

## FROM THE SUPT'S DESK

# HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



New playground structure at Grand Elementary

### New Playgrounds!

Students have been eagerly awaiting a chance to play on the new playground structures that have been constructed this school year. At Grand Elementary we removed the old large structure and replaced it with a reimagined playground for our students. Additionally, we moved the playground set from the east to the west side of the courtyard to make room for the new library that is coming.

Over at Bill Wallace Early Childhood Center, a new Pre-K playground has been constructed on the south side of the cafeteria. This playground is covered by a canopy to help mitigate exposure to the sun for our little ones. A fence will be constructed to separate the playground area from the large field.

Lincoln School Intermediate Center has also received a new playground structure with a focus on health and fitness. All new playground areas have been turfed to help extend the use of the new equipment and enjoyment by our students.



New Pre-K playground at Bill Wallace Early Childhood Center.



Homecoming Court 2024 – Audrey Martin, Mackie Sink, Emerly Israel, Tyler O’Neal, Emma Burton, Carson Bowen, Izzy Butler, Lane Johnson, Taylor Caveness, Tyren Alexander, Brooklyn Richardson, Justin Cordova, Kyntli Willard, Eli Walker, Olivia Wilson, Lane Jay, Zoe Van Ess, and Sean Hall.

## We are *CPS*!

### NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Our theme for the 2024-2025 school year is “We are *CPS*!” Chickasha Public Schools works to offer an educational setting that is safe, secure, and focused on learning for all students at all grade levels. Our teachers and staff members work hard to prepare lessons and opportunities for each student to engage in the Oklahoma Academic Standards (state approved curriculum). We are PROUD to be the school district serving the students and parents of our great community.

A few years ago, we conducted a community wide survey for the purpose of “refreshing” our mascot. Over 4,000 votes were cast for our mascot design that you see today at all schools, district buildings, on the sidelines, and more. From that work we found out that we are the only *FIGHTIN’ CHICKS* in all of the United States of America and quite possibly well beyond.

This school year we want to celebrate all of the good things that happen daily and throughout the year in our schools and community. Part of the highlights from each school year is homecoming. Pictured above is a view of the Homecoming Court from our Fall Homecoming 2024. Congratulations for Tyren Alexander and Taylor Caveness as being selected at King and Queen of the Homecoming Court.

I would like to invite you to join in with us as we celebrate all the good things going on. Come out and support our FFA students as they compete and represent, attend PTO meetings, join a booster club, or volunteer at a school. There are plenty of opportunities to support and join in on what it means to be a *FIGHTIN’ CHICK*.

Rick Croslin

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**THANKSGIVING LUNCHEON**  
November 14, 2024  
BWECC, GRAND, & LINCOLN

**THANKSGIVING BREAK**  
November 25 – 29, 2024  
Classes will resume on December 2, 2024

**WINTER BREAK**  
December 23, 2024 – January 6, 2025  
Classes resume on January 7, 2025



ATTENDANCE MATTERS...ALL THE TIME!

EVERY CLASS, EVERYDAY, EVERY HOUR

Being present in school everyday for every class is critical to their success both in and out of school. Student attendance is strongly correlated to academic achievement, graduation, and postsecondary success (OSDE). No matter your child’s grade or age, their attendance at school is vitally important to their growth, development, and education.

We do understand that there will be times when a student might need to stay home from school due to extenuating circumstances (illness, doctor/dentist appointment, funeral, family emergency, or recognized religious holiday). Parents or guardians contact your child’s school attendance office on the day of the absence be necessary.

It is important to make school attendance a priority. Here are a few suggestions for helping out at home with school attendance...

- Make it the expectation to be at school each day.
- Help your child with daily routines at home that support success at school.
- Try to avoid making appointments that pull your child out of school during the day.
- Don’t let your child stay home unless they are truly sick. Complaints of headaches or stomachaches may be signs of anxiety. (OSDE website)



New Lincoln School Intermediate Center Playground. Part of the Safety & Security Bond from August 2022.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

December 2nd – 13th

Donated items will go to support the food pantries in the school district & the Salvation Army.

Suggested items to donate include: Instant ramen, instant mac & cheese, granola bars, cereal, canned vegetables, peanut butter, instant oatmeal, breakfast bars, canned meat, crackers, beans, tortillas, rice, canned soup, and more.

LIFE’S HOPE IS COMING TO CPS

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!

CPS is excited to welcome Life’s Hope to our District over the next several weeks in November & December. Operating out of Duncan, OK, Life’s Hope is a humanitarian relief organization that cares for human needs locally and around the world. As part of their work, they work to get overstock items from Amazon delivered to schools for students. Students are able to select an item for themselves and then an item for someone else.

To make this special opportunity happen we need your help! Each site needs at least 30 volunteers to help unload trucks, open boxes, and set out items for students. Trucks will arrive to sites by 6:00am on delivery days in which the fun will begin. Here is the schedule: November 6th – Bill Wallace (2 trucks) November 13th – Grand Elementary (2 trucks) November 20th – CMS (1 truck) December 3rd - Lincoln School (1 truck) December 11th – CHS (3 trucks) Call your child’s school to sign-up as a volunteer to help. To find out more about Life’s Hope look them up on Facebook.

Hall of Honor

NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED UNTIL NOVEMBER 22, 2024

- The criteria to nominate someone for the Hall of Honor is...
1. Be a graduate, former employee, volunteer, board member, or community supporter of the district. Graduates should be at least 10 years removed from graduation and employees should be removed at least one year since leaving CPS.
  2. The person must have contributed to the welfare of humanity to an unusual degree, brought unusually positive attention to CPS, or who modeled the highest personal and professional qualities for students.

Nominations should be submitted to the CPS Superintendent's Office either by email to Rochelle Bowens at [rbowens@chickasha.k12.ok.us](mailto:rbowens@chickasha.k12.ok.us) or by mailing them to... CPS Administration Attn. CPS Hall of Honor 900 W. Choctaw Avenue Chickasha, OK. 73018. Questions can be directed to the Superintendent's Office at 405-222-6500. Inductees will be selected in January 2025 and celebrated at the CPS Foundation GALA in April 2025.

