

PANTHER PRIDE

School Principal: Lynn Cragg

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

HONOR ROLL - 2nd Quarter / 1st Semester

EL & MS - 2nd Qtr.

"A" - Honor Roll

Lorie Cox
Mannon Moore
Katelynn Zampella

"B" - Honor Roll

Jimmy Anderson
Khatungi Bryant
Elbin Carrillo
Avery Carrington
Julia Cisneros
Priscilla Diaz
Garrett Kennedy
Scott Moore
Skyler Moore
Kolten Pennington
Tommy Phelps
Kaylee Ragon
Shannon Winter

HS - 1st Sem.

"A" - Honor Roll

Tai' Yauri Thomas
Richelle Zampella

"B" - Honor Roll

Brianna Brennan
Will Carney
Patelin Cogswell
Makayla Fetner
Sara Graber
Aaron Hopson
Jacob King
Logan McCoy
Tesla Nakedhead
Joseph "Joey" Owens
Jennifer Ratliff
Ariana Richardson
Christian Rosales
Regan Spaulding
Destiny Tanyan
Andrew Wagon

CONGRATULATIONS!

Oklahoma School for
the Blind

2015-2016, Issue 5

Editor: Maggie Mattox

January 27, 2016

Special points of interest:

- SCASB trip
- Braille Challenge
- Boy Scouts
- Girl Scouts
- OSB Open House

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**We need
headphones.**

The ones we keep in the class-
rooms are disappearing.

**Students need to bring earbuds or
headphones for classroom use.**



SCASB Trip to Talladega, Alabama

What is your favorite part of team travel? Is it the camaraderie? Is it the tenseness of competition? Or, is it all the friends you make? The students who traveled to Talladega, Alabama from January 20-24 will tell you it is all of the above. They will also tell you that the grueling 10-hour bus ride - each way - was more than worth it!

After arriving at our hotel at 2 am on Thursday morning, we enjoyed sleeping in and relaxing before going to the **Talladega International Speedway**.



From seeing the first vehicle to break the sound barrier to being able to touch the Monte Carlo that was featured in the movie Talladega Nights, the museum was a fascinating trip through the history of NASCAR racing. We followed an official pace car around the 2.6-mile track in our charter bus. Yes, you heard it correctly. One of the photos below was taken on the track at the start line. Thankfully our pace car didn't take us to the top of the 33-degree slope or our bus would have tipped over.



Finally, we meet students from Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, Georgia and Mississippi at supper. Alabama cheerleaders welcomed us to their cafeteria with cheers and smiles.

Friday was filled with practice and practice and more practice before the Performing Arts presentations. The rhythmic drum team from Louisiana was hypnotic, Texas' guitars were calming, and Mississippi gave us a unique take on Poe's Annabelle Lee. Our jazz band's Uptown Funk got everyone singing. You can catch a recording of their performance on our website.

Later Friday night, the cheerleaders went to a cheer clinic and refined their techniques while learning new cheers. They also learned the Elevator. You will have to ask Kaylee, Tai Tai and Malerie what that was like.

The big competition day was Saturday. Perhaps you watched the live stream. With their game faces, last minute advice from coaches and a large dose of determination, students took to the mats. The cheer squad of Jennifer Ratliff, Destiny Tanyan, Malerie Levens, Tai Yauri Thomas, Richelle Zampella and Kaylee Ragon took the mat to do their Compulsory cheer, 5-min routine and Dance. The ladies were nervous but did the best they could to show their hard work and determination to the judges. Jennifer Ratliff bravely took the mat to perform her individual routine that she created all by herself! **Our girls took 6th place and Jennifer was awarded 5th place for her efforts.**

Our wrestlers made Oklahoma Proud! They fought hard and their results provide the proof!

The **Oklahoma Wrestlers** with 111 points **placed 2nd overall** as a team.

The individual results are as follows:

106	Kinzie Peters	- 3rd Place
113	Conner Hilton	- 3rd Place
126	Preston Fenton	- 3rd Place
132	Will Carney	- 2nd Place
145	Cameron Hughes	- 2nd Place
170	Logan McCoy	- 2nd Place
195	Isaiah Hayes	- 2nd Place
285	Aaron Hopson	- 1st Place
		Champion

Turn Down for What and Wobble Baby got us movin' and grovin' as everyone from the six schools got to know each other at the Dance after competition.

Kaylee said SCASB is the best experience she's ever had because she would not get the opportunity for travel, competition, and meeting people like her from other states otherwise. Malerie stated that it was neat to get to meet people from other states that are similar to her. She had never experienced being around so many others who had visual impairments. Richelle found the whole weekend rewarding because it was the culmination of a year of practicing cheers with her team.

Faye Miller & Tera Webb



Updates from our Social Services Department



January Students & Staff "Caught Being Good"

- ◆ Avery Carrington - for encouraging another student to have a good attitude.
- ◆ Lorie Cox - for being a great encourager in P.E.
- ◆ Johnnie Davidson - for helping another student off the elevator.
- ◆ Nathan England - for helping another student around our school.
- ◆ Cameron Hughes- - for exhibiting excellent sportsmanship during the wrestling tournament.
- ◆ Miracle Jones - for helping a new student.
- ◆ Mannon Moore - for being an empathetic friend in P.E.
- ◆ Kolten Pennington - for picking up a notebook for another student.
- ◆ Shannon Winter - for being an excellent classroom helper & for helping a new student
- ◆ Mabel Corbin - for helping make a cheer uniform better.
- ◆ Tera Webb - for helping out an adult.

Social Services Department
Jane Thomas
Sylvia Sterling

February Character Builders

The Character Builder word for the month of February is

CITIZENSHIP.



Social Worker Jane Thomas, and counselors Cindy Allen and Sylvia Sterling will be visiting classrooms in grades 1 through 8, teaching students about the concepts of good citizenship.

Students will learn ways they can show good citizenship by being

helpful to others and following rules at school, by being considerate of the needs of their brothers and sisters at home, and by taking part in activities which improve their community, such as collecting food during food drives, or by picking up litter as part of a scout group, Sunday school class, etc.



Please encourage your child to develop good citizenship habits by talking to them about ways they can show good citizenship at home.

Thank You.

Jane Thomas,
Social Services Specialist

Braille Challenge - February 26 - 9:00 am to 2:30 pm

Twenty-five contestants have registered for this year's Braille Challenge.

Are you getting ready to celebrate braille with us?

Our celebration will start on Thursday night with dinner and a dance, and then it is to bed to get well rested for Friday's Challenge.

Contestants are divided into five groups. Beginning braille users take the Apprentice tests. The next level is Freshman. These students take spelling, reading comprehension and proofreading tests. Older students who have been reading braille for several years take Sophomore, Junior Varsity and Varsity tests. They

also take reading comprehension and proofreading tests, but they also take a speed and accuracy (transcribing) and a charts and graphs test.

Look for the results in our next newsletter!



Faye Miller

Boy Scouts

Feb 5th and 6th the Boy Scouts will be camping at Fred Darby at Welling, Oklahoma.



On **Friday, Feb. 5th** the scouts will go to Ft. Gibson to the Fort. The tour will be held by Omar and we will start at the old School for the Blind.

On **Saturday, Feb. 6th** they will go to the Merit Badge fair at Tahlequah Middle School from

8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Anyone wanting to attend is welcome to join – **Costs for adults: \$10.00.**

After the fair the scouts will return back to camp and Sunday after breakfast the scouts will return to OSB.

Sunday, Feb. 7th the boy scouts will be handing out bags for non-perishable items, e.g. cans, etc. for "scouting for food". Everything collected will be sent to the food pantry in Muskogee.

Boy scouts will also be selling camp cards and \$1

candy bars, to help them earn money to go to camp.

April 1st – 3rd webelos woods, webelos and boy scouts will stay at Honey Spring Battle Field.

Scouts will learn skills that were important to soldiers during the civil war and experience the history and culture of Honey Spring during the civil war era.

Registration costs for each scout: \$15.00.

Becky LaRue,
sponsor

Sapulpa Lions Annual Bean Dinner

The Sapulpa Lions, a great supporter of OSB, had their annual bean dinner fundraiser on January 14th.

Twenty-six OSB students and sponsors went to Sapulpa's First Baptist Church to help out.



They served several types of beans, coleslaw, cornbread and drinks to community supporters.

The Sapulpa community enjoys interacting with the students and has made quite an impression on them.



If you want to see a news piece about our day, you can visit **NewsOn6.com.**

Faye Miller



Girl Scouts



It is once again time to get those yummy Girl Scout cookies that you love!

Cookies will be available for purchase beginning Sunday, February 7th in the A2 Dorm Scout Room.

We have all your favorite flavors and once again we will have the Toffee-Tastic Gluten Free Cookie as well. **Cookies are \$4.00 a box.**

Be a part of the 5 for 5 Cookie Contest!

When you purchase 5 boxes of cookies from Troop 11224 you will be entered into a drawing to receive 5 cases of your favorite Girl Scout Cookies.

You can also participate in **Operation Cookie Drop** or **Virtual Gift of Caring** as a way to assist our Girl Scout Troop in giving to others.

Ask Barbara Collins for more information.

Troop 11224 is in need of the following recycled item donations in preparation for our Spring Camping Event.



Please make sure all items are clean and dry.

- ◆ Tuna cans or blueberry cans (from muffin mix) w/ lids,
- ◆ Medicine bottles w/lids,
- ◆ Baby formula containers w/ lids and scoops,
- ◆ plastic table clothes (any pattern),
- ◆ creamer bottles w/lids,
- ◆ Oatmeal containers w/lids,
- ◆ copier paper boxes w/lids,
- ◆ aluminum foil,
- ◆ used dryer sheets,
- ◆ corrugated cardboard,
- ◆ wax.

Please drop off items in the Girl Scout Donation box outside of A2. Thank you for your assistance.

Troop 11224 2016 Meeting Dates

February – 2/2, 2/16, 2/23

March – 3/1, 3/22, 3/29

April – 4/5, 4/19, 4/26

Troop Meetings held Tuesdays

5:30-7:00 pm at A2 Dorm Scout Room.

2016 Anticipated Trip Dates

Girl Scout Troop Olympics – 4/9/2016

Camp Wah-Shah-She Bartlesville, OK

Flyers will go out after approvals received.

Barbara Collins,
Sponsor



Rec. Center - X-Box Dance Contest

On January 6th, 2016 we had a **X-Box Dance Off contest** at the Rec. Center.



Amongst all the contestants, following students battled their way to the top:

1st Place Kaylee Ragon

2nd Place Lorie Cox

3rd Place Brianna Brennan

CONGRATULATIONS !!!

Nancy Brice



Library News

From the Heart Jewelry

We have Panther Paw, Power of Pink Awareness, and Sports items available as Earrings, Necklaces, Bracelets, and Key Rings.

Stop by, check it out.

Prices vary (\$7-\$9)

Thank you again for supporting the OSB Media Center Program.

*You're never too old,
too wacky, too wild,
To pick up a book
and read with a child.
You're never too busy,
too cool, or too hot,*

*To pick up a book
and share what you've got.*

*In school and in the dorm,
Let's gather around,
Let's pick up a book,
Let's pass it around.*

*There are kids all around you,
Kids who will need
Someone to hug,
Someone to read.*

*Come join us in March
Your own special way
And make this the best
Dr. Seuss Birthday.*

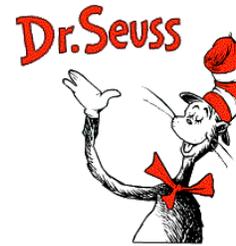
Dr. Seuss Dare to Care Literacy night event is coming soon to a Rec. Center near you!

Keep watching for updates.

Come and join us, we will be having lots of good fun that is funny!

Barbara D. Collins,
Media Specialist

Rachel Butler,
Reading Specialist



OSB - Open House and Tour - Feb. 18th



**The Oklahoma School for the
Blind (OSB)**

**Parent Teacher Organization
cordially invites you to attend
the**

Open House and Tour on:

Thursday, February 18, 2016

8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

3300 Gibson Street

Muskogee, Oklahoma 74403

918 781-8200

The Oklahoma School for the Blind is the statewide resource for the education of blind and visually impaired individuals in Oklahoma.

Our mission is to provide appropriate individualized academic, social and vocational education, evaluations, and outreach services to Oklahoma's blind and visually impaired children and youth.

Students, professionals, communities, and parents will work together to develop and maximize each child's potential for becoming a productive and supportive member of society.

Emphases will be on the Extended Core Curriculum that is essential in educating students who are blind or visually impaired. This includes Braille, Abacus, Orientation and Mobility, Independent Living Skills and Assistive Technology.

Demonstrations and Information will be available regarding specialized instructional materials that

are needed in educating blind and visually impaired students.

It is our hope that once you have taken a tour of the Oklahoma School for the Blind, you will have a greater knowledge of **what OSB has to offer all individuals who are blind or visually impaired.**

So come take a tour. We know you will be as impressed with our school as we are.

For additional information **please contact Linda Graber at (918) 781-8200 or via email at: lgrabr@osb.k12.ok.us.**

Open to the public.

RSVP requested
(but not required)

GOING THE EXTRA MILE - January 2016



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

- ◆ Thank you to **Maintenance** for making our lives in O&M easier. Your assistance with Cane Quest in December for tables, chairs and making our "block" helped us pull off a successful event. Making our new cane hooks has now organized our canes and made our lives less aggravating. And changing the light switches in our areas, so we can choose our own lighting level keeps us from fighting with each other. Thank you for making O&M a better place.

Faye Miller

- ◆ A HUGE THANK YOU to **Faye Miller** who did a really great job with most of the SCASB article. I just added a few things. Faye also deserves an award for her hard work this weekend, during the SCASB trip. She was amazing. So helpful !!!

Tera Webb

- ◆ I would like to thank **ALL our teachers and staff** that put in so many extra hours to allow our students to participate in numerous activities, e.g. Wrestling, Cheerleading, Jazz Band, Academic Team, FCCLA, DECA, Space Camp, Close Up, 4-H, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc. (just to name a few). Many of these activities involve evening or weekend events, traveling, and lots of practice and/or getting ready for each event.

Thank you to all the "behind the scenes" staff as well, e.g. **kitchen staff, nurses,**

drivers, etc. - None of these activities would be possible without you all.

Maggie Mattox

Thank you guys for going the extra mile.

It is highly appreciated.



Oklahoma School for the Blind

3300 Gibson Street
Muskogee, OK 74403

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

It takes more than sight to have vision!

Please check out
our website at:



OSB Employee / Staff Changes:

Retirement:

Renee Miller retired after **28 years** at OSB !



February Birthdays

Students

Justin Whitmire	Feb	7
Destiny Van Pelt	Feb	17

Staff

Barbara Taylor	Feb	2
William Grayson	Feb	9
Sarah Young	Feb	13
Rozann King	Feb	17
Susan Young Mock	Feb	18
Brian Culver	Feb	18
Donna Admire	Feb	21
Sherry Holder	Feb	21
Laci Goins	Feb	24



February

2016

Dorms Open
 NO School
 School In Session

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

Schedule of Events

Date Time Event

Tue., Feb. 2nd 7:30 - 4:00 FCCLA Star Event



Tue., Feb. 9th 5:30 - 8:00 Homecoming

Sun., Feb. 14th

BUS ROUTES RUN / DORMS OPEN

Mon., Feb. 15th

President's Day - SCHOOL IN SESSION !!!

10:00 Ruth Kelly at OSB for Senior "Cap & Gown" Pictures



Thur., Feb. 18th 8:30 - 11:30 Open House



Fri., Feb. 26th 9:00 - 2:30 Braille Challenge



Upcoming March Events:

Tue., Mar. 8th 6:00 - 8:00 Bunny Show @ OSB Gym

March 14 - 18 - SPRING BREAK / CAMPUS CLOSED -

Sun., Mar. 20th

BUS ROUTES RUN / DORMS OPEN

Mon., Mar. 21st

CLASSES RESUME

Mon., Mar. 28th

NO SCHOOL - BUS ROUTES RUN - DORMS OPEN

Tue., Mar. 29th

CLASSES RESUME

Fri., Apr. 1st

SCHOOL IN SESSION !!!

ALL Calendars are "subject to change". - Please visit our website <http://osb.k12.ok.us> for updates.

