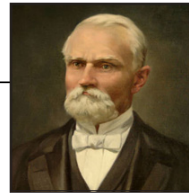




American Heritage School History Timeline

1876



BRIGHAM YOUNG ACADEMY

Brigham Young directed Karl G. Maeser to found Brigham Young Academy, a secondary school independent of the Church and the state, which grew to include grades K through 12.

1903

CAMPUS DIVISION

The Church divided Brigham Young Academy into two entities: Brigham Young High and Brigham Young Elementary. H. Verlan Andersen, Laurie (Bankhead) Swim, and other future founders of American Heritage School personally attended or enrolled their children for many years.



1968



DR. H. VERLAN ANDERSEN

At the closing of the BY Academy, Dr. H. Verlan Andersen met with a group of other BYU professors and BY Academy parents with the intent of re-establishing and continuing a private school to have their children's education enlightened by principles of the restored gospel of Jesus Christ. They named it American Heritage School.

1970

OLD LDS CHAPEL

American Heritage School founders acquired an old chapel in Pleasant Grove, Utah, and opened with 85 students enrolled. Enrollment doubled from 85 to 163 students.



1992



GAYLORD K. SWIM

School founder Dr. H. Verlan Andersen passed away. The next year, Gaylord Swim and his family joined the school, and Gaylord was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors. The school added the 7th and 8th grade four years later.

2002

NEW CAMPUS

With capacity for 400 students, the new American Fork campus welcomed teachers and students to its location across from the Mount Timpanogos Temple. Fred Roberts served as principal of the school assisted by Trudy Pace and Paula Christensen.



2007



HIGH SCHOOL AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

Under the direction of Principal Grant Beckwith, high school, extracurricular athletics, Foundations Training, Family Forums, and internet-based distance education courses were added to reach families around the world. The first cohort of 9th grade students plan to graduate in 2011.

2009

CHOIRS & ORCHESTRAS

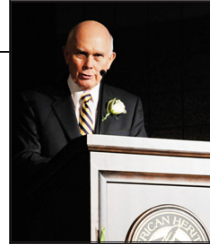
School enrollment surpassed 500. With the hires of Rob Swenson and Kayson Brown, and the acquisition of their community choir and orchestra programs by American Heritage School, the Heritage Youth Choirs and Lyceum Orchestras became musical ambassadors of the AHS mission to the world.





American Heritage School History Timeline

2011



INAUGURAL GRADUATING CLASS

Elder Dallin H. Oaks of the LDS Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, a graduate of BY Academy, delivered the Commencement Address to the inaugural graduating class.

2012

WORLDWIDE LEARNING

In 2012, the first version of The Family School was introduced. Later, under the direction of Peter Knecht, Family School My Way was introduced with new tools to further simplify and enrich teaching for over 7,000 children in over 50 countries worldwide.



2017



CAMPUS EXPANSION

Enrollment surpassed 1,000. The school received donor funding from AHS families to acquire an additional 29 acres of adjoining land. Additional funding was soon received to construct Phase I of the campus master plan, including an athletic center, outdoor athletic fields, and additional classrooms and commons areas.

2020

COVID & AHS ONLINE

AHS not only survived but thrived during the 2020 coronavirus outbreak. Additional AHS Online courses were launched, and nearly 4,000 new families around the world signed up for a free subscription of American Heritage Worldwide Family School Online.



2022



SALT LAKE CITY CAMPUS

AHS established a Salt Lake City campus next to Temple Square in a historic building leased to the school by the Church. After renovation, Elder Ronald A. Rasband of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles dedicated the building and grounds. Leland Anderson serves as the first principal. Chase Hale serves as the new principal of the American Fork campus. Grant Beckwith is invited by the board to serve as head of schools overseeing three campuses: American Fork, Salt Lake City, and AHS Worldwide.

2025

STRENGTHENING FOUNDATIONS

With enrollment surpassing 5,000 across three campuses, including an AHS Online High School, American Heritage School holds its first ever combined-campus graduation for the Class of 2025, featuring nearly 110 graduates, including international students. The Board focus is on strengthening the foundations of the school's Christ-centered mission and vision in anticipation of future growth. Board chairmen since inception include Verlan Andersen, Jim Jacob, Gaylord Swim, Laurie Swim, Curtis Miner, Bob Sorensen, Dan Burton, David Stirling, Jim Stice, Janine Miner, David Andersen, and Hal Boyd (chairman elect, 2027).

