



Heads Up

Eufaula Public Schools
Celebrating 100 Years of Ironhead Tradition

FOCUS ON THE FUTURE

The Eufaula Board of Education will be giving voters of this school district the opportunity to join the teachers, support personnel and school administrators in a commitment to improve our school for the future through a bond proposal. A vote in favor of this bond proposal will allow the district to address the immediate needs of the school district. This proposal includes the following projects:

Renovation of the high school cafeteria and expansion of the kitchen
Construction of an elementary physical education facility/auditorium
Renovation and expansion of the vocational agriculture center
Replacement of the high school football field lights
Renovation of the high school auditorium
Replacement of band uniforms/purchase of band equipment

COST:

The total bond for the above projects, including interest and fees, is \$5,510,000. *This proposal does not increase property taxes at all, but will extend the existing bond tax for eleven years.* Your 2014 school tax will remain unchanged for the next eleven years.

PROJECTS:

Renovation of high school cafeteria and expansion of the kitchen

The existing high school cafeteria seats approximately 120 students. Our high school enrollment is 367 students and 36 faculty members. Renovating the cafeteria will increase seating capacity to around 200. Expanding the kitchen area will double the space that is currently available. Some of the existing kitchen appliances and equipment will be reused, but the equipment that is outdated or defective will be replaced. Frank Kucish, member of the planning committee, was instrumental in revising the architectural design to use the existing space more efficiently. His revision will cut the cost of the expansion.

Construction of elementary physical education facility/auditorium

The existing elementary physical education room is approximately 2,000 square feet with a ceiling height of 12 feet. This small space only allows for limited activities. Elementary students are mandated to have physical activity each week and it is very difficult to comply due to the limited space for a limited number of students. A larger facility will allow for increased student involvement, enhanced physical education programs and space for students to gather during inclement weather and other safety purposes. This facility will also be an elementary performance auditorium to showcase our talented elementary students. Currently, our elementary programs are performed at the middle school gymnasium. This arrangement displaces the middle school students from their daily physical education and athletic programs. The construction of this facility will allow the district to remodel the existing physical education room into two classrooms, providing additional space for the increasing enrollment at the elementary school.

Renovation and expansion of the vocational agriculture center

The current vocational agriculture center is approximately 40 years old and has welding and livestock programs being conducted simultaneously. This safety issue, along with increased enrollment in our vocational agriculture programs are the driving forces behind this project. About 150 students are involved in various vocational programs based out of this building. Everything from welding, livestock shows, judging, public speaking, land judging, skeet shooting and leadership are all components of our vocational program center. Renovation and expansion of this facility will alleviate safety hazards and provide an animal lab center, while also having vocational center classrooms double as FEMA rated saferooms for high school staff and students.

Replacement of high school football lights

The football field lights are almost 50 years old and have had little to no repairs over the years. These lights are extremely hazardous and are a safety concern. The Oklahoma State electrical inspector has mandated these lights be repaired and/or replaced before the 2015-2016 school year. Fewer poles will be needed and more efficient lighting will be used to help alleviate utility costs.

Replacement of band uniforms and equipment: Current band uniforms were purchased by a previous bond and have become extremely worn. As suggested by current band director Tad Clark, new uniforms would be washable, eliminating dry cleaning costs and have the same longevity as current wool uniforms. Rain gear is also needed along with replacing older instruments that are constantly needing repairs.

The Eufaula School District is hopeful that these much needed educational improvements for our students and staff will be accomplished. Mark Your Calendar to Vote on **FEBRUARY 10, 2015**, and let's remain *Focused on the Future*



First Semester at Eufaula Elementary

Brenda Lewis, Principal
Johny Bohanon, Assistant Principal

What a great start we have had to the 2014-2015 school year at Eufaula Elementary. We have implemented new academic programs, participated in multiple community outreach events, and have had many highlights this semester.

Our elementary teachers have focused on improving students' reading skills. We have implemented a Literacy Lab that allows kindergarten and first grade students to learn to read utilizing hands on technology, visual, and auditory centers daily.

The first through fifth grade students have Accelerated Reading goals incorporated into their reading grades. Students who achieve 100 Accelerated Reading points will attend an additional field trip at the end of the year.

Mrs. Bohannon's fifth grade language arts students have written and published Thanksgiving Books.

Eufaula Elementary students have been involved with multiple community outreach events this school year. We started the year with our first *Heads Back to School Bash* that provided over 250 backpacks of school supplies for students in Pre-K through the 8th grades. This project was in collaboration with the McIntosh Coalition, McIntosh Health Department, and multiple community organizations.

Many of the fifth grade students participated in the preparation of community food baskets for the holiday season.

With the help of the elementary staff, the Eufaula PTA provided eighty backpacks of food for students, prepared over 40 Thanksgiving Boxes for families, and organized the Angel Tree presents for over 60 students. We are fortunate and grateful to have such an active and giving PTA at Eufaula Elementary.

The Little Ironheads have enjoyed several highlights and accomplishments this first semester.

Our Veteran's Day Writing Awards winners: Cadence Smith, Matt Clover, Allison Turner, Chase Delaney, and McKenzie McIntosh.

Chase Delaney was also the Drug Free Essay Award winner.

Sarah Kingfisher had her artwork displayed at a state conference this fall.

Our fifth grade little league team won the Super Bowl Champs.

Our third grade little league football team was Runner-Up in their division.

The 4th and 5th grade basketball teams were successful.

Mrs. Newton presented numerous outstanding musical programs. The third grade students presented *Character Matters* in October, and the 5th grade students presented a wonderful Veteran's Day Program in November.

Mrs. Newton also directed two Christmas programs this semester. The first grade performed *The Bugz Christmas* and the 4th grade students performed *Jingle Bell Christmas*. The students were a joy to watch.

Another highlight at the elementary this year was the Grandparents' Tea with our first grade students. This is the third year for this event and it was a huge success.

Our little Ironheads have already been on several field trips this school year. The Pre-K, Kindergarten students and Mr. McDonald's students visited pumpkin patches. The Pre-K students toured Blue Bell Ice Cream in Coweta, the first grade attended the Jasmine Moran Museum in Seminole and the Gifted and Talented students toured the Tulsa Air and Space Museum.

As you can see, we are off to a great start at Eufaula Elementary and we are looking forward to an exciting second semester.

Middle School Students Participate in the 50th Anniversary of the Eufaula Lake Dam

Chris Whelan, Principall

Mr. Chris Whelan, principal of Eufaula Middle School, along with the student body, faculty and staff, spent the past year in marking the 50th anniversary of the Eufaula Dam. The student body conducted classroom research cross bridging the history of the Eufaula community. Students answered questions concerning the why, when and how of this massive and historic project. Students conducted 20 plus interviews of people who lived in the area and were affected directly or indirectly by the damming of the Canadian Rivers.

A celebration was planned in conjunction with the Lake Eufaula Association and the US Army Corp of Engineers. The ceremony was held Thursday, September 25, 2014, at Dam Site South, which was the same location that President Lyndon B. Johnson dedicated the Eufaula Dam 50 years ago to the day, September 25, 1964.

J.C. Watts, former U.S. Congressman and former Eufaula Ironhead, was the keynote speaker.

Other dignitaries were in attendances and given the opportunity to commemorate the importance of this celebration. The National Anthem was presented by the Eufaula High School Band. Posting of the colors was provided by the Choctaw Nation Honor Guard. Stigler, McAlester, and Checotah Schools also provided entertainment, along with a song in native Cherokee, sung by Jr. Miss Cherokee, Chelbie Turtle.





Middle School Students Team Up to Clean Up Planting Wildflowers at Dam Site South

In celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Eufaula Lake Dam, the Middle School Student Council joined Team Up to Clean Up Members to beautify an area at Dam Site South. Watch their video and click their facebook page at ems.eufaula.k12.ok.us to view this year long project.

Copperhead Football - A Perfect 7-0 Season

Coaches Robert Nixon, Ryan Green & Larry Newton Jr.

The Copperheads scored an amazing 217 points and only allowed 56 points for the season. One of the biggest wins of the year was a 30-6 victory over 5A Powerhouse McAlester. This team of boys played a very unselfish style of football and put the team concept before anything else. A majority of them were at *Summer Pride* last summer, putting in the time to become bigger, faster and stronger. Their effort really paid off.

Eufaula High School News

Michael Tamez, Principal

High School Band

The Pride of Eufaula Marching Band had an especially good season this year. The Pride finished the marching season having attained straight superior ratings at OSSAA Regional Marching Band Competition. This is the first step in achieving a state title. The Pride has been awarded ten trophies and plaques thus far, as well as finishing fourth at the marching band contest in Ada where The Pride beat 4-6A, 7-5A, and all of the 4A and 3A bands.



Voice of Democracy

Three EHS students won recognition for their speech writing and speaking abilities in the local level of the national *Voice of Democracy* contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Ladies Auxiliary. First place winner was awarded to Cleo Giraldo, second place winner was awarded to Christopher Olds, and third place winner was awarded to Mackinzie Dalton for writing and recording a 3-5 minute speech over this year's theme, "Why Veterans are Important to Our Nation's Past and Future."

Academic Team

The Academic Team Varsity and Junior Varsity traveled to the Blue Mountain State Academic Conference where both teams placed 3rd in the conference. The Academic Team-Varsity placed 1st in districts. Varsity team member Christopher Olds made Varsity All Conference Team for the Blue Mountain Academic Conference. Cleo Giraldo was the overall top scoring Junior varsity player from all teams in the JV Blue Mountain Academic Conference.

Eufaula FFA Chapter

The Eufaula Chapter is the 34th largest chapter of the state's 355 chapters, and is still growing.

Eufaula FFA Sporting Clays Team recently traveled to Arcadia, OK, to compete with the Best of the state's Best in the State n sporting clays shooting. The Eufaula FFA Sporting Clays Team was the Northeast District runner up team. This was the second year in a row Eufaula FFA has qualified a team for the state contest in this event.

The team members Mason Gawf, Ethan White, Mason Dobbs, and Hunter Gott competed in senior division of the state contest placing 5th overall in the contest. That means they are the number 5 team in the entire state! There are approximately 200 FFA Sporting clays teams in the state.



Member Heather Tankersley recently placed first in her division at the AFR District Speech Contest qualifying her for state competition. *Follow these outstanding students throughout the year on their facebook page* from the link on the high school website.





Yearbook

The Eufaula High School yearbook staff has been working hard on this year's yearbook. The staff attended a workshop hosted by Jostens Publishing at McAlester earlier this year. The workshop covered the latest trends in desktop publishing. Yearbooks are on sale for \$45.00.



Technology and the Future Classroom

Students of Eufaula High School worked on a team project with 3rd grade students from Mrs. Tamez and Mrs. White's classes. Students from Mrs. Akers' and Mrs Aday's 3rd hour computer classes introduced the elementary students to the Ipad app, Color Mix. The goal of the project was for the high school students to mentor the elementary students and to spark interest for careers in computers.

FCCLA

Five members of Family, Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) attended LEAD conference in Wilburton to learn methods of strengthening the organization. Those attending were Alexandria Jenichanings, Valeria Reynaga, Vikorija Arriaga, DeAsia Chiles, and Mariah Williams. The organization has conducted two bake sales this year and they are currently raffling an Ironhead Quilt that was made by the members. The drawing for the winner is scheduled for December 17.



Ironhead Football

Coach Larry Newton Jr.

The Eufaula Ironhead Football Team had a Great Season with 9 Wins and 3 Losses. The Ironheads finished the season 2nd in 3A District 8. The team made it to the second round of playoffs and finished the season ranked 12th in class 3A

Eufaula High School Basketball Schedule

- Dec. 04 at Stigler JV 4:00 - HS 6:30
- Dec. 09 at Haskell JV 4:00 - HS 6:30
- Dec. 11-13 Wilburton Tournament
- Dec. 16 Morris at Home - Homecoming - JV 4:00 - HS 6:30
- Dec. 19 at Kellyville No JV - HS 6:00
- Jan. 02 Checotah at Home JV 4:00 - HS 6:30
- Jan. 05-10 Henryetta Tournament
- Jan 15 Okmulgee at Home JV 4:00- HS 6:30
- Jan. 16 at Beggs JV 4:00 HS 6:30
- Jan. 22-24 Checotah Tournament
- Jan. 27 Kellyville at Home No JV HS 6:00
- Jan. 29 Stigler at Home JV 4:00 - HS 6:30
- Feb. 03 Beggs at Home JV 4:00 - HS 6:30
- Feb. 06 at Okmulgee JV 4:00 - HS 6:00
- Feb. 10 at Morris JV 4:00 - HS 6:30
- Feb. 13 Haskell at Home - Senior Night - JV 4:00 - HS 6:30
- Feb 17 at Checotah JV 4:00 - HS 6:30

MidleSchool Basketball Schedule

- Dec. 01 Stigler Girls Home Boys Away 4:30
- Dec. 15 Checotah Girls Home Boys Home 4:30
- Dec. 18 Haskell Girls Home Boys Home 4:30
- Jan. 12 Stigler Girls Away Boys Home 4:30
- Jan. 13 Vian Girls Home Boys Home 4:30
- Jan. 15 Henryetta Girls Home Boys Away 4:30
- Jan. 19 Wilburton Girls Away Boys Home 5:00
- Jan. 20 Hartshorne Girls Home Boys Home 4:30
- Jan. 26 McAlester Girls Away Boys Home 4:30
- Feb. 02 Checotah Girls Away Boys Away 4:30
- Feb. 05 McAlester Girls Home Boys Away 4:30
- Feb. 12-14 McAlester 9th Grade Tournament

Eufaula Public Schools

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District Newsletter

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