



# TIGER TRACKS

THE OFFICIAL EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER OF BROKEN ARROW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

► VOLUME FIVE, ISSUE FOUR | OCT. 7, 2014

## From the Superintendent Lend Your Support

Can you believe it's already October? We are just half way through the first semester and already I'm amazed at the level of commitment our staff and students have to serving others. This week, we have two great events, both of which support those living within our own community.

This Thursday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m., the district-wide United Way campaign concludes with the first-ever "BA's Got Talent." This entertaining evening will take place at the Broken Arrow Performing Arts Center and will star more than 100 of the district's most talented employees. Tickets are only \$10, and all proceeds will help us reach our United Way goal of \$110,000. Some may not realize that a good portion of the funds raised by the Tulsa Area United Way stay right here in Broken Arrow, supporting programs like Margaret Hudson and Broken Arrow Neighbors. I hope you will all make an effort to attend to help us meet our campaign goal while witnessing the hidden talents of your colleagues.

On Oct. 10, I hope you will join me as we trade black and gold in favor of pink as we "Pink Out" Memorial Stadium when the Broken Arrow Tigers take on Norman. Our players, spirit squads and band members will also be wearing pink accessories to complement their uniforms. To show support for BAPS employees as well as raise awareness about cancer prevention and the need to find a cure, we will hold a pregame ceremony to recognize staff, friends and loved ones who have been affected by the disease. I hope you will join me in sporting pink this Friday as we support those around us.

Thanks to each of your continuing support of causes that impact our district and community. It's a great day to be a Tiger!



## Community forums set for proposed 2015 Bond Issue

For the past three and a half years, a group of more than 50 community stakeholders, known as the Long Range Planning Committee, has assisted Broken Arrow's growing district by reviewing district growth patterns, examining boundaries for school sites and assisting district administrators in making certain that bond projects address both current and future needs.

With the passing of the 2009 bond issue, Broken Arrow Public Schools worked diligently to make vast improvements to facilities by providing safer, more enriching learning environments. Since then, the Long Range Planning committee has reevaluated district needs in preparation for the next bond issue, which will be proposed in 2015.

"A bond issue in 2015 is an opportunity to continue the momentum of providing the best education possible for all Broken Arrow Public Schools students," said BAPS Superintendent Dr. Jarod Mendenhall. "Currently, Broken Arrow Public Schools is growing at an average rate of three percent, and a 2015 bond issue will allow the district to accommodate this growth through careful planning of additional classroom space and facilities."

During the last two weeks of October, Broken Arrow Public Schools is hosting five community forums that will allow community members to voice their input about the proposed bond projects. Members of Dr. Mendenhall's leadership team as well as the Long Range Planning committee will be in attendance to offer insight into the proposed bond projects. The forums will take place:

- Oct. 20, 6 p.m. – Oliver Middle School
- Oct. 21, 6 p.m. – Centennial Middle School
- Oct. 23, 6 p.m. – Childers Middle School
- Oct. 27, 6 p.m. – Oneta Ridge Middle School
- Oct. 28, 6 p.m. – Sequoyah Middle School

After the forums, the committee will consider suggestions brought to them at the forums before presenting a final list of proposed projects to the Board of Education on Nov. 10.

"I hope anyone who has an interest in learning more about the proposed projects will join us for one of five community forums," said Dr. Mendenhall. "The Long Range Planning Committee has done an excellent job and I'm eager to share their work with the rest of the community."



## TUITION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

For the first time, Broken Arrow Public Schools is providing tuition assistance to all active support employees for eligible tuition. The Support Education Reimbursement Program is limited to active employees for college credit approved classes, online courses or other Oklahoma certification programs. Pre-approval is required, and there are specific application due dates for each semester. The BAPS Tuition Reimbursement Committee will review the applications for eligibility. To remain eligible for reimbursement, employees must be in active status throughout the semester, pre-approval date and disbursement date. For additional information, please [click here](#). To apply, please [click here](#). Still have questions? Please contact Stacie Chase or Cathy Mitchem in the finance department at 918-259-5709.

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A TIGER!  
Broken Arrow Public Schools is an equal opportunity educational institution.





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## DATES TO REMEMBER

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**Thursday, October 9** – “BA’s Got Talent!” United Way fundraiser – 7 p.m. at BAPAC

**Friday, October 10**

- BAPS Foundation Golf Tournament – 10 a.m. at Forest Ridge

- “PINK OUT” - BA v. Norman varsity football – 7 p.m. at Tiger Field

**Sunday, October 12** – Smokey Joe’s Café – 7:30 p.m. at BAPAC, Spotlight Series

**Monday, October 13** – Board of Education meeting – 6 p.m. at ESC

**Tuesday, October 14**

- End of First Nine Weeks

- Parent-Teacher Conferences (All Grades) – beginning at 4 p.m.

**Wednesday, October 15** – No School, Parent-Teacher Conferences (All Grades) – beginning at 8 a.m.

**Thursday, October 16** – BA v. Westmoore – 7 p.m. at Westmoore

**Thursday, October 16** – 17 – Fall Break – No School

**Monday, October 20** – Community Forum for proposed 2015 bond issue – 6 p.m. at Oliver Middle School

**Tuesday, October 21** – Community Forum for proposed 2015 bond issue – 6 p.m. at Centennial Middle School

**Thursday, October 23** – Community Forum for proposed 2015 bond issue – 6 p.m. at Childers Middle School

**Monday, October 27** – Community Forum for proposed 2015 bond issue – 6 p.m. at Oneta Ridge Middle School

**Tuesday, October 28** – Community Forum for proposed 2015 bond issue – 6 p.m. at Sequoyah Middle School

**Friday, October 24** – BA v. Jenks – 7 p.m. at Tiger Field

**Wednesday, October 22** – Sequoyah Middle School Ribbon Cutting – 9:30 a.m.

**Thursday, October 30** – BA v. Edmond Santa Fe – 7 p.m. at Edmond Santa Fe

**Monday, November 10** – Board of Education meeting – 6 p.m. at ESC

**Tuesday, November 11** – Veteran’s Day

*\*The above list is not a comprehensive list of all district events but represents events that will impact a majority of our employees or campuses, or that are large in scale. For a comprehensive list of events, [click here](#) and apply the appropriate filters.*