



# HEADS UP

*Eufaula Public Schools*

**"Expect the Best"**

*Volume 6 - Issue 1 - September, 2005*

**B**ids for dirt work related to the construction of the middle school and addition to the elementary school were opened at the Eufaula Public Schools administration office on August 25, 2005. Mike Owen of Atlas General Contractors, Bill Wilson, superintendent, and Jeanette Smith, administrative assistant, conducted the bid opening. Bids were received from Accell Construction Company of Claremore, Cherokee Builders of Tulsa, Bill Hodges Construction of Tahlequah, Frazier Construction of Wister, and Outlaw Construction Company of Muskogee. The apparent low bidder was Outlaw Construction Company of Muskogee with a bid of \$348,805. The low bidder for surveying was Headrick Surveying of Checotah, with a bid of \$3,800. The Board has given final approval to the construction documents and authorized the solicitation of bids for the different construction trades needed. These bids will be opened October 6, 2005.



Outlaw Construction Company began building the future bus loop south of the elementary school on Monday, September 19, 2005. When compacted, the bus loop will serve as the construction entrance until the project is completed. While the construction company was busy building the bus loop, County Commissioner Bill Shackelford and the District 2 employees were busy reworking the county drainage ditch to the west of the construction site. The next step in the project is the removal of the vegetation and topsoil where the building pads will be constructed. Upon completion and inspection of the pads, the footings, plumbing and electrical rough-in will take center stage.

Southwestern Bell Telephone has protested their taxes statewide. Southwestern Bell is a centrally accessed taxpayer and therefore has protested with the Oklahoma Tax Commission. The tax protest has deprived Eufaula Schools the taxes on 1.8 million dollars of taxable property. The loss of this revenue will cause everyone else to pay approximately one percent

more than projected. The uncertainty of when this protest will be settled has caused the school auditor to increase the school mileage as a means of creating a reserve to redeem the school bonds as they mature. When a taxpayer fails or refuses to pay their taxes, it increases the tax burden on everyone else. In the case of SBC, their protest represents a temporary loss of 1.8 million dollars of taxable property. Hopefully this tax protest will be heard quickly and the tax consequences only a temporary irritation. There is good news coming. The county school districts in concert with the vo-tech districts and county officials have employed Visual Inspection Services. They will be making a visual inspection of existing oil and gas equipment in the county to ensure that the equipment has been placed on the tax rolls at the correct value. County Accessor, Vicki Hamm, is hopeful that this process can be complete by October 31st which will increase the county tax rolls and consequently reduce the required tax mileage on the school bonds.

**Tax  
Protests  
Hurt  
Eufaula  
Schools**

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## EPS Enrollment Continues to Grow

Enrollment at Eufaula Schools continues to grow. With the exception of last year's dip at the high school, enrollment at all three school sites has shown consistent increases over the last five years. The elementary school has grown ten percent, or forty students, while the high school has also grown ten percent, or thirty-three students. Current factors indicate Eufaula's student enrollment will continue to grow placing additional demands on existing classrooms.

ENROLLMENT DATA			
	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
2000	454.10	272.69	338.02
2001	454.28	278.01	360.97
2002	468.93	277.06	385.36
2003	449.16	281.27	388.49
2004	456.00	258.76	365.97
2005	448.25	274.77	329.69
8/31/05	495.00	278.00	371.00

## Academic Performance Scores

Academic Performance Scores for all Oklahoma public schools were recently released by the State Department of Education. While the state of Oklahoma's target is a score of 800, the Eufaula School Board established a target score of 1125 for our schools. All three school sites once again exceeded the school board's target. The Board of Education takes great pride in the academic increases and the effort of our faculty and students in this achievement. Below is a table that tracks our progress.

SCHOOL YEAR	ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL	DISTRICT
2004-2005	1224	1163	1126	1201
2003-2004	1220	1374	1110	1212
2002-2003	1139	1163	1039	1118
2001-2002	NO SCORE	912	892	893
2000-2001	853	848	872	856

## New Teachers

Mrs. Rita Ford was hired as the district's K-2 Elementary Principal. Mrs. Ford has twenty-two years of experience in education as a teacher, counselor, elementary principal, and federal programs director. Mrs. Ford is a graduate of Okemah High School. She received her bachelors from Central State University in Social Studies education. She continued her education at East Central University where she received a double masters degree in elementary education and school counseling. She then completed post-graduate work to obtain administrative certification.

Kim Sanders, well known for her music programs at the elementary school, accepted the language arts teaching position at the middle school this fall.

Cryse Burns is a 2005 graduate of East Central University with a degree in music education and has assumed the elementary music position. While in college, she participated in the East Central University Choir.

Bradley Cox joins the Eufaula Elementary staff as the physical education teacher. He is an experienced physical education teacher and coach, having coached and taught at Porum and Canadian before assuming the role of physical education teacher for the Eufaula elementary students.

Sandra Farrow returns to Eufaula Elementary school as a part-time special education teacher. Mrs. Farrow retired from Eufaula schools, but responded to our request for her services when we received a late resignation. Mrs. Farrow is well known and respected by the Eufaula school staff and her return is most welcome.

Jennifer Hayes is a resident of Eufaula and graduate of Northeastern State University. She comes to Eufaula Elementary schools with six years of experience from the Krebs school system. Mrs. Hayes has accepted the first grade teaching position.

Stephanie Layman is a 2005 graduate of Northeastern State University, with a degree in mathematics and has received special certification from the Oklahoma State Department of Education in Special Education. She has accepted the high school learning disabilities position.

Darin Sharp is a recent graduate of Southeastern State University and has accepted a part-time physical education position at the high school. In addition to the physical education responsibilities, Mr. Sharp will assist in coaching football and baseball.



## FAST PITCH DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

The Lady Ironhead Fastpitch Softball Team ended another fantastic season, advancing into post-season play after winning The District Championship for the third straight year. The Lady Ironheads won The 2005 District Championship by beating Hartshorne 4-1, 4-1. The Lady Ironheads were lead by Senior Nickole Phillips, Junior's Brooke Helms and Kristin McKeefe. The Lady Ironheads graduated their star pitcher last season to Carl Albert Junior College. The Lady Ironheads didn't miss a beat with the addition of Freshman Courtney Singleton, a very hard working pitcher. The Lady Ironheads ended regular season play with a record of 15-9. They placed third at the Holdenville Tournament of Champions, out of thirty teams. Returning starters: Seniors-Nickole Phillips and Tuli Crook, Juniors-Brooke Helms and Kristin McKeefe, Sophomores-Michealia Wilson and Briley Schaeffer. Leading Hitters for 2005: Junior-Brooke Helms .565 avg., Sophomore-Michelle Wilson .405 avg., Senior -Nickole Phillips .370 avg., Junior-Kristin McKeefe .365 avg., and Freshman-Courtney Singleton .360 avg.

### Eufaula Teachers & National Board Certification

The mission of NBPTS is to establish high standards for what accomplished teachers should know and be able to do, to develop and operate a national voluntary system to assess and certify teachers who meet these standards, and to advance related education reforms for the purpose of improving student learning in American schools.

National Board Certification measures a teacher's practice against high and rigorous standards. The process is an extensive series of performance-based assessments that includes teaching Portfolios and thorough analyses of the candidates' classroom teaching and student learning. Teachers also complete a series of written exercises that probe the depth of their subject-matter knowledge, as well as their understanding of how to teach those subjects to their students.

Diana Goodwin is Eufaula's only National Board Certified teacher. High School teacher, Viki Ridge is a Candidate in Waiting, having completed the program last spring. Candidates currently participating in the program are Diane Whelan, Stephanie Fox, Vicky Caldwell, Vanessa Gilley, and Lori Curtis. These teachers applied for an Educational Leadership scholarship in the amount of \$ 2,300 to pay the fees involved and were awarded that scholarship. "Board certification is the teaching profession's highest credit. It involves creating a portfolio containing information on your classroom practices, student's work samples, videotaped teaching, and outreach to the community, along with the assessment test to demonstrate knowledge of your chosen certified area. The program is intensive. Some days it is overwhelming trying to find time for the National Board demands, but I am proud to have made the decision to become involved in this effort."

### Faculty Websites

School Center software has been selected as the internet solution for our faculty websites. With an easy to learn format, online manuals, and live technical support. our teachers are quickly learning to create sites that are rich with resources for students and parents. As these pages progress, each faculty homepage will include a faculty photo, a brief biography, and welcome. The addition of a Contact Page on each faculty page is the outreach vehicle for parent/student/teacher communication. Homework Pages will include homework information for middle school and high school students, and current 'skills being taught' at the elementary levels. A Useful Links page will provide links for homework help and other helpful resource information. Teachers may include a Document Manager page that easily links students to large documents that could include a class syllabus, orientation information, handbooks, or study guides. Scrapbook Pages are easy to

create, making the ability to have online "Classroom Yearbooks." The Sports Zone links Ironhead fans to their favorite athletic programs. Coaches have their own websites where they can provide a Schedules & Scores page. School counselors, Special Services, the Ironhead Marching Band, our FFA program, cheerleading and academic teams, the BEACON After School Program, our Eufaula PTA, and all other clubs and organizations have the opportunity to build their own School Center websites. By making this effort, our students and parents have a much better opportunity to become informed about school events and expectations. To connect to the faculty pages, go to [ww.eufaula.k12.ok.us](http://ww.eufaula.k12.ok.us), then click the SCHOOLS button. From that page, select the appropriate school site, then click on the Faculty button. Scroll to locate your child's grade/class, and teacher.

**W**e Proudly Introduce you to the EHS Ironhead Mascot! Another Donation given to our school district by Rodney & Lucretia Maynard. Our Students, Faculty, Staff & Administration are Grateful for this Generous Gift!



## SPORTS ZONE

### Eufaula High School Football Schedule

Sept 01	Holdenville	T 7:30
Sept 09	Sallisaw	H 7:30
Sept 16	Hilldale	T 7:30
Sept 30	Victory Christian	T 7:30
Oct 07	Checotah	H 7:30
Oct 14	Hugo	T 7:30
Oct 20	Morris	H 7:30
Oct 28	Muldrow	T 7:30
Nov 04	Metro Christian	H 7:30
Nov 11	Playoffs	TBA

### Eufaula Middle School Football Schedule

Sept 08	Checotah	T 5:00
Sept 15	Roland	H 5:00
Sept 22	Open	Open
Sept 29	Wilburton	H 5:00
Oct 06	Fort Gibson	T 5:00
Oct 13	Hilldale	H 5:00
Oct 18	Holdenville	H 5:00
Oct 26	Haskell	T 5:00

### Eufaula High School Basketball Schedule

Nov. 29	Henryetta	T (JV 4:00)
Dec 02	Ft. Gibson	H (JV-4:00)
Dec 15-10	Inola Tournament	G-B TBA
Dec 13	Wagoner	T (JV-4:00)
Jan 05	Stigler	T (JV-4:00)
Jan 09	Morris	T (JV-4:00)
Jan 10	Choteau	H (JV-4:00)
Jan 13	Checotah H	(JV-4:00)
Jan 16-21	Ft. Gibson Tournament	TBA
Jan 24	Ft. Gibson	T (JV-4:00)
Jan 27	Wagoner	H (JV-4:00)
Jan 31	Hilldale	T (JV-4:00)
Feb 03	Choteau	T (JV-4:00)
Feb 04	Henryetta	H (JV-4:00)
Feb 07	Stigler	H (JV-4:00)
Feb 10	Checotah	T (JV-4:00)
Feb 14	Morris	H (JV-4:00)
Feb 17-18	District Tournament	TBA

All games start at 6:30 following the 4:00 JV games

### Junior High Basketball Schedule

		Girls	Boys
Nov. 10	Wilburton 7, 8,9	T	H 5:00
Nov 14,15,17	McAlester Tourn 7,8	T	T TBA
Nov 28	Checotah 7,8,9	T	H 5:00
Dec 01	McAlester 7,8,9	H	T 5:00
Dec 05	Hilldale 6,7,8,9	H	T 4:30
Dec 12	Ft. Gibson	H	T 5:00
Dec 15	McAlester 7,8,9	T	H 5:00
Jan 02	Wilburton 7,8,9	H	T 5:00
Jan 03	Ft. Gibson 7,8,9	H	T 5:00
Jan 12	Checotah 7,8,9	H	T 5:00
Jan 16	Stigler 7,8,9	T	H 5:00
Jan 23,26,28	Eufaula 9th Tournament	H	H TBA
Jan 30	Stigler 7,8,9	H	T 5:00
Feb 02	Hilldale 6,7,8,9	T	H 4:30
Feb 6,9,11	Conference Tournament 7,8, 9	TBA	

## POSTAL CUSTOMER

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## Heads Up

Bill Wilson, Superintendent

### Eufaula Public Schools

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