



HEADS UP

Eufaula Public Schools

"Expect the Best"

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4, MARCH 2002

DISTRICT ENROLLMENT CAUSES

TRANSFER MORATORIUM

Since the passage of the 1999 bond election, enrollment in grades 9-12 has increased by 30.2%. The increased enrollment has caused the Superintendent of Schools and the School Board to review their building strategies. "More students will require more teachers, who will require more classrooms," said Superintendent Wilson.

At the passage of the bond election, the high school enrollment (grades 10-12) was 228 students. The superintendent projects a 2002 high school enrollment (grades 9-12) of 440 students. This increased need for teachers and classrooms will require the completion of both floors of the anticipated new high school addition.

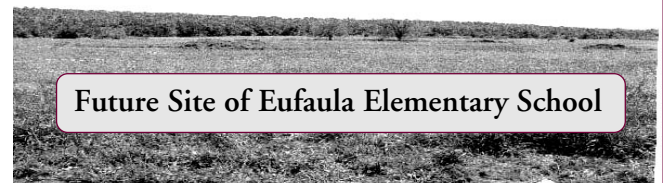
The superintendent explains that a significant number of the new enrollees may be identified in a reduction of outgoing transfers. "In 1999, Eufaula had 151 students transferring to nearby schools. For the 2002-03 school year, Eufaula has received only 71 transfer requests. This change represents a growth of 80 students, primarily at the high school level. At the same time, our incoming transfers are up by 42 transfers. If we don't slow down our growth in transfers, we will be unable to serve our resident students, whose parents are paying the bill for new school buildings. Until our new buildings are finished and opened for resident student enrollment, a moratorium on new transfers will be in place for all Eufaula Schools," said Bill Wilson, Superintendent of Schools.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

It has been over 300 days since the first dozer began sculpting the location for the new elementary site. We have anxiously watched as the construction site began to change, as crew after crew moved onto the location doing their part in creating this massive structure. Now that the work has moved inside, it is difficult to realize how much progress is being made from week to week. But, progress *is* being made, and soon the construction crews will leave, parking lots will be poured, landscaping will take the place of the puddles of water, mud, and dirt, and by early fall, our kindergarten through fifth grade students and faculty will be attending school in one of the finest elementary schools in the state. It will be equipped with new furniture, state of the art equipment, computer lab, media center, and cafeteria. It will be the birth of a new elementary school and the beginning of a new sense of pride and excellence in our school district.

"Vision without action is merely a dream. Action without vision is a waste of time, but Vision With Action can Change the World," and that is what the patrons of this district are doing by their proactive approach in support of their school district.

May, 2001



Future Site of Eufaula Elementary School

March, 2002



EUFULA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Construction Update, continued

FINISH CARPENTERS AT WORK

A *Bazooka*, pictured here, is being used to quickly tape and bed the sheetrock on the classroom walls and hallways of the new elementary building. Interior paint is being ordered, and gray colored ceramic tile with a maroon band brightens the restroom walls. Windows will be put into place by the end of March, and ceilings will be hung. Soon, those *Concrete Trucks* will once again be seen as they begin pouring curbs to accommodate the asphalt parking lots. Plans to pen the building are Still Set for early fall.

BAND EXCELS AT HIGHEST LEVEL

Band director, Glenn Sizemore, his assistants, Kenneth & Jennifer Self, and the Ironhead Band have made other Oklahoma School Bands, "Sit Up and Take Notice." This poised and disciplined group of musicians continue to earn superior ratings in contests across the state. At the recent OSSAA District 10 Concert Band Contest in Tahlequah, the students earned the recognition they deserve by being the only band in competition to receive Straight Superior Ratings, earning their bid for a Class 2 A State Championship in Stillwater next month. Mr. Sizemore was especially proud of the Superior Rating his students earned in Sight Reading. Sight Reading is difficult in that the students must play a piece of music they have never performed before. They are given music to read and study for six minutes, then they are asked to perform the music before a panel of judges. Scoring a Superior Rating in that format demonstrates our band's true musical ability.

ACADEMIC TEAM MAKES HISTORY

Since qualifying for *State Competition* last January, the Ironhead Academic Team has *Kept Sharp* by continuing to compete in a number of contests throughout the state. At the March 11th State Championship, the Ironheads were on top of their game, beating Stigler to make it to the Final Four. In a close contest with Bing, our Academic Team was defeated by only *one question*. The students end the season winning 67 events and losing only 16. *They*



become the first Ironhead Academic Team in Eufaula Public School History to make it to the State Championship. The team placed 4th from a field of 96 Academic Teams State-Wide. Pictured are Coach Kent Kiester and Assistant Coach Gale Applegate with the State Academic Bowl Class 3-A Plaque. They are proud of this young team of competitors, and are looking forward to competition next year with their *Entire Starting Team* returning!



BAND MEMBERS EARN STATE-WIDE RECOGNITION

Villette Linstead and Brian Horton are two extremely talented students who were chosen to play in the All-State Concert Band early this semester. The All-State Band is made of eighty of the state's top band members. A number of college scholarships from across the state are being

offered to these two students. These scholarships are the ultimate reward for years of hard work in becoming two of the state's best.

GRADES TO RELOCATE

After studying a range of safety concerns, Superintendent Bill Wilson has concluded that students attending grades six, seven, and eight will attend classes at the Houston Homan building for the 2002-2003 school term. With construction plans to build a new middle school, future 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students of our district will be provided a facility similar to the new elementary building located west of the city.

EUFULA GIRLS HAVE THE TALENT TO DOMINATE IN GOLF THIS SPRING
Sheryl Eldridge Shoots in the 40's on the Back Nine at the Arrowhead Golf Course, landing on the green in Two at the Par 5 Twelfth Hole. If the team continues to spend time improving their putting & chipping, there will be some low scores turned in at competition across the state this spring.

...THE TRADITION LIVES ON...

- 2000 - State Championship Tournament
- 2001 - State Championship Runner-Up
- 2002 - State Championship Tournament

For the third straight year in a row, the Eufaula Ironheads earned the right to "Go to the Big Dance" as they say, to compete in the Basketball State Championship in Oklahoma City. Coach Larry Callison, Coach Bradley Campbell, and their talented team once more showed us what it means to be an *Athlete*. The season was long and tough. Having come straight from the football playoffs in December, some of these players went straight from their their cleats to gym shoes stepping into a season just as grueling and demanding as gridiron competition.

Late in the season, some of the seniors on the team could have easily succumbed to 'Senior-itis' and to think about Life After EHS, losing their Fighting Edge and that Need to Win. But, they didn't Go There! The team kept focused on their job as *Athletes*, and *Stepped Up*, as True Athletes always do to end another exciting year with a 22-2 season.



ONE TEAM...ONE DREAM...

The Lady Ironheads had a dream. That dream was to learn to play the game of basketball at a level few teams achieve. With the leadership of their coaches, Bart Banfield, Emily Coppick, and Shasti James, and some dedicated parents who tirelessly furnished breakfast to the team after early morning practices, that dream came true for the girls this year. With an overtime loss to Savanna in the Regionals, the Lady Ironheads became more determined than ever to keep their dream alive. They didn't let the defeat dampen their spirit to win. They met the challenges of some tough competition at the Area Tournament in Ft. Gibson, and battled through three tough games only to miss their chance at State Competition by five points in losing to Beggs 47 to 42. The girls proved to themselves and the community that they have what it takes to be Champions. They have *Paved the Way To The State Championships* for future Lady Ironheads, and have taught future players to *Expect the Best* as we begin a new era of Girls Basketball in Eufaula, Oklahoma. Congratulations, Girls, on your success and your incredible 16-7 basketball season.

NATIONAL FFA WEEK

Eufaula FFA Members are busy students year-round, but during National FFA Week, they were especially busy. On Monday of National FFA Week, the Eufaula Agriculture Boosters hosted the *Local Show and Premium Sale*. Seventeen FFA Members participated, showing lambs, heifers, steers, and swine. Twenty-one exhibitors made the sale, twelve of those exhibitors were FFA members. On Tuesday, FFA members hosted the Faculty and Support Pancake Breakfast. On Wednesday, four Greenhand Members, Jessica Dawson, Illeah Horton, Krystal Price, and Peggy McGuire, toured the State Capital Building and visited with Representative Ray Miller and Senator Frank Shurden. On Thursday, Checotah hosted a *County Play Day*. Four schools participated. Eufaula, Checotah, Midway, and Webbers Falls. Competition included a hay-stacking contest, post driving contest, scavenger tool search, hog driving contest, and a tractor-driving contest. Eufaula FFA members *Placed FIRST Overall*, and won the *Traveling Trophy*. On Friday, twenty-eight Eufaula FFA members held the *Elementary Petting Zoo*. It was a Full Week of activities and competition, and FFA teacher, Darrell Blackman, and his students, should be proud of their exceptional program and the successes they continue to have.

by Jessica Dawson

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

The following teachers were chosen by their peers as their 2001-2002 *Teacher of the Year*.

Congratulations!

DIXIE ELEMENTARY: *Barbara Pendley* is a graduate of Eufaula Public Schools. She has her Master's Degree in Education from NSU, and has been a classroom teacher for thirty-six years. Ms. Pendley taught 2nd - 6th grade remedial reading for one year, and 1st grade at Dixie Elementary for thirty-five years. Ms. Pendley is married to Jack Pendley.

JEFFERSON DAVIS: *Ms. Robin Montgomery* is a graduate of Eufaula Public Schools. She has an Education Degree from NSU. Ms. Montgomery has taught for 22 years, the first four at McAlester, and the last eighteen for Eufaula Public Schools. She teaches third grade at Jefferson Davis Elementary. Robin is married to Calvin Montgomery. They have two daughters, Caleigh and Sara.

COOPER MCCLAIN: *Kaye Luna* is a graduate of Eufaula Public Schools. She has a double major in elementary education and physical education. She taught 5th grade for four years, and has been a 4th grade teacher at Cooper McClain Elementary for the past twenty-two years. Ms. Luna is married to Leonard Luna, also an employee of Eufaula Schools. They have one son, Josh, and two daughters, Erica & Krystina.

JUNIOR HIGH: *Nick Pendley* is a graduate of Eufaula Public Schools. He teaches Pre-Algebra junior high students. He has taught for twenty-eight years. In his tenure, Mr. Pendley has taught health classes, geography, algebra and pre-algebra. In addition to his classroom teaching, Mr. Pendley has twenty-three years of coaching experience.

HIGH SCHOOL: *Barbara Reynolds* is a graduate of Eufaula Public Schools. She has a Masters Degree in Education. Ms. Reynolds teaches high school mathematics, and has been a classroom teacher for thirty-six years, thirty-five years of her tenure were for Eufaula Public Schools.

BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS OF AMERICA STATE COMPETITION

Nine students competed in the recent *Business Professionals of America* State Competition at OSU Okmulgee, once again demonstrating outstanding student academic success. Seth Dawson placed third in *Visual Basic Programming*, qualifying him for National Competition in Chicago later this year. The *Small Business Management Team*, including Sarah Bowman, Christina Gerbig, and Bill Kent, placed third in their event. Their team was given a business situation, and they had 45 minutes to analyze the problem, then present their analysis and conclusion to a panel of three judges. Gina McGirt placed in the top ten in *Fundamentals of Word Processing*. The district commends all the *Eufaula Business Professionals of America* members and their sponsor, Ms. Allison Aday, for their hard work, achievement, and their success this year in learning the skills necessary to compete at such a high level of competition.

Technology

POWERPOINT, DIGITAL CAMERA, INTERNET CLASSES

Debra Jones, a fifth grade teacher at Cooper McClain Elementary, will offer a *Mini Futurekids Workshop* for teachers on April 1st and April 8th at 6:30 PM, complete with Snacks and a Digital Camera Door Prize! The workshop will go beyond the 'how to's of Powerpoint, Internet, and digital camera use, to actually putting the skills to work in creating exciting, powerful lesson plans that will not only teach the lesson plan objective, but will keep the students interested and motivated by the way in which the lesson is presented and by having students use technology in doing their assignments. Right now, Ms. Jones' students are producing a *Class Newspaper* using a digital camera and *Microsoft Publisher*. Students have been interviewing teachers and students, taking pictures, and incorporating their computer skills in developing this publication. They are learning at an early age how easy and fun it can be to learn valuable communication and language arts skills.

DISTRICT WEBSITES - "HEADS UP" ONLINE

Two new websites have been published for the Eufaula School District. The District Website is located at www.eufaula.k12.ok.us. This website contains General District Information & Calendars, Schools & Contacts, the "Heads Up" District Newsletter, Job Opportunities, Certified and Support Application Forms, and Student Handbooks & Policies. A New Elementary Website has just been published for the elementary school, created by Wenonah Caruthers. It is located at www.dx.eufaula.k12.ok.us. This page includes site Information Contacts, Elementary Newsletter, Media Center Information, Menus, Site News & Parent Information, Calendars & Events. The Eufaula High School website at ww.ehs.eufaula.k12.ok.us, has been published for several years by students in Ms. Allison Aday's computer class. This site is linked to Ms. Aker's student published Junior High Web Page. These teachers have given our students the opportunity to learn how fun and easy web design can be.

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS

In assisting our special education teachers in identifying student needs, tracking student progress, and aiding in writing comprehensive student Individualized Educational Plans, our Special Education Department, under the direction of Diane Bertone, has been learning to use a new computer software program. This group of teachers has spent hours before and after school learning the program and entering data in an effort to automate our district's Special Education Department. *Special Thanks* goes to these teachers for their dedication in learning new skills and for enduring the frustration that always accompanies change, and to Lori Weiher, Special Education Teacher at Cooper McClain, for holding a workshop for the department to get the teachers acquainted with the new software.

GOLF TEAM

March

14	Oktaha @ Arrowhead (Girls)	3:30
15	Checotah @ Arrowhead (Boys)	3:30
25	Okmulgee Tournament (Girls)	9:00
25	Stigler @ Stigler (Boys)	3:30
28	Checotah @ Arrowhead (Girls)	3:30
29	Henryetta Tournament (Boys)	9:00

April

02	Checotah @ Fountainhead (Boys)	3:30
04	Checotah Tournament (Boys)	9:00
04	Hilldate Tournament (Girls)	9:00
05	Checotah @ Fountainhead (Girls)	3:30
08	McAlester Tournament (Girls)	9:00

April

09	Ft. Gibson Tournament (Boys)	9:00
11	Henryetta @ Henryetta (Girls)	4:00
12	Oktaha-Henryetta @ Arrowhead (Boys)	3:30
15	Oktaha @ Oktaha (Boys & Girls)	4:00
16	Ft. Gibson-Stigler @ Arrowhead (Boys)	3:30
	Girls' & Boys' State Qualifying	TBA

Boys Team: Jace Bachi, Grant Callison, Michael Campbell, Spencer Defamore, John Duke, Joel Kelley, Jared Neal, and Tharon Rivers

Girls Team : Jasmine Brown, Sheryl Eldridge, Villette Linstead, Susannah Miskousky, and Tanika Blakeney

IRONHEAD SOFTBALL

March

H=Home A=Away

08	Fri	Vian	H	4:30
14	Thurs	Webbers Falls	H	4:30
15	Fri	Wilburton	H	4:30
25	Mon	Stigler	H	4:30
26	Tues	Checotah	A	4:30
28	Thurs	Spiro	A	4:30

April

01	Mon	Checotah	H	4:00
02	Tues	Wilburton	A	4:30
04	Thurs	Spiro	H	4:30
08	Mon	Vian	A	4:30
09	Tues	Stigler	A	4:30
11-12-13		Oktaha Tourn		TBA
15		Savana @ McAlester		4:30
16	Tues	Webbers Falls	A	4:30
18		District Tournament		

IRONHEAD BASEBALL

March

Varsity/JV

05	Tues	Keota	H	4:30	7-5
07	Thurs	Pocola	H	4:30	5-5
11	Mon	McAlester	H	4:00	7
12	Tues	OPEN			
14	Thurs	Talihina	H	4:00	7
16	Sat	Checotah	A	1:30	7-5
18	Mon	Oktaha	A	3:00	7
18	Mon	Mounds	Oktaha	5:00	7
21	Thurs	Keota	H	1:00	7-5
22	Fri	Crowder	H	11:00	7
22	Fri	Roff	H	3:00	7
23	Sat	Newkirk	A	1:30	7
23	Sat	Hartshorne	A	3:30	7
26	Tues	Heavener	A	5:00	7-5
28-29	Th-Sat	Checotah Tour	A	TBA	

April

01	Mon	Warner	H	4:00	7-5
02	Tues	Stigler	H	4:30	7-5
04	Thurs	Holdenville	H	4:30	7-5
06	Sat	Shawnee T		11:00	7
08	Mon	Checotah H		4:00	7-5
09	Tues	Wilburton T		5:00	7-5
11-13	Th-Sat	Stigler Tour	A		TBA
15	Mon	Clayton	H	4:30	7-5
16	Tues	Holdenville	A	4:30	5-5(JV)
18-20	Th-Sat	Shawnee Tour	A		TBA
18	Thurs	Henryetta T		4:30	7-5
19	Fri	Pocola	A	5:30	7
20	Sat	Oktaha	H	1:00	7
22	Mon	McAlester	A	4:30	7
25-27	Th-Sat	District Tour	TBA		TBA

May

TH-Sat	Regionals	TBA	TBA
TH=Sat	State	TBA	TBA

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