

Broken Arrow Public Schools

POPULAR ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

2017-18

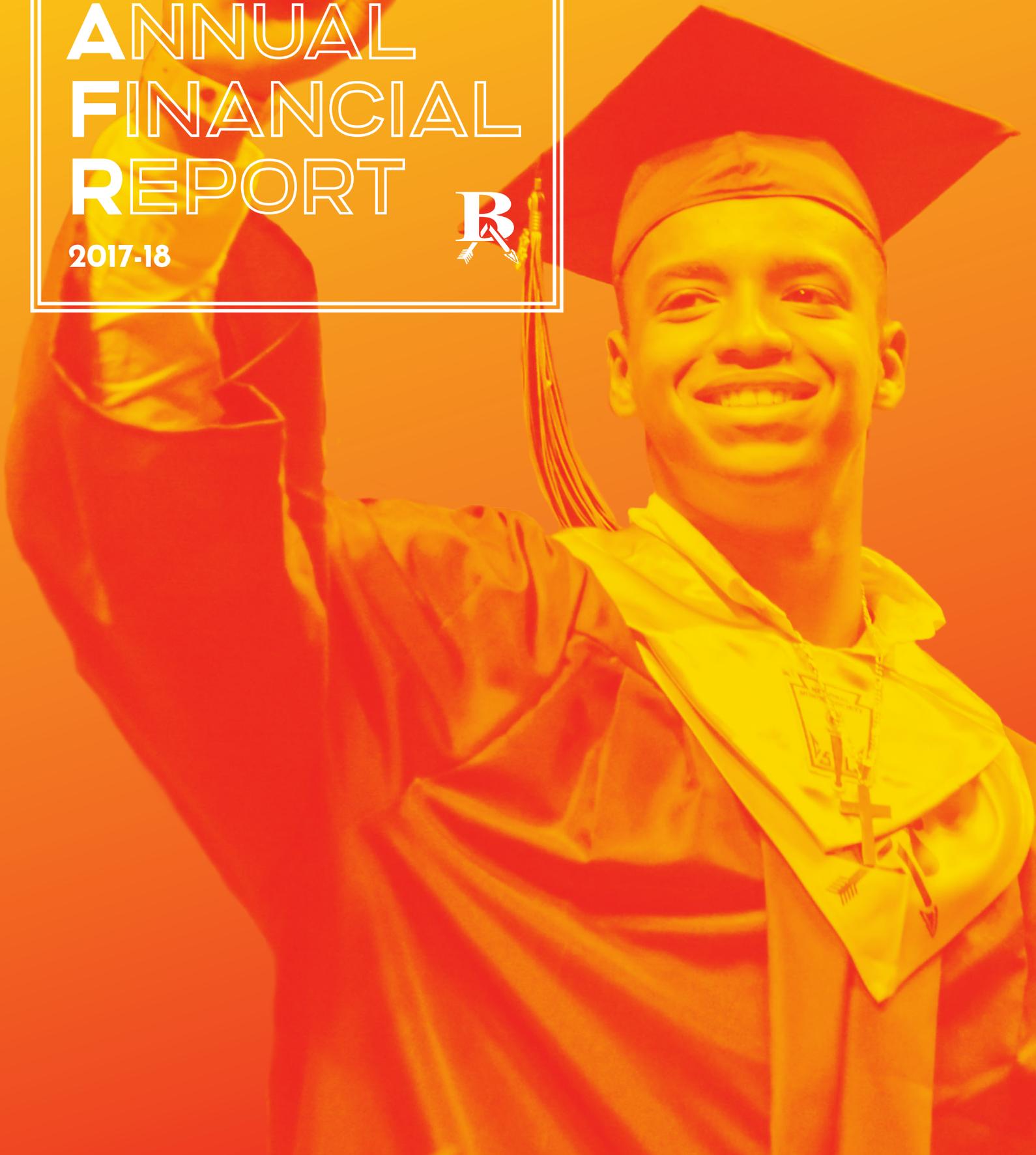




Table of Contents

ABCs of School Funding	5
District Financials	6
Net Assessed Value & Long-term Debt	7
Financial Activity Statement	8
Broken Arrow by the Numbers	10
2018 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year	13
Noteworthy Accomplishments in the Classroom & Beyond	14
Innovative Facilities Assist with Student Success	15
Engagement Remains a Top Priority	17
School District & City of Broken Arrow Partner Together	18
Students Strive to Serve Community	19
Community Members Continue to Support School District	21
BA Employees Contribute to Student Success	22



There will be no discrimination in the District because of race, color, sex, pregnancy, gender, gender expression or identity, national origin, religion, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, age, or genetic information in its programs, services, activities and employment. The district also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Broken Arrow Public Schools will take all necessary steps to ensure that each school and work place in the District is free from unlawful discrimination or harassment. The following people within the District have been designated to handle inquiries regarding the District's non-discrimination policies, issues and concerns:

- For all student issues related to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended (questions or complaints based on race, color, and national origin), the Associate Superintendent should be contacted at 918-259-5700 or at 701 South Main Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012;
- For all student issues related to Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act of 2004 (IDEA) (for questions or complaints based on disability), the Superintendent or her/his designee should be contacted at 918-259-5700 or at 701 South Main Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012;
- For all student issues related to Title IX, of the Education Amendments of 1972 (for questions or complaints based on sex, pregnancy, gender, gender expression or identity), the Athletic Director should be contacted at 918-259-4310 or at 1901 E. Albany, Broken Arrow, OK 74012;
- For issues related to accessibility to facilities, services and activities pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Chief Operating Officer should be contacted at 918-259-5700 or at 701 South Main Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012;
- For all non-student and/or employment related issues (including questions or complaints based on age), or for any individual who has experienced some other form of discrimination, including discrimination not listed above, Chief Administrative Officer should be contacted at 918-259-5700 or at 701 South Main Street, Broken Arrow, OK 74012;
- Inquiries concerning non-discrimination can also be made to, and outside assistance obtained from, the United States Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. The contact information for the Kansas City Enforcement Office is: Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, One Petticoat Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, Suite 320, Kansas City, MO 64106; Telephone: (816) 268-0550; TTY: (877) 521-2172; Facsimile: (816) 823-1404; Email: OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov.

Letter from the Superintendent



Another school year has come and gone, and it is safe to say that Broken Arrow Public Schools students and staff achieved a new level of excellence inside and outside of the classroom. It was a monumental year, and I am amazed at all we continue to accomplish together.

One of my favorite moments from the 2017-18 school year was the creation of the district's core values. These four statements were carefully designed to support our vision and help shape culture, both internally and externally.

1. We embrace the responsibility of our calling. Each of us is accountable to serve our students, our district and our community. We do it with honesty, integrity and transparency.
2. We are passionate about learning. We consistently seek new ways to lead and follow our students into the future.
3. We are a student-focused, relationship driven school district. We strive to engage our students and community through kindness, compassion and empathy.
4. We celebrate and find strength in our diversity. It takes people with different ideas, interests and backgrounds to drive our district forward.

With the creation of these statements, we are continually encouraging our students and staff to focus on and embrace these core values as they interact with each other and the community. We want to be known for those four core values when someone mentions "Broken Arrow Public Schools."

In this Popular Annual Financial Report, you will learn more about what makes this district so special and why it remains a school district of choice for parents, students and staff members. Each section of this report will focus on the core values with supporting achievements, accomplishments, financial information and statistics. I guarantee it will make you proud to be part of the Broken Arrow family.

Sincerely,

Janet Dunlop, Ph. D.
Superintendent
Broken Arrow Public Schools

Letter from the Chief Financial Officer



We are pleased to present Broken Arrow Public Schools' Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. This report makes our district's finances easier to understand and is intended to communicate our financial situation in an open and accountable manner.

This PAFR is unaudited and presented on a non-GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) basis, which primarily deals with full disclosure and segregated funds. The selected information is taken from financial statements and consists mainly of the district's General Fund. The General Fund is the general operating fund of the district. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The most significant items not reported in the General Fund include debt issuance, retirement, building and permanent improvements, and food service. The district has also published a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the year ending 2018. The CAFR is an audited report and is prepared on a Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) basis, which requires greater disclosure than the PAFR.

Ultimately, we would like to thank our citizens for their encouragement in creating a report designed to more adequately address their needs as taxpayers, as well as for the opportunity to serve them. Questions, comments and feedback regarding this report are encouraged, so please do not hesitate to contact the Chief Financial Officer's office at 918-259-5700 or at nseff@baschools.org. Copies of the PAFR and CAFR may be requested from the Chief Financial Officer.

Respectfully,

Natalie Eneff
Chief Financial Officer
Broken Arrow Public Schools



WE EMBRACE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF OUR CALLING.

Each of us is accountable to serve our students, our district and our community. We do it with honesty, integrity and transparency.



of School Funding

The district runs on a **\$113 million dollar budget** to serve more than **19,000 students** and **2,000 employees.**

For the 2017-18 school year, **per pupil funding was \$3,042.40.**

Broken Arrow Public Schools provides **easily accessible resources and information** through the “ABCs of School Funding.”

On average America spends more than \$650 billion a year on public elementary and secondary education in the United States, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Three levels of government—federal, state and local—contribute to education funding. States typically provide a little less than half of all elementary and secondary education funding. Local governments generally contribute about 44 percent of the total, and the federal government contributes about 13 percent of all direct expenditures.

The district, which serves more than 19,000 students and 2,000 employees, runs on a \$113 million dollar budget generated from property taxes and state funded revenue. This state aid is distributed through a complex formula that considers the number of students and factors like poverty levels, English Learners, and the need for transportation and special education services.

Every year, as funding from the state decreases, the average expenditure per student continues to decrease as well. For the 2017-18 school year, per pupil funding was \$3,042.40. This number is calculated on the district’s student count and is a primary source of revenue for general funds.





District Financials

Assets Over Liabilities

The Financial Position Statement, known in accounting terms as the balance sheet, reports the assets available to provide services. Liabilities are the amounts for which the district is obligated to pay in the future. The tables to the right represent the difference between the district's assets and the liabilities it must pay. This difference provides the "net worth" of the district.

Assets

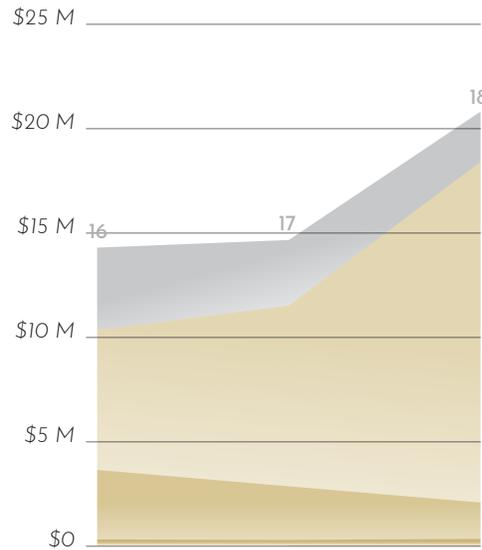
Cash is the amount of physical cash held by the district in checking accounts and on hand for purposes of paying expenses. Investments are made up of funds not needed to pay current expenses. The treasurer places these funds in a variety of investment options. This allows the district to earn interest on its cash. Receivables represent the amounts that were owed to the district on June 30, 2018. Inventories represent the supplies and materials at year-end and are reported as a non-spendable fund balance.

Liabilities & Deferred Inflows/Outflows

Liabilities are the amounts the district owed to employees, other government entities or vendors for items or services provided, for which payment is expected to be made within months.

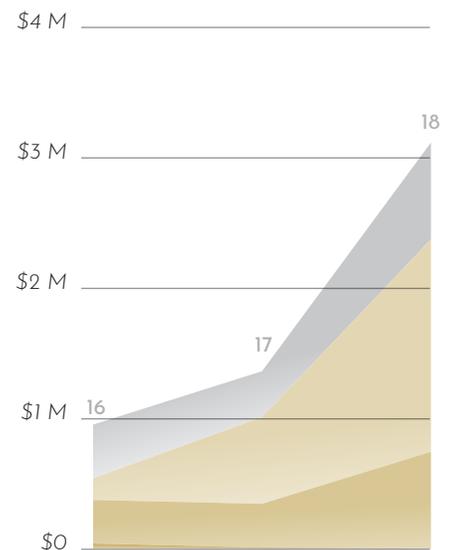
Deferred Inflows of Resources and Deferred Outflows of Resources are neither assets nor liabilities as they relate to the current fiscal year. Unlike current assets and liabilities, these classifications are amounts that are not recognized as a revenue or an expense until the future period to which the inflows are related.

District Assets



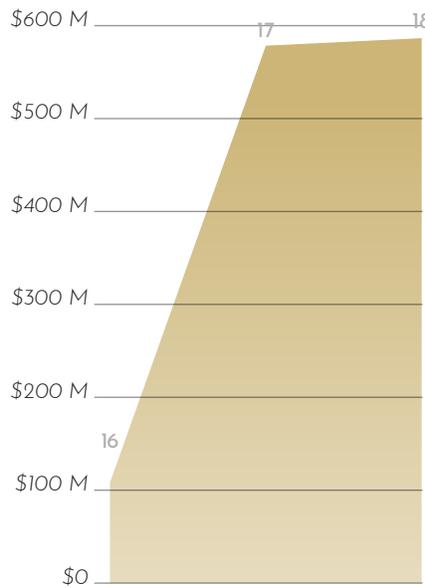
Asset Type	2016	2017	2018
Cash & Investments	\$10,326,041	\$11,498,308	\$18,366,423
Receivables	\$3,633,662	\$2,849,335	\$2,072,342
Inventories	\$306,257	\$284,852	\$337,135
Total Assets	\$14,265,960	\$14,632,495	\$20,775,900

District Liabilities



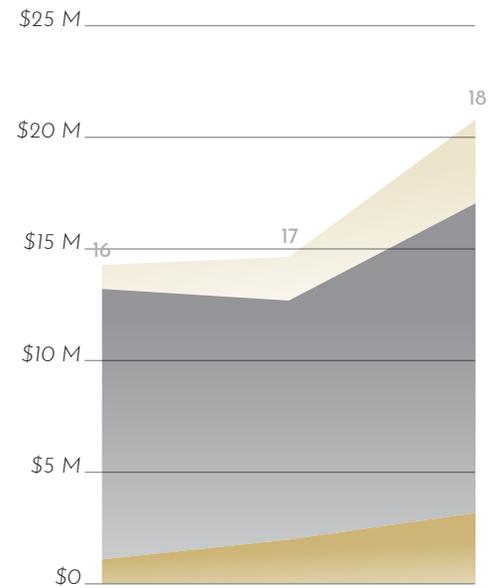
Liability Type	2016	2017	2018
Accounts Payable	\$546,467	\$1,022,163	\$2,403,543
Wages Payable	\$377,550	\$348,053	\$752,434
Other Liabilities	\$39,699	\$8,295	\$0
Total Liabilities	\$963,717	\$1,378,512	\$3,155,977

Deferred Inflows



Deferred	2016	2017	2018
Property Taxes	\$109,264	\$583,319	\$591,516

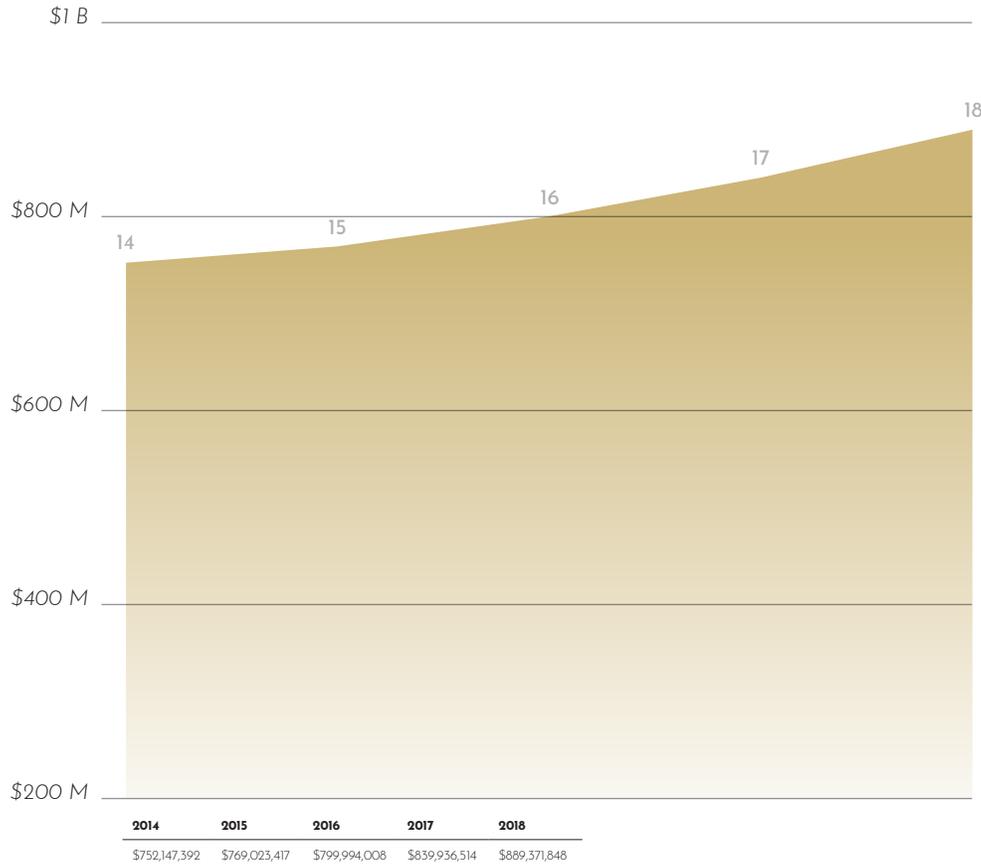
Assets Over Liabilities & Deferred Inflows



Totals	2016	2017	2018
Assets	14,265,960	14,632,495	20,775,900
Liabilities	1,072,980	1,961,831	3,155,977
Difference of Totals	13,192,980	12,670,664	17,028,406



Net Assessed Value

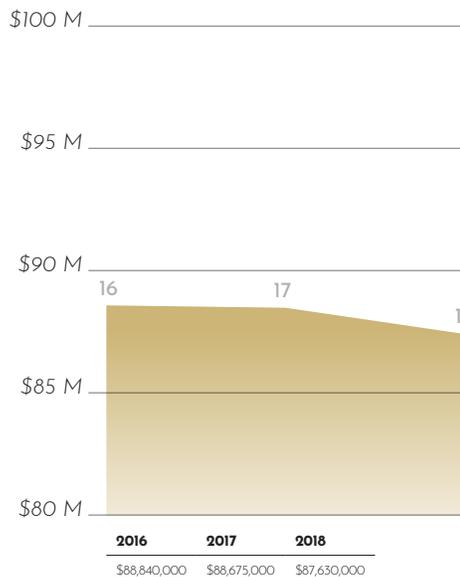


Net Assessed Value & Long-term Debt

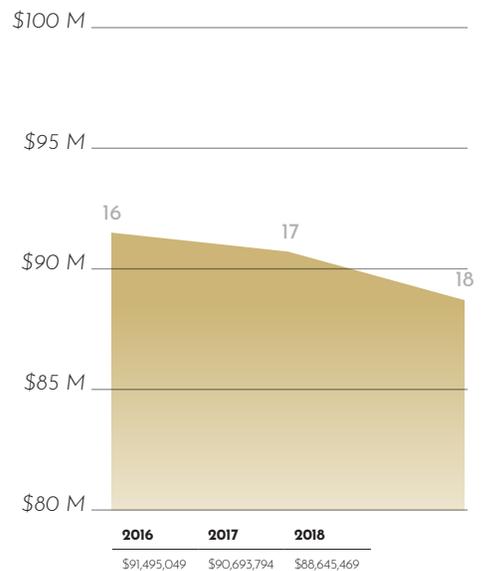
Broken Arrow's net assessed valuation has steadily increased over the past 10 years, averaging about a 3 percent growth. This growth mirrors the enrollment growth in the district as it continues to attract more families into the growing community.

Bonded debt outstanding as of June 30, 2018 was \$87.6 million, which was a decrease of **\$1.1 million.**

Bonded Debt



Long Term Debt



Financial Activity Statement

Known in accounting terms as the Governmental Funds Income Statement, the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances provides a summary of the resources and services. Other financing sources and uses are not included on this statement. The district's General Fund is presented in the following sections.

Definition of Expenditures

Instruction - This is the district's largest expenditure category, which relates to the direct instruction of Broken Arrow students.

Student Support Services - Activities assigned to assess and improve the well-being of students and to supplement the teaching process. These costs cover all guidance services, nursing staff, speech, hearing, occupational therapy, physical therapy and psychological services.

Instructional Staff Services - Costs in this category include new curriculum development and evaluation, teaching staff development, school library services, instruction related technology and student assessment.

Administrative Support - Costs in this category represent those of the administration and Board of Education's operation of the district. Also included in this category are the services provided by the human resources department, such as the recruitment and placement of teachers. In addition, it includes school building secretarial support and financial services, including payroll, accounts payable and receivable, auditing, budgeting and reporting, and fringe benefits administration.

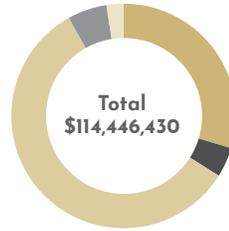
Operations & Maintenance - Costs in this category cover salaries and benefits for custodians and property management staff. This also includes costs for natural gas, electricity, water, grounds, telephone, computer network supplies/repairs, copier services and district security.

Student Transportation - Costs in this category cover salaries, benefits, supplies, fuel and equipment for the transportation department, including bus drivers and vehicle maintenance.

Community Services Operations - Costs covering salaries, benefits and supplies for programs not directly related to student education. These enrichment opportunities include the district's before and after care program, also known as B&A Connections, and community relations programs.

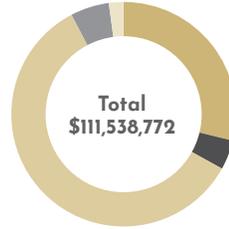
Other - Costs covering insurance premiums, claim payments and safety supplies.

Where the Money Comes From



2018 Revenues & Resources

Local Sources	\$33,943,384
Intermediate Sources	\$4,911,914
State Sources	\$66,345,307
Federal Sources	\$6,481,122
Other Sources	\$2,764,703



2017 Revenues & Resources

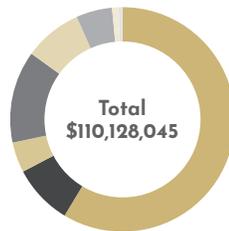
Local Sources	\$32,114,131
Intermediate Sources	\$4,761,319
State Sources	\$66,107,233
Federal Sources	\$6,200,370
Other Sources	\$2,355,719



2016 Revenues & Resources

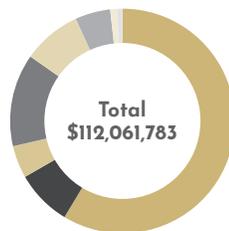
Local Sources	\$30,597,607
Intermediate Sources	\$4,573,947
State Sources	\$69,803,819
Federal Sources	\$5,926,438
Other Sources	\$2,004,248

Where the Money Goes



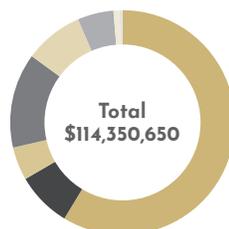
2018 Expenditures & Services

Instruction	\$64,564,562
Students	\$9,567,243
Instructional Staff	\$4,807,562
District Administration	\$14,629,867
Operations & Maintenance	\$9,182,117
Student Transportation	\$5,741,038
Community Service Operations	\$1,044,381
Other	\$591,275



2017 Expenditures & Services

Instruction	\$65,710,069
Students	\$9,055,380
Instructional Staff	\$5,223,949
District Administration	\$14,965,135
Operations & Maintenance	\$9,470,080
Student Transportation	\$5,688,493
Community Service Operations	\$1,103,343
Other	\$845,333



2016 Expenditures & Services

Instruction	\$67,076,184
Students	\$9,096,022
Instructional Staff	\$5,475,331
District Administration	\$15,629,675
Operations & Maintenance	\$9,650,282
Student Transportation	\$5,953,845
Community Service Operations	\$985,006
Other	\$484,304



General Fund



Revenues for the General Fund come from four sources: 30 percent from local sources, 4 percent from county sources, 60 percent from state sources and 6 percent from federal sources. School districts typically spend 85 percent of their budget on employee salaries and benefits.

Child Nutrition



The Child Nutrition Fund is a separate fund used to manage and distribute money for student meals and the employees who prepare it. This fund gets its money from the sale of meals as well as state and federal reimbursements.

Building Fund



Building funds may be used for building related expenses. You may notice that utilities is listed as an expense here as well as in the General Fund. Some expenses can be paid out of multiple funds. This fund receives its revenue from local sales and property taxes.

Activity Fund



The Activity Fund is not funded by taxpayer dollars. This fund is used for items like sporting events and social activities. This fund receives money from fundraisers, gate receipts and donations.

Bond Fund



Bond funds are raised by the sale of bond funds as approved by voters.

Trust Fund



This fund is used for student scholarships. If an entity or organization wants to fund a scholarship, this is the fund that holds the money until it can be given to a student.

Sinking Fund



This fund consists of funds derived by local taxes for the payment of bonds and legal judgments against the district.

Internal Service Fund



The district pays into this fund out of the General and Child Nutrition Funds. The money is used to pay for Workers Compensation claims when they arise.

Broken Arrow by the Numbers

HUMAN RESOURCES



1,293
Certified Staff



1,034
Support Staff

ENROLLMENT



2,777
students in Pre-K
and kindergarten



8,947
students in
grades 6-12



7,113
students in
grades 1-5

ACTIVITIES



200 students
attended the
Broken Arrow
High School
Leadership Retreat



280 students
enrolled in
a student
leadership class



2,000 students
from across
the state joined
together at
Broken Arrow
High School for
the State Student
Council Convention



14 Jungle Squad
members made it
their mission to get
the crowd excited
during events
and games

COMMUNICATIONS



17,301
Facebook
fans



1,303
Instagram
followers



5,623
Twitter
followers



3,925,739
visitors to the
district website



1,320,090
of pieces of
paper equaling
approximately **158**
trees saved due
to Peachjar, the
district's digital
flier system



2,644
YouTube
subscribers



226 new teachers
were hired
during the
2017-18
school year.

New teachers capture their first day as they are welcomed by the Pride of Broken Arrow and the BA cheer squad.

18,837 students enrolled during the
2017-18 school year *(as of May 2018)*



The Jungle Squad gets attendees fired up for homecoming.

Since last year, our social following is **up 18 percent** and our web traffic is **up 46 percent.**



Social media and video platforms help tell the district's story to parents, students, staff and patrons.

1,378 students in grades 7-12 were involved in athletics



An upperclassman helps train one of our younger football players.

564,700 books were borrowed from the district's libraries



Students enjoy reading a book on their first day of school.

2,761 patrons attended drama's spring musical "Mary Poppins" and broke attendance records



Students perform Mary Poppins to record breaking crowds.

ATHLETICS



25 - The basic Cox Cable Channel for ESPN as Broken Arrow hosted Union in a **nationally televised** season-opening football game



62 to 3 - the number of goals scored and allowed by the undefeated, Class 6A State Championship Lady Tiger soccer team.



\$5,300 raised during "Freezin' for a Reason" in support of BA Tiger Special Olympics



58.62 seconds is the new school record in the 100-yard butterfly set by junior Annie Kramer at the Class 6A State swim meet.



25 games won by the Tiger boys basketball team, **setting a new school record**

ACADEMICS



1,272 graduates in the Class of 2018



99 percent of third graders met reading criteria through state tests and were promoted to the fourth grade



A record high \$8,841,522 in scholarships were reported and accepted by seniors



\$48,688 in teacher grants reported to district



95 percent of juniors took the free SAT offered by the State Department of Education



7 National Merit Finalists were honored for their prestigious academic accomplishments

FINE ARTS



7,503 or 83 percent of students in grades 6-12 enrolled in at least one program



\$3,600 raised during Empty Bowls for BA Neighbors, a local organization providing basic needs & emergency assistance



3 state championships in One-Act Play, Pride of Broken Arrow and Indoor Percussion



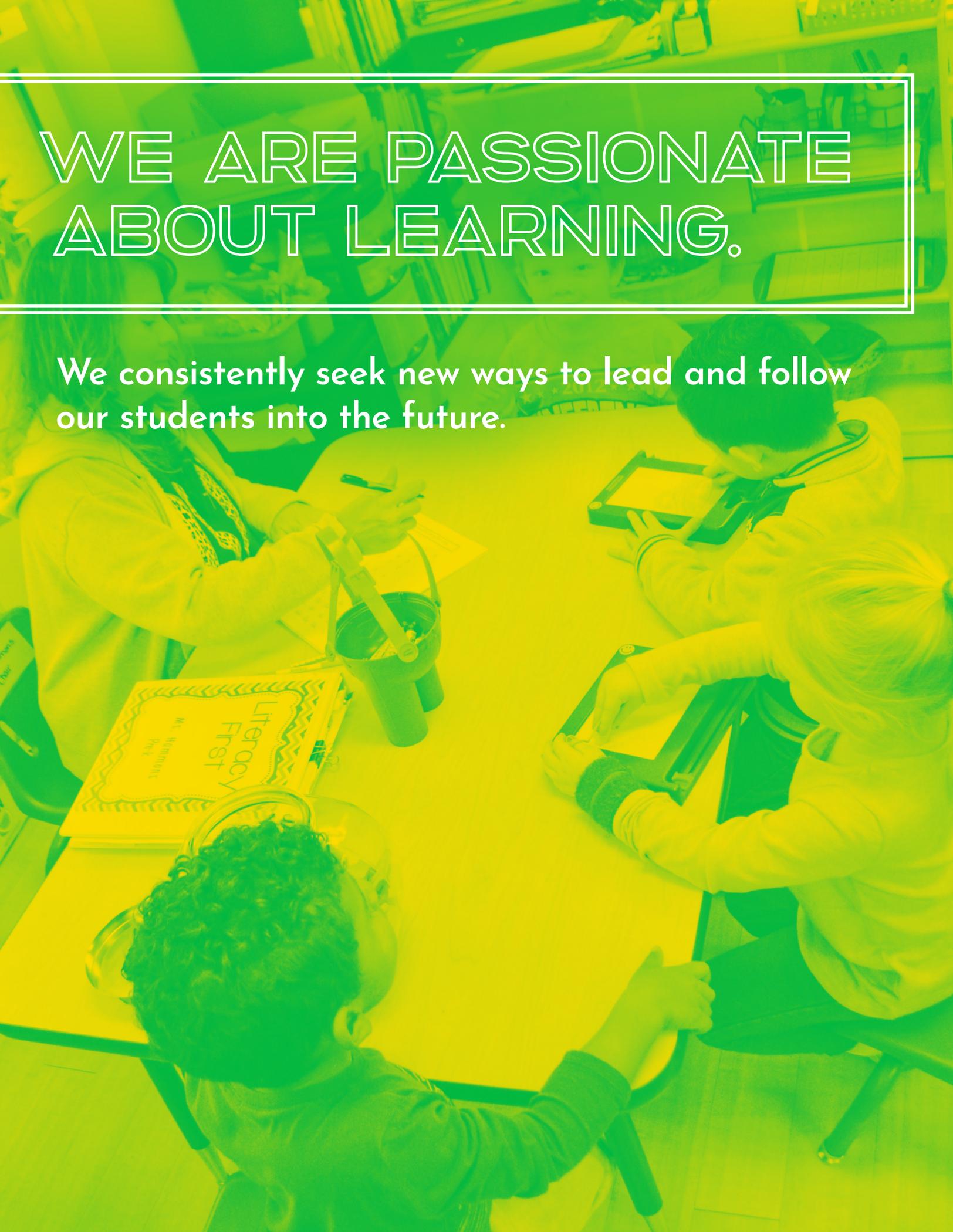
23 students made the Oklahoma Music Educators Association's All-State Chorus.



25th win for **Pride of Broken Arrow** in Oklahoma Bandmaster's Association state championship

WE ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT LEARNING.

We consistently seek new ways to lead and follow our students into the future.



Broken Arrow High School Teacher **Donna Gradel** Named 2018 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year

In the summer of 2016, a group of **Broken Arrow students traveled to Kenya** to train the residents at a local orphanage on how to produce their own tilapia fish food made from indigenous, all-natural ingredients of mealworm and algae.



Broken Arrow Public Schools teacher Donna Gradel was named Oklahoma’s 2018 Teacher of the Year by State Superintendent Joy Hofmeister at a ceremony in Oklahoma City. She is the third Broken Arrow teacher to be honored since 1955.

Gradel, a graduate of West Virginia University, has taught science at Broken Arrow High School for 21 years. She utilizes differentiated instruction to teach biology, environmental science and advanced placement courses. Through these classes she integrates real-world problems into yearlong assignments for her students. The most

recent project aimed at supplying clean water and food for orphans in Kenya.

In 2017, Gradel was named Broken Arrow’s Teacher of the Year for her innovative teaching style. Three months later, she was named as one of 12 finalists for Oklahoma Teacher of the Year by the Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE). Gradel was then named as Oklahoma’s top teacher by a panel of educators, members of the business community, legislators and nonprofit partners after an intensive evaluation and interview process.

The Oklahoma Teacher of the Year program is organized by OSDE in conjunction with the national competition.

“Donna understands the true potential of each of her students,” Hofmeister said. “She differentiates instruction to meet the needs of each individual, challenges them to solve real-world problems, then goes one step further by modeling opportunities to implement their innovations to make a difference in the

lives of people in Oklahoma and across the globe.”

Gradel remained in her classroom for the rest of the 2017-18 school year. Starting July 1, 2018, she began serving as the Oklahoma Ambassador of Teaching, representing Oklahoma in the national competition by sharing knowledge and resources with fellow educators around the state and encouraging education as a profession.

In addition, Gradel was recognized with the Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators from the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the White House Council on Environmental Quality. Gradel was one of six teachers from across the nation to be honored.

She was also one of three to be awarded with the Broken Arrow Chamber of Commerce’s Women’s Community Impact Award for making a significant impact in Broken Arrow and beyond.



State Superintendent Joy Hofmeister names Donna Gradel as State Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Gradel gave me direction and confidence in my abilities as a student, leader and servant in the world. She is truly a vanguard at Broken Arrow High school and in the world.

- Jacob Taylor
Broken Arrow High School Alumnus

Noteworthy accomplishments in the classroom and beyond

Solar Eclipse

On the third day of the 2017-18 school year, several school sites participated in the "Great American Eclipse" of 2017. During this phenomenon, many Broken Arrow students were provided with special glasses to view the solar eclipse. It was the first time a total solar eclipse passed from one coast to the other in 99 years.

Students of Leisure Park Elementary enjoy the spectacle of the 2017 Eclipse.



1:1 Computer Program Expands

It was the 50th anniversary for Sequoyah Middle School. The district started the year by unveiling a new renovation to the entire school and finished it by expanding its 1:1 computer program to eighth graders. Now, every student in grades 8-12 has a Chromebook to take home to help with assignments.

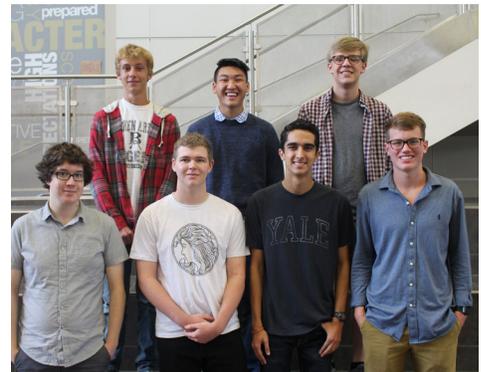


Students receive their Chromebooks as part of the district's 1:1 computer program.

National Merit Finalists

All seven of Broken Arrow High School's National Merit semifinalists were honored as finalists for their prestigious academic accomplishments. Mason Bishop, Hunter Janway, Edward Lambert, Jacob Mattke, Easton Moore, Darren Nguyen and Jake Wilcoxon were among approximately 15,000 students from across the nation who qualified and are some of the highest scoring students in the state of Oklahoma.

National Merit Finalists
Back row, left to right:
Hunter Janway,
Darren Nguyen, Jacob Mattke
Front row, left to right:
Edward Lambert, Jake Wilcoxon,
Mason Bishop, Easton Moore



State STUCO Convention and Virtual Day

Broken Arrow High School hosted the Oklahoma Student Council Convention in November. Nearly 1,800 students from 161 schools across Oklahoma came to the high school for three days, which included nationally renowned speakers, workshops and student mixer events. This also meant the high school held its first virtual school day, where students in grades 10-12 did assignments from home on their Chromebooks.

Dual Credit to College Degree

Research shows students who take college courses while still in high school are more likely to graduate high school and earn a college degree. For the first time ever, the Dual Credit to College Degree program offered a select group of Broken Arrow High School students the opportunity to simultaneously graduate high school with a diploma and earn an associate degree from Tulsa Community College. The program is a partnership between Broken Arrow Public Schools, Tulsa Community College and Northeastern State University.

Students are "triple-enrolled," allowing them access to writing labs, libraries, advising and other support services at TCC and NSU while also remaining part of their graduating class and eligible for student activities.

Broken Arrow students are identified to participate based on PSAT scores. From start to finish, the Dual Credit to College Degree program will cost significantly less to complete an associate degree compared to enrolling directly after high school.



In partnership with Tulsa Community College and Northeastern State University, Broken Arrow students can graduate from high school with an associate degree in liberal arts.



Timber Ridge became the district's 15th elementary school.



Sequoyah Middle School was renovated to better serve its students.



Students will greatly benefit from the new facilities at the high school.



The Broken Arrow girls soccer team shows excitement for the new soccer complex.

Innovative facilities assist with student success

Here We Grow Bond Issue 2015 Phase One Projects

In February 2015, Broken Arrow patrons passed the 2015 Broken Arrow Public Schools bond proposal, allowing the district to begin its next phase of transformation to meet the needs of a district that is growing at a rate of 3 percent per year.

The 2015 bond issue projects total \$370 million and will be completed over the course of 12 years. Phase one of the four-part project is complete and includes a new elementary school, Sequoyah Middle School expansions and renovations, Broken Arrow High School additions and renovations, Broken Arrow High School additions and Kirkland Field Activity Complex construction.

Timber Ridge

With more than half of our growth at the elementary school level, Timber Ridge became the district's 15th elementary school. The school is located in the northeast section of the district to alleviate overcrowding issues. Amenities include a media center, full-size gymnasium, music room, art room and science room as well as hardened areas of refuge for storm safety.

Sequoyah

At Sequoyah, the oldest parts of the building were updated and a larger cafeteria was added. The old cafeteria was converted into a new media center and additional classrooms were added. The project also included the addition of an elevator to the two-story section of the building along with other upgrades to meet ADA accessibility requirements. The new addition also provides a hardened area of refuge for storm safety.

Classroom additions to Broken Arrow High School

With more than 22,000 square feet added and 5,000 square feet renovated, construction of 11 state-of-the-art classrooms and a commons area was completed on Broken Arrow High School's campus.

Kirkland Field Activity Complex

The site formerly used as North Intermediate High School is being repurposed with special recognition given to its historical significance in the district. Plans included renovations to the current auditorium and gymnasium. Kirkland Field was repurposed as the Kirkland Soccer Complex, which features a full-size competition soccer field. Future plans include renovations to the current gymnasium.

A photograph of a teacher with glasses and a beard, wearing a blue hoodie, sitting on the floor and reading a book to a group of young students. The students are also sitting on the floor, looking at the book. The book is titled "DIARY OF A WORM" by Davison Cowan, with pictures by Harry Bliss. The cover of the book shows a worm and the date "MARCH 29". The background shows a classroom setting with a bulletin board and other students. The entire image has a blue tint and a white border.

WE ARE A STUDENT-FOCUSED, RELATIONSHIP DRIVEN SCHOOL DISTRICT.

We strive to engage our students and community through kindness, compassion and empathy.



Broken Arrow students enjoy cheering on the Tiger football team.

Engagement Remains a Top Priority

From fine arts opportunities to athletic events and from extracurricular activities to increased student involvement, Broken Arrow Public Schools takes its mantra of “100 percent literacy, engagement and graduation – every student, every day” to heart.

America’s Most Spirited High School

A video contest held by Varsity Brands honored one high school that demonstrated unparalleled school spirit and community pride. At Broken Arrow High School, school spirit means participating in student activities, wearing black and gold, cheering on athletic teams and groups, and coming together to form “The Jungle.” As part of the district’s mantra of “100 percent literacy, engagement and graduation,” high school students and staff have transformed and created a renewed energy that is being recognized across the nation. In addition to bragging rights, the school received a \$25,000 grand prize.

Read Across America

In support of its ongoing literacy efforts, Broken Arrow Public Schools joined with school districts from across the nation to celebrate Read Across America, a weeklong event focusing on promoting the importance of reading and remembering one of the most beloved children’s authors of all time, Dr. Seuss.

Sponsored nationally by the National Education Association and locally by the Broken Arrow Education Association, Read Across America engages students of all ages in a number of reading activities. In Broken Arrow, these activities include listening to volunteer guest readers, attending family literacy nights and more.

Special Olympics

Broken Arrow Public Schools boasts one of the largest school-driven Special Olympics programs in Oklahoma. Annually, Broken Arrow athletes compete in the Special Olympics of Oklahoma Summer Games, where competitions include bocce ball, softball skills and track-and-field events. These athletes have the opportunity to work with Broken Arrow coaches and peer partners throughout their training process. These exceptional individuals have a true passion highlighted by the enthusiasm and engagement in these extracurricular events.



Highland Park Librarian Janice Buchanan reads to her students.



A Broken Arrow Special Olympian places first in his event.



School district & City of Broken Arrow

partner on watershed conservation effort

Broken Arrow Public Schools and the City of Broken Arrow launched a unique collaborative effort to develop an outdoor environmental classroom and ecological training center along portions of the Upper Adams Creek watershed, located immediately adjacent to Broken Arrow High School.

“Having an outdoor amenity accessible to our students will provide the opportunities for hands-on engagement in critical STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) areas, particularly dealing with ecological systems, environmental sustainability and water quality,” said Donna Gradel, 2018 Oklahoma Teacher of the Year and science teacher at BAHS. “It will also furnish avenues for students to collaborate in solving real-world problems in their local community with expert mentors from the City of Broken Arrow and the other professionals.”

The program may eventually include rain gardens, cascade aerators, fountains, nature preserves, walking trails, specific types of ecological-friendly vegetation and other beneficial features to enhance the environment and ecological system within the corridor while improving the overall water quality of the stream.

“The three goals of the program are to provide and maintain adequate flood control and protection for our residents, improve water quality along the stream corridor and enhance the natural habitat in the area,” said Assistant City Manager for Operations Kenneth Schwab.

Initially, the program focused on the regional detention facility north of the high school, but will expand upstream to the regulatory wetland preserve located in the commercial area south of the high school near Hillside Drive and the Broken Arrow Expressway.

“A major benefit of the program will be to provide our students, the future leaders of our community, the opportunity to help plan what

ArrowVision captures a bird's-eye view of the floating wetland launched by BA students in partnership with the City of Broken Arrow.



we want our community to become – a more ecologically-conscience and environmentally sustainable community,” Superintendent Dr. Janet Dunlop said.

Students and City of Broken Arrow staff developed a plan for the land during the semester and began implementing that plan in the spring semester.

One of those plans was the creation of the floating wetland designed in the shape of the Broken Arrow School “BA” logo.

The floating wetland measures approximately 80 feet by 30 feet and is believed to be the largest in the state of Oklahoma. Several local businesses have generously donated materials. Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc. donated PVC pipe and fittings, the Metropolitan Environmental Trust’s recycling center in Broken Arrow provided 800 2-liter bottles to help provide buoyancy and GNC Concrete provided the concrete pipe used for anchorage. Additionally, plants were provided by Grogg’s Green Barn and split from other City of Broken Arrow watersheds.

Both groups will continue improving and maintaining the area in the following years.

“This is likely one of the largest collaborative projects between a community and a high school in the country,” Dunlop said. “We are so proud of our students for their dedication and incredibly grateful to our city leaders for their constant support.”

“It will also furnish avenues for students to collaborate in solving real-world problems in their local community with expert mentors from the City of Broken Arrow and the other professionals.

- Donna Gradel
Oklahoma Teacher of the Year



Students strive to **serve their community**

Districtwide Food Drive

To help reduce hunger in Broken Arrow, Broken Arrow Public Schools once again partnered with Move For Hunger and Accent Moving and Storage for the sixth annual districtwide food drive. For five days in March, students and staff from 27 school sites donated non-perishable food items in support of Broken Arrow Neighbors, a nonprofit providing basic needs and emergency assistance to Broken Arrow families.

The effort resulted in 6,835 pounds of food. Nationwide, this event is one of the largest school-related drives for Move For Hunger, and the district's assistance throughout the school year makes it the top contributor of food donations to Broken Arrow Neighbors.

According to a report by Feeding America, 17.2 percent of people in Oklahoma suffer from food insecurity. In Tulsa County alone, more than 102,000 individuals struggle with hunger and nearly 37,000 of those are children. The summer months can be especially difficult for many.

"When the academic year ends, many parents are faced with the challenge of providing daily meals that their children normally receive at school, and you can imagine this level of fiscal responsibility can upset even the most well-balanced budgets," said Kim Goddard, executive director of Broken Arrow Neighbors. "I am always amazed at the depth of the partnership we share with Broken Arrow Public Schools. It truly reflects and supports our mission statement of 'providing basic needs assistance with dignity and compassion to neighbors in need through a cooperative community effort.'"

Empty Bowls Project

Each year, more than 1,000 students and staff members from across the district strive to raise awareness about hunger and provide substantial support to local hunger relief organizations with the annual Empty Bowls project at Broken Arrow High School.

During its six year history, the project grew into a districtwide project involving participation from a number of school sites. More than 600 bowls were created by students in their art classes to give attendees as a gift of gratitude and as a reminder of the empty bowls in the world. The evening also included entertainment by creative writing students and dance students.

The event raised \$3,600 for Broken Arrow Neighbors.



Students show off the food that was collected as part of the districtwide food drive.

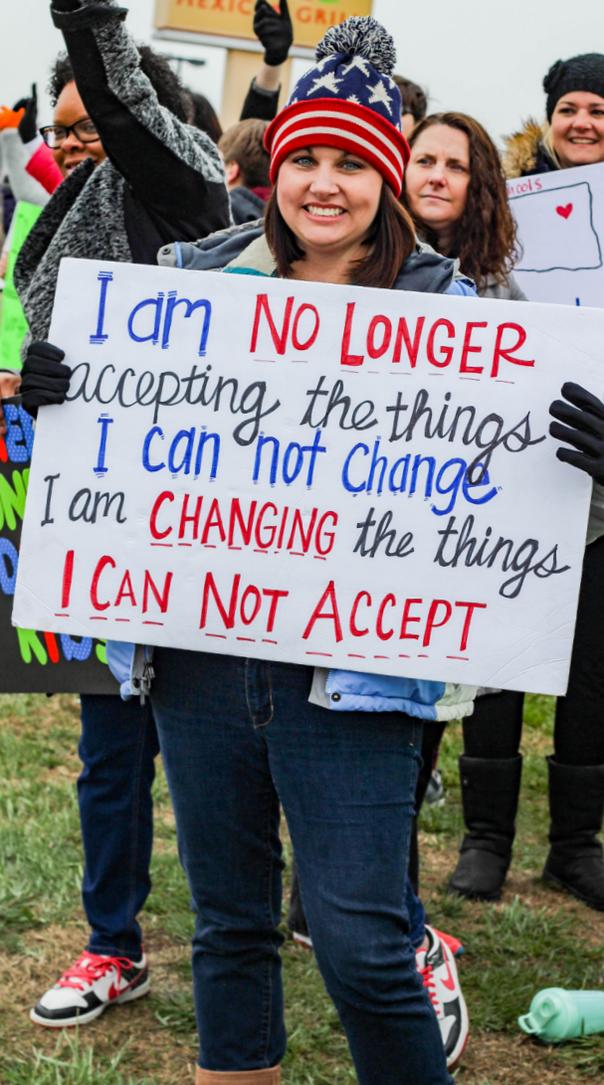


Two students work on bowls to give as gifts to fundraiser attendees.

A large group of diverse young people, including students of various ethnicities and ages, are shown in a celebratory mood. They are sitting on bleachers or standing, with many raising their hands and cheering. The scene is filled with confetti, suggesting a school event like a pep assembly or a sports victory. The overall atmosphere is one of joy and unity. The image has a purple tint.

WE CELEBRATE & FIND STRENGTH IN OUR DIVERSITY.

It takes people with different ideas,
interests and backgrounds to drive our
district forward.



During the teacher walkout, many teachers lined the streets of Broken Arrow in support of Oklahoma's students.

Following the walkout, Broken Arrow Public Schools received **\$11 million in additional state aid** as well as **\$892,000 in operational dollars**.

Community members continue to partner with school district

Broken Arrow Public Schools values its relationship with the City of Broken Arrow, the Chamber of Commerce, local businesses and the volunteers who selflessly give their time to students and staff. Each of these entities positively impact the district's mission of educating, equipping and empowering a community of learners.

Oklahoma Teacher Walkout

Since 2008, general state funds for public education in Oklahoma have been cut by 28.2 percent, according to Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. The state also pays its teachers less than any other state. To advocate for additional funding, the Oklahoma Education Association and various teacher leader groups encouraged a teacher walkout during an important legislative session.

Oklahoma saw nearly 200 of its 500+ public school districts close due to a teacher walkout. Broken Arrow Public Schools shut its doors for nine days. During this time, a large number of local community partners united together to graciously provide services for teachers, students, parents and their families. From supplying meals to providing childcare, the community stepped up to the plate in support of Oklahoma teachers.

Following the walkout, Broken Arrow Public Schools received \$11 million in additional state aid funds to cover teacher and support staff pay raises. The district also received \$892,000 in operational dollars for textbooks and curriculum.

Broken Arrow Public Schools Foundation

The Broken Arrow Public Schools Foundation has been dedicated to the teachers and students of Broken Arrow by positively impacting education since 1992. From providing more than \$600,000 in teacher grants to hosting events like a gala and auction, the Foundation connects the community with the educational process and is dependent upon the financial endorsement of Broken Arrow school supporters, both individuals and corporations.

The Foundation operates by a board of directors who are elected annually. The Board of Directors consists of patrons, representatives from a variety of businesses and members of the Broken Arrow PTA.

PTA State Council of the Year

Throughout much of the district's history, the Broken Arrow Parent Teacher Association (BAPTA) Council has played an active role in improving public education for Broken Arrow students. Recently, this group's hard work paid off as they were once again recognized with the Council of the Year award at the 96th annual Oklahoma PTA convention in Midwest City, Okla. In addition, Broken Arrow's Creekwood Elementary PTA was named State Unit of the Year.

Within the past year, this group of volunteers gave hundreds of hours to serve our students, participated in the Oklahoma teacher walk out to support educators, hosted a candidate forum to increase voter awareness and more.



Highland Park Elementary first grade teachers excitedly point to their grant recipient stickers.



Highland Park PTA members and Associate Superintendent of Instructional Services Karla Dyess pose with the award for highest membership percentage.

BA employees contribute to student success

The Curbside Café serves families while parked at one of its many summer locations.

Broken Arrow Public Schools employees recognize the crucial role they play in keeping students invested in learning every day. From the district's bus drivers to its teachers in the classroom, we have a team of passionate and committed professionals who believe that every Broken Arrow student will graduate and be prepared for success after high school.

Child nutrition employees create unique niche for district

In an effort to provide healthy and eclectic meal options to students and families in an innovative way, Broken Arrow Public Schools' child nutrition employees introduced a food truck, known as BA's Curbside Café, to provide a lunch option for Broken Arrow High School students and another avenue for the district's Summer Feeding Program.

"With the hopes of setting a trend for Oklahoma school districts, the plan for this food truck was years in the making as our staff looked for ways to provide more lunch choices to our high school students and to meet the needs of our community during the summer months," said Luanne Goodacre, director of child nutrition.

Since 2015, the food truck has remained a crowd favorite for students in grades 10-12 and has served helped serve thousands of meals to families in the summer.

All meals meet USDA guidelines and are prepared with a number of locally-sourced ingredients. The truck is funded through federal funds.

"The food truck craze is here to stay, and it is amazing that our child nutrition staff thought of a way to engage our students at the high school campus and the Broken Arrow community during the summer months," said Superintendent Dr. Janet Dunlop.



“...the plan for this food truck was years in the making as our staff looked for ways to provide more lunch choices to our high school students and to meet the needs of our community during the summer months.

- Luanne Goodacre
Director of Child Nutrition

An upperclassman helps a younger student with her first lunch in the cafeteria.





As teachers, sometimes we forget students don't really care how much we know until they know how much we care.

- Shelly Swisher
Broken Arrow Teacher of the Year



Teacher of the Year Shelly Swisher poses with one of her students at graduation.

Shelly Swisher: 2018 District Teacher of the Year

Before she became the 2018 District Teacher of the Year for Broken Arrow Public Schools, Shelly Swisher grew up in a poor, uneducated family. None of her grandparents had above an eighth grade education. Her parents worked more hours in a week than she could count, scraping pennies to keep the electricity on.

"I watched how hard my parents worked for so little," Swisher said. "I made a promise to myself that I was going to get an education and live a financially better life. I wasn't afraid of hard work because my family had taught me what hard work looked like."

In 1991, Swisher received her Bachelor of Arts in Education from Northeastern State University. Since then, she has spent 26 years changing the lives of Broken Arrow High School students, making certain they have the same educational opportunities regardless of their background.

It's in her English classes where she lives by her three R's of education - rigor, relevance and relationships. She continually challenges students to think critically and analytically, properly preparing and encouraging them for the next level.

"On the first day of school, I always promise my students that if they give me a chance, they will quickly realize I not only care about their academic success, but more importantly, I care deeply about them personally. As teachers, sometimes we forget students don't really care how much we know until they know how much we care."

As the 2018 Teacher of the Year, she received a monetary gift from the Broken Arrow Public Schools Foundation and the opportunity to drive the Teacher of the Year SUV, a Ford Escape generously provided by Matthews Ford in Broken Arrow.

Terry Austin: Support Employee of the Year

Known as the Beyond and Above Award, Broken Arrow's support staff recognition program honors five employees who consistently demonstrate excellence, going that extra mile for the district's goals and objectives. Nominations were made by teachers, administrators, supervisors and coworkers. For the 2017-18 school year, Leisure Park custodian Terry Austin was named Support Employee of the Year.

"Terry 'Awesome' is the hardest working person I know. Not only does she pour her heart into the kids here (who all lovingly call her grandma) but she cares deeply about doing her job to keep the teachers happy," said coworker Taylor Sawyer. "She would do anything for anyone, and our school is beyond blessed to have her."



Support Employee of the Year Terry Austin serves the students and teachers of Leisure Park Elementary.

Broken Arrow Public Schools

SCHOOL SITE DIRECTORY

Broken Arrow High School

1901 E. Albany
918-259-4700

Freshman Academy

301 W. New Orleans
918-259-4330

Options Academy

412 S. 9th St.
918-259-4600

Centennial Middle School

225 E. Omaha
918-259-4340

Childers Middle School

301 E. Tucson
918-259-4350

Oliver Middle School

3100 W. New Orleans
918-259-4590

Oneta Ridge Middle School

6800 E. Quincy Pl.
918-259-4360

Sequoyah Middle School

2701 S. Elm Pl.
918-259-4370

Arrowhead Elementary

915 W. Norman
918-259-4390

Aspen Creek Elementary

2800 W. Florence
918-259-4410

Country Lane Primary

301 E. Omaha
918-259-4400

Country Lane Intermediate

251 E. Omaha
918-449-5600

Creekwood Elementary

1301 E. Albany St.
918-259-4500

Highland Park Elementary

7200 E. Quincy Pl.
918-505-5930

Leisure Park Elementary

4300 S. Juniper Pl.
918-259-4420

Liberty Elementary

4300 S. 209th East Avenue
918-259-4470

Lynn Wood Elementary

1600 W. Quincy Ave.
918-259-4430

Oak Crest Elementary

405 E. Richmond
918-259-4450

Rhoades Elementary

320 E. Midway
918-259-4440

Spring Creek Elementary

6801 S. Third St.
918-259-4480

Timber Ridge Elementary

3500 E. Kenosha St.
918-505-5260

Vandever Elementary

2200 S. Lions Ave.
918-259-4490

Wolf Creek Elementary

3000 W. New Orleans
918-259-4510

**Arrow Springs Early
Childhood Center**

101 W. Twin Oaks St.
918-259-4380

**Aspen Creek Early
Childhood Center**

2700 W. Florence
918-505-5290

**Creekwood Early
Childhood Center**

1351 E. Albany St.
918-505-5280

**Park Lane Early
Childhood Center**

7700 S. Shelby Lane
918-806-8665

