within the next 30 days.

METHODOLOGY

Study – The gathering of information. Original sources are best when gathering information from books, papers, observations, the Internet, experimentation, etc.

Think – Pondering, analyzing, reasoning are all part of the thinking process with the information gathered

Apply – Where what is Studied and Thought about are applied to oneself

Record – Capturing the STAR process for yourself and others on paper

Our curriculum focuses on building Christian character yet requires rigorous academic study through the STAR process. Children will increase their understanding of God's nature and His dealings with His children and gain skills necessary for accurately expressing their feelings and thoughts about any subject, especially religion.

ORDER FORM : American Heritage School & Family Education Center 736 N. 1100 E. American Fork, UT 84003 (801) 642-0055 x 503 Ckarr@ahsmaail.com

ITEM

UNITS

COST (\$125 each)

TOTAL

History – Year One: Creation to the Middle Ages

Shipping & Handling 14% (\$17.50 each)

GRAND TOTAL (check enclosed)

Ship to: NAME

PHONE NUMBER ()

ADDRESS

EMAIL

AMERICAN HERITAGE

SCHOOL & FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER

FROM THE FAMILY EDUCATION CENTER:

Summer In Review:

JUNE – EXPLORE LIFE! SUMMER CAMP

Well over a hundred children attended our third year of Explore Life! Summer Camp, enjoying “Colonial Williamsburg” at American Heritage School. They practiced George Washington’s “Rules of Civility, made dream catchers, wigs and Benjamin Franklin kites, as well as learned how to get to school with the days current mode of transportation ... horses! They also had the opportunity to meet and talk with Abigail Adams, John Hancock, Pocahontas, and George Washington. Our camp counselors were fantastic, helping children make friends while teaching them the significance of their American Heritage. Naturally, no camp would be complete without water games reminiscent of the 1700s, although the fire truck that came at the conclusion of camp had a more modern look to it! *The Daily Herald* wrote a great article about the camp which appeared in the July 7th issue of the *American Fork Citizen*.

HOME SCHOOL CURRICULUM: HISTORY: CREATION TO MIDDLE AGES

In addition to our summer camps, our new home school curriculum made its debut at the Utah Home Education Association Conference and Convention in Salt Lake. This 892-page history curriculum is a significant accomplishment, providing the home school family with the tools to teach their children academics along with LDS doctrine. The curriculum is geared for pre-K to 6th grade and is easily adapted to the abilities of your children. A CD is included as well for reprinting maps, charts, timelines, memorization selections, coloring pages, etc. This history curriculum is priced at \$145; however, it is available right now for an introductory rate of \$125. For more information or to order your copy please call Cheryl Karr at (801) 642-0055 ext. 503 or Ckarr@ahsmaail.com. You can view a sample lesson on our web site at www.american-heritage.org. A copy is also on display at American Heritage School & Family Education Center.

JULY – NEW DIRECTOR

The Family Education Center became further integrated with American Heritage School when Grant Beckwith was named director of the FEC as well as principal of the School. This move will facilitate increased coordination between the School and the FEC. The Family Education Center welcomes Mr. Beckwith and looks forward to working closely with the School.

AUGUST – FAMILY LECTURE SERIES

We are currently gearing up for our fourth season of the Family Lecture Series. All lectures will take place on the *second* Friday of the month at 7:30 PM beginning with September 9th with noted author, lecturer, and former first counselor in the Relief Society general presidency, Chieko Okazaki, speaking on “*Getting Lost Together In a Good Book: Family Reading*”. These lectures are for ages 14 and up and are free and open to the public so we encourage you to invite family and friends. All lectures are held in the auditorium of the school.

NEWS NOTES

To receive electronic news and information about the Family Education Center, transcripts of the Family Lecture Series, and articles written by its board members be sure to sign up for “New Notes” at Ckarr@ahsmaail.com.