

# PANTHER PRIDE

School Principals: Shawna Coplen, Lynn Cragg

<http://osb.k12.ok.us/>

## 4. Qtr. / 2. Sem. Honor Roll

### "A" Honor Roll

#### Elementary (3-5 Gr.)

Eric Enzenauer  
Stephanie Story

#### Middle School (6-8 Gr.)

Dayton Baccus  
Mannon Moore  
Tessa Williams

#### High School

Jimmy Anderson  
Emileigh Jackson  
Abigail Norton  
Julio Valdez

### "B" Honor Roll

#### Elementary

Payton Crum  
Avery Dollar  
Noah Dougan  
Braylen Fuller  
Ryan Horton  
Kelton Jordan  
Audree Montgomery  
Blake Priddy

#### Middle School

Jaylee Burnside  
Julia Cisneros  
Hunter Kelley  
Evy Mitchell

#### High School

Lydia Bradley  
Elbin Carrillo  
Johnnie Davidson  
Audrey DeBrosky  
John Duong  
Mykel Eagle  
Kaylie Minter  
Jacelynn Shields  
Blazen Sitterly  
Samantha Six  
William Winston  
Katelynn Zampella

## Oklahoma School for the Blind

2020 - 2021, Issue 4

May 26, 2021

Editor: Maggie Mattox

### Special points of interest:

- Special Staff Recognitions (pg 13)
- Remembering the Past (pg 4)
- Kid's Space (pgs 5-6)
- Art Projects (pg 8)
- Graduation Party (pg 10-11)

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Students of the  
4. Qtr.



Students of the  
YEAR

**EL:** Braylen Fuller  
**MS:** Julia Cisneros  
**HS:** Elbin Carrillo



**EL:** Stephanie Story  
**MS:** Skyler Moore  
**HS:** Julio Valdez

YOU DID IT!  
Congratulations

## Class of 2021

Johnnie Davidson - Nathan England  
Morgan Hudson - Joseph Rodriguez  
Levi Smith - Austin Wade



# Social Services Department - News, Tips, etc.



## "Caught Being Good"

- ◆ **Bryan Alender** - Offers to help others without being asked. And volunteered to sit on the floor so another student could have his chair.
- ◆ **Jaylee Burnside** - Helped a friend in the hall.
- ◆ **Julia Cisneros** - Held the door for others.
- ◆ **Johnnie Davidson** - Always happily and willingly taking care of others.
- ◆ **Mykel Eagle** - Went above and beyond.
- ◆ **Eric Enzenauer** - Very polite and respectful.
- ◆ **Ryan Horton** - Helped a classmate by holding doors open and giving directions. And cleaned up water that was spilled in the hallway.
- ◆ **Rudy Hunter** - Helped guide another student and carry their backpack.
- ◆ **Miracle Jones** - Helped a friend carry her bag. And helped teach good cane skills to a classmate.
- ◆ **Kaylie Minter** - Always cares about others and giving/sharing with them.
- ◆ **Audree "Ellie" Montgomery** - Very polite and respectful. And helped a friend at the bowling alley.
- ◆ **Mannon Moore** - Talked to other students about being patient and tolerant with each other.
- ◆ **Skyler Moore** - Was happy to help another student make their way to recess.
- ◆ **Devon Morrison** - Helped a classmate with his Ipad.
- ◆ **Jacob Nash** - Helped a friend find their chair.
- ◆ **Kolton Pennington** - Helps another student by holding the door for her everyday when they go to lunch.
- ◆ **Jacelyn Shields** - Helped a friend to her class and helped another student find her bag.
- ◆ **Blazen Sitterly** - Helped break down boxes.
- ◆ **Kennedy Sullivan** - Having a great attitude.
- ◆ **Lane Sutterfield** - Held the door open for others.
- ◆ **Austin Wade** - Helped a friend at the bowling alley.
- ◆ **Jesse Wolf** - Helped a friend find a seat.

It's never too late  
to be caught  
being good....

So keep up the good  
work students!!

We are proud of you all!



Social Services Department  
Bailey Ross

A huge shout out to our awesome "Newspaper reporters" **Audrey DeBrosky** and **Abigail "Abby" Norton**. You guys do a great job and the newsletter wouldn't be the same without your help. Also a big Thank You to **Ms. Goins** for all her help. I hope we can team up again next school year. Have a great summer. – Ms. Maggie

# Word of the Month(s) for summer is “Conscious”

**Conscious** = (adjective) aware of and responding to one's surroundings; awake.

I hope that the students are **conscious** of how they spent their time during the summer, who they spent it with, and how to make it memorable! – Bailey Ross, counselor

## Definitions of CONSCIOUS

1. Awake and able to understand what is happening around you.

**Examples:**

Is the patient conscious yet?  
He was fully conscious when we found him.



2. Aware of something (such as a fact or feeling): knowing that something exists or is happening - usually of or that.

**Examples:**

She was very conscious of how late it was.  
We are conscious of the risks involved in the procedure.  
He is conscious of being a role model for children.



3. Known or felt by yourself - conscious guilt - the capacity for conscious thought.  
**Example:** You cheated on your homework and feel guilty about it. You are conscious about having done the wrong thing.



4. Caring about something specified.

**Examples:**

He is environmentally conscious. [= he thinks and cares about the health of the environment]  
or a cost-conscious shopper [= a shopper who is concerned about the price of things]



5. Done after thinking about facts and reasons carefully.

**Example:**

I made a conscious [=deliberate] effort/attempt to be more compassionate.

A **conscience** (noun) is the voice in your head, and the feeling in

your heart, that tells you if something is right or wrong.

Have you ever done something you knew wasn't ok, and then you felt achy in your heart or kind of prickly in your body? That's your conscience!

If you've ever thought about doing something you knew wasn't ok, and the voice in your head said, "Maybe you shouldn't do that. You might get in trouble." That's your conscience!

Your conscience is your inner guide and it helps you figure out how to make good choices. As you grow up, you learn right from wrong. Your conscience is the thought and feeling you have that tells you whether something is a right or wrong thing to do or say. "Listening to your conscience" means you hear and feel the messages your conscience sends you that help you make a good choice.



## Blood Drive Update

By Allison Garner

Wednesday May 5<sup>th</sup>, OSB hosted our final blood drive for this school year with Oklahoma Blood Institute (OBI).



A total of **16 blood donations** were collected. Thank you again for your commitment to help save lives. Your time and donations are greatly appreciated.

We are already looking at dates for our upcoming school year, and we hope to host 3 drives.

Watch the calendar for future blood drive dates!

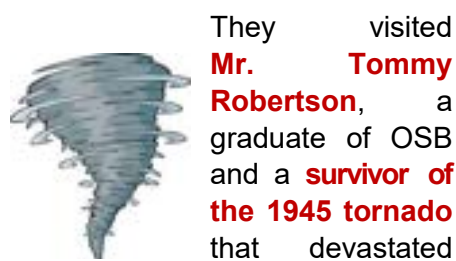


# Remembering the Past - Visit with Tommy Robertson

By Faye Miller

Have you ever thought about **April 12<sup>th</sup>, 1945?**

Hayden Bruzzini and Julio Valdez thought about what happened to the school on that date. Hayden is a history enthusiast and loves learning about things in the past. Julio is a weather enthusiast and is ready to learn from people who were involved in extreme weather events.



They visited **Mr. Tommy Robertson**, a graduate of OSB and a **survivor of the 1945 tornado** that devastated

our school.

Mr. Tommy was 6 years old in 1945. On that day, he noticed that the skies were many different and strange colors. His dorm parent called everyone inside when it looked like it was going to be stormy. He was sitting in his rec room, waiting for his turn to play with some wooden LEGO-like blocks, when his dorm parent told everyone to get into the basement

as fast as they could. At that time, there was no warning system for tornados so it was very scary.

Mr. Tommy remembers crouching down in the basement wondering where everyone was and what was happening. After the storm passed, he didn't want to go upstairs because he was only 6 years old and didn't really understand what had happened. He remembers the older boys helping him and the younger boys to the older boys' dorm, the only dorm that wasn't damaged by the tornado.

School was out for a year and a half after the tornado, but they didn't have iPads, internet, or computers at that time, so they didn't do distance learning. Some kids went back to their public schools and some kids waited until the school was re-opened before coming back to school.

Mrs. O.W. Stewart, superintendent at that time, worked hard with the Oklahoma Legislature to get the funds to rebuild the school.

You'll have to ask Hayden and Julio about all the ways the school has changed. You can ask them what the cafeteria and food was like, what it was like for students who worked on weekends at the school's dairy farm, and how they learned without all the technology that you use.

And, take a moment to visit the tornado memorial on the west end of campus that honors the 3 students who died when the gym was totally demolished.

It was a great privilege to visit with Mr. Tommy and learn about the school and we thank him for his generosity in his time to talk with us about his experiences.



Julio, Mr. Tommy & Hayden

## Counselor Day

By Abby Norton

May 9<sup>th</sup> was Counselor Day here at OSB where we met with our VI Counselors to talk about our plans for the future.

The VI counselors were here to talk about our transition from school to whatever we want to do after high school.

We talked about colleges, tech schools, training, and transitional

opportunities and options that we could choose from.

They hold our best interest at heart and are there to help us understand our options and plans for after high school and try to help make them happen.

Elbin said "My counselor talked with me about Vibe Camp and asked me if I wanted to go and I said yes!"

Program of OK DRS SBVI:

The **Transition School to Work**

**program** assists high school students with disabilities in making successful transition to post-school education and employment.

Many Oklahoma school districts and career technology centers have agreements with DRS to help students with disabilities gain employment experience, school credit and income for working in their communities or at their school.

# April = Child Abuse Prevention Month

**By Julio Valdez**

April is Child Abuse Awareness/Prevention Month.

The service learning class did several projects to bring awareness to this topic.



We kicked off the month by wearing blue on the first of the month.



Everyone wore boots to stomp out child abuse on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

We tied ribbons to several trees with the help of Ms. Garner's 6<sup>th</sup> grade class.



And Ms. Jackman helped us provide materials to make pinwheels for everyone.



## Kids' Space Basket Delivery

**By Kaylie Minter**

April was **Child Abuse Prevention Month**. It is a month to help spread awareness and prevent abuse.

The service learning class put together a gift basket to donate to Kids' Space workers.



Kids' Space is a nonprofit organization who helps children going through the court system.

They provide a safe comfortable place for the children to talk to lawyers and counselors.

The women at this facility put a lot of time and effort into what they do.

OSB greatly appreciates them for it and we are glad we got to show them our thanks!



## Kids' Space Child Advocacy Center (CAC)

**By Maggie Mattox**

**Child Abuse Response & Services – website: <https://www.kidsspacemuskogee.org>**

Kids' Space responds to reports of child abuse as part of a multi-disciplinary team of experts. Together, they investigate alleged abuse, conduct forensic interviews, provide family advocacy, reduce trauma and identify resources so that children and families may begin the healing process.

Kids' Space Child Advocacy Center and their partners are the front-line responders in Muskogee to reports of child sexual abuse, as well as reports of physical abuse of children, drug endangerment, Internet crimes against children and other forms of child abuse.

Kids' Space CAC is the city's only not-for-profit organization that coordinates the efforts of child protection staff, law enforcement professionals, family advocates, medical experts and mental health clinicians under one roof

while offering a child friendly atmosphere for the victims.

They are co-located with specialized teams representing:

- ◆ Muskogee Police Department
- ◆ Indian Child Welfare
- ◆ Kids' Space Sexual Assault Nurses and Mental Health Team

In addition to facilitating the collaborative approach to their partners' investigations, the Kids' Space CAC staff conduct

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# Kids' Space Child Advocacy Center (CAC)

(Continued from page 5)

forensic interviews, provide family advocacy and support to reduce trauma, offer mental health therapy, and identify resources so that children and families may begin the healing process.

## Case Coordination

When a report of child sexual abuse is made in Muskogee, the report is directed to Kids' Space, Muskogee Children's Advocacy Center. Their Family Advocate coordinates the investigation with the multidisciplinary team and arranges a family's visit to the center, including transportation and child life.

The Family Advocate is the family's first contact with Kids' Space CAC. The Advocate provides initial information about what a visit to the center will entail, including the forensic interview, family advocacy services and often a medical exam. The Advocate also gets information about a child's special needs, ensuring the team is

prepared to provide the best experience possible for the child.

The Advocate works closely with the doctor, detective, child protection specialist and assistant state's attorney to ensure that each team member is available to provide comprehensive services to the child and family during their visit to the center.

Once services are scheduled, the Kids' Space team works with families to get transportation to and from the center. By taking care of the logistics of a trip, they make it easier for families to engage in the healing services they need.

Kids' Space also steps in when a child is removed from a home and placed into emergency foster care. Instead of the child sitting in a police station waiting for the placement, he/she can get - often necessary - first aid, e.g. a shower, clean clothes, food, etc. After that he/she can wait in a kid friendly environment, with staff that is there for them.

## Child Focused Setting



Our facility is designed specifically for the work we do, featuring bright colors and an abundance of natural light to help children and families feel safe and to represent best practices as a trauma-informed environment.

In addition to offering a comforting place for our clients, our center encourages collaboration among members of our co-located teams.

The city's 'responders to reports of child sexual abuse' are stationed at the center, which enhances information-sharing, making investigations more child-centered, effective and timely.

## Spelling Bee

By Cassie Shelton

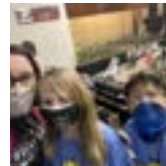
OSB held a local spelling bee last February and our winners were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place Braylen Fuller,
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place Blake Priddy,
- and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Jaylee Burnside.

Due to Covid-19 last year, the **Eastern Oklahoma State Spelling Bee** was canceled. However, this year 60 schools were invited to attend the EOSSB.



Braylen and Jaylee were able to attend and compete.



Each walked away with a medal, t-shirt, 2 complementary bags of goodies, and an **INCREDIBLE** experience!

We are so proud of our students and all they've accomplished.



# Prom

By Audrey DeBrosky & Abby Norton



The **Roaring Twenties**

were alive at OSB's Prom this year! This year's Prom was held at the **"Eight Ten Ranch"** on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

We got all dressed up in our nice dresses, suites, nice pants, and shirts.



We enjoyed the delicious dinner and desserts right before we

danced our hearts (and legs) out on the dancefloor.



**We would like to thank** 'Gino's Italian Restaurant' for providing dinner, 'Cupcakes by Linda' for the delicious desert, 'Love Bottling' for the soda and water, Mr. Bynum for building our photo backdrop, Mrs. Brice for making the corsages and boutonnieres, and a huge thank you to all the staff that helped set up, serve dinner, take pictures, and clean up. A very special thank you to Mrs. Webb for pulling together an awesome playlist and keeping us pumped throughout the night.

Near the end of the night we crowned this year's Prom King and Queen.

This year's Prom King was Senior **Austin Wade** and he escorted this year's Prom Queen, Junior **Audrey DeBrosky**.



All of us had an amazing time and we look forward to dancing once again next year.



# Jr/Sr Trip to Tulsa

By Levi Smith

After an unfortunate cancellation last year, the Juniors and Seniors enjoyed a fulfilling day of food, crafts, and fun!

Before we truly started our adventure, we feasted at **Black Bear Diner** to fuel us up for the rest of the day.

After the hungry bears (panthers) were filled up and ready to go, we ventured over to **Purple Glaze**.

Our artistic bunch painted away, decorating our own little ceramic



figures at our heart's content. Everyone did an amazing job!

After that, we enjoyed a nice walk by the **Arkansas River** to refresh. Then we made our way to **Andy B's** where the real fun began!

First, we played a few matches of bowling accompanied by some delicious

pizza.

After the panthers were satisfied, they were let loose throughout the arcade where they enjoyed various games and even some intense laser tag battles!



Once the night was coming to an end and we redeemed our prizes, we ended our adventure with **Dairy Queen** to enjoy some savory and sweet treats.



Then after a long day of fun and good food we came back to school.

Thank you to all the adults that came with us on the trip and to Ms. Goins for putting up with all of us on this journey.

# Service Learning Crosswalk Painting Project

By Faye Miller

A huge **THANK YOU** goes out to Lacey Wallace, Jesse Garcia, and Doug Walton for working with OSB to purchase new crosswalk signs and new paint for the crosswalk across Gibson St. at the west end of campus.



This project was paid for through the Centers for Disease Control cooperative agreement called HOP (High Obesity Program) that is implemented in cooperation with Oklahoma State University. The purpose of the project is to create safer connections to everyday destinations, increasing physical activity. Remember the orchard you planted recently? It was also paid for through the HOP Farm to School program.

Mrs. Daniels's Service Learning class painted the crosswalk, railings, and helped install the new signs.



Kaylie Minter, Julio Valdez, Tyanna Culley, and Rayce Phillips put on their painting clothes on Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021.



They used yellow spray paint to make the railings leading to the crosswalk more visible and white paint and paint rollers to paint the crosswalk.

You might be interested to know that sand is added to the paint before you use it to make the paint more slip resistant.

**Special thanks** to Howard Ashwood and Andrew Nail who kept us safe on the street, directing traffic around us and helping us install the new crosswalk signs.

So, next time you cross Gibson Street, thank the HOP program and the Service Learning class for a safer crosswalk!

**Rayce said:** "It was great painting a new crosswalk. I couldn't see the old faded out crosswalk but I can see the new one now."

**Kaylie said:** "I've seen other people painting streets, etc. and it

was fun being able to be in their shoes."

**Tyanna said:** "I really enjoyed this project. It was easier than I thought it would be and made great work experience."

**Julio said:** "I really enjoyed this. It was my first time to paint with spray paint or a paint roller. I really enjoyed the roller. And it also feels good that it will be beneficial to anyone who crosses the street."



Before...



After...



Isn't it pretty?

## Classroom Corner: Mrs. Garner's Art Projects

By Abby Norton

Some of Mrs. Garner's classes took a break from their normal lessons to take a trip on the art train. Art is something fun and relaxing that students love to do and when it comes to Mrs. Garner, she loves it just as much!

They worked on color combining colors and painting a few different varieties of art. They had a choice between three different types of paintings that are tactile.

The styles were **stained glass**, which is taped off, then painted, and then the tape is removed (when dry) to separate the different colored sections.



The second one is **birch trees**, which uses strings that lay on the canvas and are painted over, then they are re-

moved (when dry) to create a birch tree effect.

And the last one is a **bubble painting**, which uses bubble wraps dipped in



paint to make a circle texture on the canvas.

Thank you Mrs. Garner for being our makeshift art teacher!



## Boy Scouts Update - Camping Trip

In April the Boy Scouts finally went on a camping trip again and here are some of their stories.



### Julio Valdez

Boy Scouts Troop 672 went camping in April. It was our first camp out in over a year, largely because of the ongoing pandemic. We had lots of fun! My favorite meal was Frito chili pie on Thursday night. It was my favorite because I got to put lots of spicy peppers on it that Mr. Jackman brought with him. My favorite activity was going to **Woolaroc Museum** in Bartlesville on Saturday. There we got to explore lots of antique objects. Friday was an interesting day. We went from having lots of fun and doing a mile long hike to hiding in our tents from severe thunderstorms that struck our area during the evening. It was our first time being

under a severe weather warning during a camp out. Behind the storms a cold front moved in and behind it we had very strong winds. These winds made our tents collapse! We spent over an hour and a half putting them in place and trying to keep them in place. I really enjoyed going camping! It had been very long since we camped and it was lots of fun.



### Elbin Carrillo

The boy scouts went camping after a long time, after not being able to go camping in a while. We went camping at Bartlesville in Oklahoma. Thursday night was fun and we were happy to be camping. There were many activities at the camp. Some of the activities were hiking, making s'mores and playing games. I enjoyed the camp out. It rained a lot on Friday. I got to throw tomahawks and I almost hit the beeper ball (*located behind the target so the students know where to throw to*). We

also got to eat at KFC. My favorite memory was when it rained. I like camping and it will always be my favorite thing to do. The camping trips wouldn't be possible without Mrs. LaRue, Mr. Jackman, and Mrs. Jackman. They have worked very hard for us boy scouts, so we can go to camping trips and for us to have lots of fun when we go.

### Jimmy Anderson

I thought the camp out was good. My favorite thing was the **mountain man event**. The mountain man event is where everyone is selling something. One of the men gave us a fox pelt. The one thing I didn't like was the storm because our tents kept blowing down.



## Cookie Dough Fundraiser Update - Sophomore Class

### By Abby Norton

Fundraising this time of year can be really hard! But the sophomore class stuck together and had a great time selling cookie dough.

The fundraiser started on March 29<sup>th</sup> and we were selling \$12 tubs of cookie dough.

The tubs were 2 lbs and came in a variety of different flavors, like chunky chocolate chip, caramel pecan chocolate chip, snickerdoodle and many more!



All together **we sold 397 tubs** of cookie dough and the money we received totaled to **\$1,905.60**.

Our most sold flavor was caramel pecan chocolate chip which racked up 81 tubs with chunky chocolate chip in close second with 76.

The top seller in the class was **Kaylie Minter** who **sold 172 tubs**. Great job Kaylie!

**Thank you** to anyone who bought cookie dough and a huge

thank you to Mrs. Hellen for helping us box up and deliver the cookie dough on campus.

Also a **MASSIVE thank you** to Mrs. Cotney for sponsoring our class and dealing with all us kids.

**You rock Mrs. Cotney!!!**



# Track Team - Update

By Tera Webb



During these crazy pandemic times, the South Central Association of Schools for the Blind (SCASB) has not been able to meet for competition for over a year. Therefore this year SCASB schools participated in a virtual track meet.

Please check out the link below, which will show the performing arts contributions and the

winners:

<https://library.tsbvi.edu/Player/Live/31>

Our winners are:

## Class A

### 60m dash

6<sup>th</sup> place - Elbin Carrillo

### 200m dash

6<sup>th</sup> place - Elbin Carrillo

### 400m dash

1<sup>st</sup> place - Benjamin

Middleton

4<sup>th</sup> place - Elbin Carrillo



## Class B/C

### Shot put (girls)

Tied for 4<sup>th</sup> place -

Tyanna Culley & Abigail Norton

### Shot put (boys)

2<sup>nd</sup> place - William Winston

### 100m dash

2<sup>nd</sup> place - William Winston

5<sup>th</sup> place - John Duong

### 400m dash

6<sup>th</sup> place - John Duong



# Senior 2021 Graduation Party

By Susan Young Mock,  
OSB STUCO Advisor

On Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> OSB Student Council hosted an all-school graduation party honoring the Senior Class of 2021.

We greatly appreciate all the hard work of the Maintenance Department, **"The Mighty Maintenance Men"**. They took extra care in mowing the areas where the party would have taken place, cleaning the pavilion, and sprucing up the courtyard.

Sadly, Oklahoma's weather rained on our party but the grounds looked beautiful just the same. They also saw to it the inflatables were properly inflated in the old gym so we could have fun safely. We appreciate you!

The all-too-popular **Pie-in-the-Face** "ceremony" started the festivities in the Rec. Center.

All students and staff had the opportunity to "vote" for their choice of senior and administrator for the honor of getting a pie in the face! All money collected was divided and gifted to the seniors. Congratulations to senior **Austin Wade** and

**Superintendent Mrs. Echelle** for "winning" the contest! We appreciate all the donations for our seniors.



Senior Austin Wade & Laci Goins (Teacher)



Mrs. Echelle & "16th birthday girl" Abby Norton

Elementary Students played on the inflatable 22' slides and inflatable obstacle course in the early afternoon to celebrate their "Good Behavior" during the school year. They were also treated to a train ride graciously provided by Mr. Butler. The **"Butler Express No. 9"** was built by Mr. Butler years ago to bring joy to children. We sincerely appreciate everything Mr. Butler does for students every day!



Butler Express No. 9

Chefs Jackman and Butler grilled hamburgers and hotdogs and the Student Council members served the students and staff in the cafeteria. We extend our sincere appreciation to the OSB Food Service, "Brenda's Brilliant Bakers" and to our "Grill Masters", Misters Jackman and Butler for their tireless efforts in the success of the cookout-and-dine-in.

A reception honoring the Senior Class was held in the beautifully decorated Recreation Center.



Students and staff took the opportunity to visit with the seniors while enjoying cake and punch.

After the reception the Middle School and High School students

(Continued on page 11)

# Senior 2021 Graduation Party (continued)

(Continued from page 10)

got their turn to enjoy the inflatables and have some fun with their friends.



OSB Student Council sends our sincere best wishes to the Senior Class. We love you and will miss you. We have the highest expectations of you and know you'll

succeed in your future endeavors. Thank you, Levi Smith, for your leadership in this crazy year.



## Elementary Easter Egg Hunt

By Abby Norton

Eggs symbolize new life, so on Easter we hunt eggs to symbolize the new life of the flowers in spring.

This year the OSB's Elementary classes participated in this fun tradition.



Grades Kindergarten through Sixth traveled across the street



to Civitan Park where they had to use all of their skills to listen and find the beeping

Easter eggs.

They had a lot of fun and after all of the eggs were found they got to enjoy some time playing on the playground equipment on a beautiful spring day .



ALL DONE !!!



## Elementary Field Trip to Honor Heights Park

On Monday, April 26, the Oklahoma School for the Blind Elementary took a field trip to Honor Heights Park for "Pizza in the Park."

It was a beautiful day, and a wonderful time for all who attended!



# Recreation Activities

The crazy school year of 2020-2021 has come to an end. I want to start by Congratulating the Senior Class, I hope you have some great times to remember and I wish you all the very best.



In April we started off with a movie night. Thank you to Chris and Rosie Coomer for lending us their movie "**Raya and the last dragon**" it was very exciting.

The cupcakes for Birthday Night were very colorful and delicious.



The ILS classes, Miss. Amanda, Miss. Kim, Miss. Munekia, and Miss. Christine do a great job! Thank you so much.

Bowling was so much fun! The students bowled, ate, and played video games. Some of the kids teamed up and



shared their tickets to get a bigger prize! They really enjoyed the Night.



We ended the month with "**Play in the Park**" at Civitan Park across the street where we played till dark.

Seems like May just flew by. For Craft night we made **sun-catchers**.



We also made a big splash at the **Muskogee Swim & Fitness Center**.

Ryan Horton and I put a challenge out to ourselves to make the biggest house we could build out of the **Straw & Jacks building set**.

We received a little help from other students but mostly Ryan did the work. It took two days and it was a lot of fun. When we got to the end we found a paper with pictures of things we could make. We have already decided to build a spaceship next school year.



Thanks to everyone from my work study students and all the staff here at OSB that helped me make this year's activities a big success.

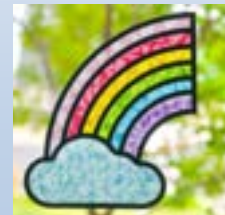
God Bless and stay Safe.

Nancy Brice  
Recreation Director



**Suncatchers** have been **used by** many to bring good Feng Shui into the home or workplace.

**Suncatchers** take the positive energy of the sun and energize the area by spreading that light around in the form of rainbows and flecks of light.



## GOING THE EXTRA MILE



**Following employees were nominated for their devoted support of our students, staff and school:**

Robert Miller for helping the botany students prepare their power point presentations.

Cheryl Daniels

Ms. Sandy for assisting in my 3rd hour science class! Thank you, Sandy!

Cheryl Daniels

Interpersonal Studies students asked to give a shout-out to Mrs. Garner for their art lesson.

HS Students

A huge THANK YOU to all the staff that helped with Prom (decorating, serving dinner, DJ-ing, and cleaning up), with the Jr./Sr. Trip, as well as with the awesome Graduation Party. There are just too many to list separately, but please be assured you all were highly appreciated.

I also want to send out a huge THANK YOU to everyone, Teachers,

Admins, DCS, Kitchen Crew, Clinic, Maintenance, IT, and any other support staff that may not fall in either of these categories. This past year was challenging for everyone and each of our awesome OSB staff stepped up to meet those challenges. Great Job everyone.

Maggie Mattox



# Special Staff Recognitions-SY 2022

## District 10 Superintendent of the Year



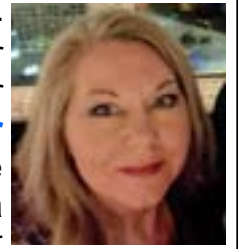
Congratulations to OK School for the Blind Superintendent **Rita Echelle** who was chosen **District 10 Superintendent of the Year** by the Oklahoma

Association of School Administrators.

**Congratulations Mrs. Echelle. Great Job !**

## High School Teacher of Merit Award FINALIST

Please join me in congratulating **Cheryl Daniels** for being named **Finalist** for the **High School Teacher of Merit Award** at the Professional Oklahoma Educators Award Banquet on April 30, 2021.



Mrs. Daniels was one of an elite group of teachers recognized across the state.

**Way to represent OSB!** Thank you for going the extra mile for your students. You are appreciated!

Rita J. Echelle  
OSB Superintendent

## Teacher of the Year



**Jana Ross** lives and breathes to teach kids math. She not only loves it, but she projects her love for it onto everyone who she comes across.

Her passion for math inspire her to seek out and share the newest methods and mindsets for teaching. Her students and colleagues benefit greatly from the knowledge and understanding she gains from all of the Professional Development she's attended.

**Congratulations Jana!** Well deserved.

## Employee of the Year

Technology is one of the most critical departments at any institution, but for our population of students and the employees, it is monumental. It has been quite a year for technology issues and I think we are fortunate to have **Coday Stewart** as an employee. He understands the needs of our students and the importance of technology to, not only, distance learning, but to in-class learning as well.



**Congratulations Coday!** Job well done!

## 20 Years of Service at OSB



Instructors **Tera Webb** (left) and **Laci Goins** (right) received their **20 year service awards**.



**Thank you for your commitment to OSB.**

# Birthdays

## Students

DAVIDSON, JOHNNIE	6	2
ENGLAND, NATHAN	6	5
ZAMPELLA, KATELYNN	6	5
MIDDLETON, BENJAMIN	6	10
WINTER, SHANNON	6	25
JORDAN, KELTON	6	30
DIAZ, PRISCILLA	7	8
BRADLEY, LYDIA	7	20
PRIDY, BLAKE	7	21
MOORE, MANNON	7	24
CULLEY, TYANNA	7	27
ALLEN, XANE	8	2
BROWN, TREYSEN	8	8
JACKSON, EMILEIGH	8	10
WEBSTER, OCIE	8	12
HENDERSON, GABRIELLA	8	18
MINTER, KAYLIE	8	20
BURNSIDE, JAYLEE	8	22
WILLIAMS, RYAN	8	22
LUNA, HEAVEN	8	30



## Staff

BUTLER, PAUL	6	4
BYNUM, MARCELLA	6	7
ANDERSON, TRESSY	6	10
POFAHL, VICKIE	6	14
HARGROVE, CHRISTY	6	16
COOMER, ROZANNA	6	18
DAVENPORT, TRACI	6	27
LEATHERMAN, LAURA	6	29
DANIELS, CHERYL	7	7
ADAMS, KATHY	7	11
PAGE, ANN	7	18
HARRISON, SANDY	7	20
GIVENS, TONYA	7	27
READ, DENNIS	8	2
MILLER, ROBERT	8	10
MOORE, MUNEKIA	8	10
YOCHUM, LISA	8	26



## Oklahoma School for the Blind

3300 Gibson Street  
Muskogee, OK 74403

Toll Free: (877) 229-7136  
Voice/TTY: (918) 781-8200  
Fax: (918) 781-8300

It takes more than sight to have vision!

Please check out  
our website at:



## OSB Employee / Staff Changes:

### New Hires:

Logan Billy, Transportation Officer, hired 5/9/21

**Welcome on board. Glad to have you !**



Marcella Bethel, Transportation Officer/Student Aide, **resigned**  
4/28/21

### Retirement:

Brenda Plunkett, Food Service Manager,  
effective 6/1/21

Kathy Adams, Elementary Teacher,  
effective 8/1/21



## UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS !!! - Save the Date/s !!!



**June 6**      **Check In** for OSB Summer Camp &/or OSB Summer Reading Program

**June 7-17**      **OSB Summer Camp & OSB Summer Reading Program**



**Sunday, August 15, 2021 - ENROLLMENT SUNDAY!!!**

**Mon., Aug. 16 First Day of School**