



Bartlesville Public School District's **THE BRUIN** Weekly Email Newsletter



Volume 5, Number 4...Friday, August 27, 2010...www.bps-ok.org

BHS recognized after it receives \$65,000 OETT grant

Bartlesville High School was recognized last week during a regular meeting of the Bartlesville Board of Education after it was awarded a \$65,000 grant by the Oklahoma Educational Technology Trust.

The grant will include approximately \$40,000 worth of hardware and software, and around \$25,000 in staff development.

Among the hardware and software items which BHS is expected to receive courtesy of the grant are three Bretford PowerSync carts for iPod, three MacBooks, 105 iPod touches (8GB), six Interwrite Mobi systems, seven Flip UltraHD video cameras and three flip video camera tri-pods.

Established in 2001, the stated mission of the OETT is to "equip Oklahoma common school and CareerTech students with the technology and technological skills necessary to compete in the global marketplace." Schools are able to apply for grants through the trust, which was boosted by a donation of \$30 million in initial funding by AT&T Oklahoma (then South-

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Katelyn Brewer is congratulated after accepting her diploma from Bartlesville Public School District superintendent Dr. Gary W. Quinn during the Bartlesville Adult Learning Center's 2010 GED Graduation Ceremony on Sunday in the Fine Arts Center auditorium.

GED graduates earn time in spotlight

Twenty-two members of the Bartlesville Adult Learning Center's latest class collected their diplomas on Sunday during the 2010 GED Graduation Ceremony, which was held in

the Fine Arts Center auditorium on the Bartlesville High School campus.

Plenty of friends and family members attended the ceremony,

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Scan system helps ensure bus safety

Updates to vehicles include new route number signs as well

With the 2010-11 academic year underway, the Bartlesville Public School District's fleet of buses is rolling along with a new safety system intact.

During the spring, the BPSD's transportation department officials began installing Bus-Scan 300RF systems into each of the district's school buses. Work was completed on the buses – there are approximately 33 in the BPSD's fleet all told – in late May.

The Bus-Scan 300RF systems were hardwired into each of the district's vehicles. So, every time one of the buses starts, the system is armed. When the bus is turned off, drivers have approximately a minute to walk from the front of the vehicle to the back to push a button which disarms the system.

The reasoning behind the system is that it ensures drivers will walk the length of their respective busses to ensure that no students are still on the vehicle – perhaps sleeping in one of the seats. If the button is not pushed, then the bus's horn begins going off.

"We're happy with the systems," says BPSD head mechanic Orville Burks. "They seem to be doing their job and making sure the drivers keep a close watch on their respective buses."

In addition to the new scan systems, district buses feature new route signs as well. Located near the double-doors where students enter and exit the vehicle, the signs indicate the route number which the bus travels.

"That way," notes Burks,



Regina Sheets (pictured left) and Lois Keene, both of the Bartlesville Public School District's transportation department, take part in an emergency evacuation drill from a school bus earlier this month.

"students and parents know exactly which route a particular bus is traveling. We're trying to alleviate any confusion in that area."

As the current 2010-11 academic year was beginning, parents and their students were informed of which bus route served them, depending on where they live and the school which the child attends. All of the routes – which have been updated for the 2010-11 school year – will soon be posted on the

front page of the Bartlesville Public School District's website, which can be found at www.bps-ok.org.

As the school year advances, those within the BPSD's maintenance shop will enjoy an office heated by recycled oil, thanks to the utilization of a clean burning furnace. The furnace burns all petroleum-based products, allowing the district to save money in heating costs.

Ten area students receive B.L.E.S.S. scholarships

Ten area students recently received scholarships of \$1,750 apiece through the Bartlesville Lincoln Elementary School Scholarship program.

Founded by K. Vasudevan in 1988, B.L.E.S.S. was established to immortalize the students and teachers of Bartlesville's former Lincoln Elementary School, which was built in 1914. Service and Technology Corporation consulting engineers have occupied the former school building since 1986.

The 10 students who received the B.L.E.S.S. scholarships this year were Philip Tobola, Elizabeth Robledo, Katie Weatherly, Alyssa Allison, Kelsey Knackstedt, Brittney Low, Jake Stephenson, Jesse Maltby, Erin Estrem and Danielle Nichols.

Though anyone is encouraged and eligible to apply for one of the scholarships, priority for B.L.E.S.S. awards is given to those students focused on engineering, technology and/or science as well as other



Photo Special to The Bruin

Ten students recently received scholarships through the Bartlesville Lincoln Elementary School Scholarship program. Pictured are (from left) (front row) Philip Tobola, Elizabeth Robledo, Katie Weatherly, Alyssa Allison, Kelsey Knackstedt, Brittney Low, (back row) B.L.E.S.S. secretary Sujatha Krishnan, B.L.E.S.S. president Mark Knackstedt, B.L.E.S.S. program founder K. Vasudevan, Jake Stephenson, Jesse Maltby, B.L.E.S.S. vice president Kumar Krishnan and Richard Conover, of the Service and Technology Corporation.

similar subjects. The primary focus of the B.L.E.S.S. program is to assist students from middle income families who maintain a minimum grade-point average of 2.5.

The B.L.E.S.S. scholarship is renewable each year for up to four years. Additional information on the program can be found online at www.stc-smc.com.

CableOne to air BPSD's 2010-11 Back to School Rally on Tuesday evening

The Bartlesville Public School District's 2010-11 Back to School Rally, which took place on Aug. 10 in the Fine Arts Center auditorium on the Bartlesville High School campus, is set to be broadcast on CableOne's Channel 76 on Tuesday evening.

The broadcast is scheduled to begin at 7 p.m.

The 2010-11 Back to School Rally was filmed by Randy Kramer, the production manager of CableOne Advertising, as it unfolded live. The rally, a BPSD annual tradition, featured performances by the Bruin Brigade Marching Band, cheerleaders and pom squad as well as keynote speaker Billy Riggs,

who mixed magic with an inspirational message.

The rally, which helps to kick off the new academic year throughout the BPSD, focused on district educators but was free and open to all of those who were interested in attending. The 2010-11 academic year began the following day - on Aug. 11 - throughout the BPSD.

No district funds are used on the rally and sponsors make it possible. Sponsors for this year's rally included Arvest Bank, 66 Federal Credit Union, Bartlesville Honda, Pediatrics of Bartlesville, United Linen and Mazzio's.

District Word of the Month: Respect

On a monthly basis, the Bartlesville Public School District designates a word (or words) which students and staff members are encouraged to incorporate into their respective lifestyles as a habit. The word of the month for August is "respect," which means "to feel or show deferential regard for; esteem." The BPSD releases a new habit word monthly from August through May.

Drug detection dog service to be offered at BHS on Sept. 1

Bartlesville High School will have a drug detection dog available on Wednesday, Sept. 1 as a free service to area citizens.

The dog will be on hand – in the circle drive area in front of BHS – from 6-7 p.m. Those who are interested can drive their cars into the circle drive area to have them searched by the dog to ensure no illegal substances are detected.

“For those students who may have recently bought a used car,” says BHS assistant principal Matthew Sweet, “we want to give them a chance to have their vehicle checked out before the regular drug dogs come on campus.”

The respective backgrounds of vehicles aren’t always fully known, especially if they are bought used. The detection dog will be able to signal if there are any problems, and the vehicle’s owner can then take care of them if there are with no repercussions.

Drug detection dogs are used to sniff around the parking lots at BHS as well as the Bartlesville Mid-High School. If something is detected during those random searches during school hours, then problems can arise for the owners of the flagged vehicles.

The drug detection dog which will be at BHS on Sept. 1 will be provided by Detection Dog Services. A similar service was provided last spring at the Mid-High School and is expected to be available on the campus next spring as well.

Bruins to take part in football scrimmage at Union today

Bartlesville High School is set to take part in the 2010 Gridiron Classic today at Tuttle Stadium on the Tulsa Union High School campus.

An annual event at Union, the Gridiron Classic will feature half-games and scrimmages as the kick-off of the 2010 high school football season nears throughout Oklahoma. Taking part in the Classic will be Bentonville (Ark.), Owasso, Oklahoma City Southmoore, Springdale Har-Ber (Ark.), the host Redskins and

the Bruins.

The BHS junior varsity is scheduled to take the field at 4 p.m. The Bruin varsity squad is set to take a few snaps around 5 p.m. before getting started in earnest at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets for the event are priced at \$5 per person and will be available at the stadium.

The Bruins are scheduled to open their 2010 varsity regular season on Friday, Sept. 3 when they travel to Shawnee for a 7:30 p.m. kickoff.



Photo Special to The Bruin

The Bartlesville High School varsity pom squad qualified for the 2011 National Universal Dance Association Championships earlier this summer. Pictured are team members (from left) (front row) Catie George, Betsy Dutcher, Ellen Armstrong, Brandi Williams, Natalie Bond, (back row) Jennifer Jones, Abby Callaghan, Lindsay Barnes, Cara Ambler, Mackenzie Boles, Peyton Reiting, Amanda Reese, Mackenzie Wright, Courtney Landon, Taylor Haag, Ryan Lester and coach Stephanie Stewart.

Bruin pom squads shine at TU, earn trip to national competition

The Bartlesville High School varsity and junior varsity pom squads have plenty to cheer about after both qualified for the 2011 National Universal Dance Association Championships earlier this summer.

The Bruin teams qualified at the Universal Dance Association camp, which took place from June 15-18 on the University of Tulsa campus. BHS placed fourth in the small varsity divi-

Saturday's Noche de Fiesta event promises fun time while assisting toward good cause

Tickets now on sale for benefit dinner to assist Washington County School Supply Drive and Casa Hispana

A special Noche de Fiesta evening event has been scheduled to benefit both the Washington County School Supply Drive and Casa Hispana.

The event will feature a three-course authentic Latin dinner offering dishes from Venezuela, Colombia and Mexico. It will feature a live mariachi band as well as live and silent auctions, also.

The Noche de Fiesta is set to take place on the evening of Saturday, Aug. 28 – from 6-8:30 p.m. – at the St. Luke's Episcopal Church, which is located at 210 E. 9th Street in Bartlesville. The cost to attend the event is \$35 per ticket, of which \$20 per ticket can be counted as a tax-deductible donation.

Tickets are available at St. Luke's or by calling Yeni (832-766-



3162), Oscar (333-3492) or Bob (333-7758).

The Washington County School Supply Drive recently completed its 10th year. It is known for its effort of "packing the backpacks," loading them with school supplies for students and families in need to help them get off to a good start heading into a given school year. The WC-SSD is a non-profit effort driven by donations and volunteers, and thus the packed backpacks are given out free of charge.

Casa Hispana is non-profit organization which assists people

of Hispanic background - for whom English is a second language - in a myriad of areas to help them in the community. The assistance could come in the form of helping them find jobs, housing or filling out paperwork.

Noche de Fiesta Schedule of Activities

6-6:30 p.m.: Appetizers (from Colombia and Mexico) three varieties of hand-made empenadas and three sauces; view auction items; mariachi band will be strolling and playing.

6:30-7 p.m.: Dinner served at your table with mariachi band strolling and playing; menu (from Venezuela): carne mechada (shredded beef with savory seasonings), arroz blanco (white rice) caraotas negras (black beans)

7-7:30 p.m. Dessert (chocolate flan) (from Mexico) served during a performance by the mariachi band

7:30-8:30 p.m.: Live and silent auctions.

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The maintenance shop has been utilizing the clean burning furnace for the last two years and accepts all donations of used petroleum-based products. The shop is located at 805 SE 13th Street.

"We can heat the shop throughout a given winter with the clean burning furnace," says Burks. "For those who would like to drop off used petroleum products for us to use, our office is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday."

The district's transportation office has its bus fleet on a system whereby it utilizes recycled motor oil. The BPSD purchases its motor oil from Universal Lubricants, which is based in Wichita, Kan. When oil is changed on a district vehicle, it is sent in to Universal Lubricants for a complete diagnostic check. Thus, if any problems are detected, they can be quickly taken care of.

By purchasing recycled oil from Universal Lubricants, the district saves an estimated \$1.95 per gallon or around \$5,000 a year.

Since the district purchases its oil from Universal Lubricants and sends its old oil to them, the diagnostics checks are free of charge.

"The recycled oil is just as good as the new product," says Burks. "By using it, we're not shortening the life of our vehicles at all.

"We are able to review the reports on the recycled oil, and it is just as good as the new product – only much less expensive."

Taking into account regular bus routes and cars utilized for activity and business trips, district vehicles drove more than 500,000 miles during the 2009-10 academic year. The BPSD's transportation department can still utilize some drivers and those who might be interested are encouraged to call 336-1733.

Tailgating party will help BPSD employees kick off football season

The sixth annual Teacher/Employee Appreciation Tailgating Party will help the Bruin family kick off the 2010 varsity football season on Friday, Sept. 10.

A product of the First Baptist Church of Bartlesville, it will feature free food and door prizes for all employees of the Bartlesville Public School District as well as their families. Set to begin at 5:30 p.m., it will be held in the north lawn of the BHS campus. The party will conclude shortly before the start of Bartlesville High School's home varsity football opener against Tulsa East Central, which is due to kick off at 7:30 p.m. at Custer Stadium.

To take part in the tailgating party, BPSD employees need only to display their identification badges. The event will feature grilled hamburgers and hotdogs as well as chips and drinks. Tables and chairs will be set up so everyone can eat comfortably. Several door prizes will be drawn, also.

Last year, an estimated 600 people took part in the event, which is organized by Josh Quigley, the director of the First Baptist Church of Bartlesville's Family Life Center.

Among the businesses helping to make this year's tailgating party possible are Buffalo Wild Wings, Camille's, Elite Nails, The Gap, Garfield's and Hollywood Theaters.

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sion and third in the junior varsity division to earn its invitations. Only the top four finishers in each division earned a spot in the UDA Championships, a national event which is scheduled to be held from Feb. 5-6 at the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando, Fla.

An estimated 300 high school and all-star dance squads are expected to compete in the 2011 National Universal Dance Association Championships. Both the Bruin varsity and junior varsity teams earned spots in the 2010 event.

During the camp at TU, several BHS pom athletes were selected to the All-American team. The Bruin varsity selections included Lindsey Barnes, Catie George, Amanda Reese, Peyton Reitingier and Mackenzie Wright. The JV selections were Lauren Fox and Crystal Parrett.

Bruin coaches earned accolades as well as BHS varsity coach Stephanie Stewart, junior varsity coach Megan Hoelting and junior varsity sponsor Shawn Shea were recognized for completing their UDA training. Both the Bruin varsity and junior varsity squads were led at the camp by pom coordinator Joan Judd.

The competition at TU was based on home routines which each team performed on the opening night of the four-day camp. The UDA event featured a variety of dance instruction focusing on different styles and levels of difficulty.

At the camp's conclusion, each dancer was judged individually on her ability to remember and recall the routines which she had learned over the four-day span.

A division of Varsity Brands, Inc., the UDA boasts the only national dance team championship endorsed by the National Federation of State High School Associations, the national service and administrative organization for high school athletics and fine arts programs in speech, debate, theater and music.

To help pay for their trip to Florida for the national competition, which will be broadcast nationally on ESPN2 and will reach more than 90 million homes throughout the country, the BHS pom squads will hold several fundraisers in the coming months. The initial one will be the 2010 Bruin Labor Day Pom Clinic. The clinic, which is set to begin on Monday, Sept. 6, is open to all students from pre-kindergarten through the eighth grade. Those who would like to learn more about it can call Tracie Haag at 331-0695.

The Bruin varsity pom squad is due to make its initial performance of the new 2010-11 academic year on Friday, Sept. 10 during halftime of the BHS varsity football game at Custer Stadium. The JV team's first showing is due to be on Thursday, Sept. 2 during halftime of the freshman football contest at Custer. Kickoff time for both match-ups is 7:30 p.m.

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western Bell Communications) in '01.

Since 2007, the Bartlesville Public School District's Richard Kane, Wayside and Woodrow Wilson elementary schools have been awarded OETT grants in addition to BHS, which was one of just 13 sites from throughout the state to be awarded this year. Schools from across Oklahoma can apply for the grants, and must state the need of their particular sites. OETT of-

ficials then choose the grant recipients for a given year.

Helping to put the BHS grant application together were principal Teri Brant, math teacher Amanda Hancock, science teacher Chris Ruhl, business teacher Julie Smith, librarian Kim Lashbrook, counselor Rhonda Layman and Cloyd Wempe, the BPSD's director of technology services.

BHS officials held their initial implementation meeting – to best utilize the grant – earlier this month.



A detective with the Bartlesville Police Department, Steve Birmingham served as the featured speaker during the Bartlesville Adult Learning Center's 2010 GED Graduation Ceremony, which was held Sunday afternoon in the Fine Arts Center auditorium on the Bartlesville High School campus. Currently in the midst of a successful 19-year career as a police officer, Birmingham has his GED diploma.

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which was held for the sixth consecutive year at the FAC.

All told, 114 students earned their General Education Development (GED) diplomas during the 2009-10 academic year at the Bartlesville Adult Learning Center. However, many don't take part in the graduation ceremony as they may have already taken a job or left the area. The equivalent of a high school diploma, a GED can open the doors to a brighter future for those who earn them.

The featured speaker during Sunday's ceremony was a GED recipient, Detective Steve Birmingham of the Bartlesville Police Department. He didn't finish high school after leaving an abusive home situation but eventually earned his GED and used it as a foundation on which to build a successful career.

"There is only one person who will stop you from doing what you want to do in life," said Birmingham, addressing the graduates, "and that person is you."

Birmingham began his career with the Dewey Police Department before moving on to Bartlesville. He has served as an investigator with the BPD for the last nine years.

"For someone who 'just has his GED,'" said Birmingham, "I've had a successful 19-year career as a police officer."

The graduates entered the Fine Arts Center auditorium on Sunday in their caps and gowns and to the strains of "Pomp and Circumstance." They were welcomed by the BALC's chief examiner Joan Judd before Trudy Green, the Bartlesville Public School District's director of federal programs, noted the staff of the BALC. Former home school student Hannah Rummel, who earned her GED this year, offered alumni com-

ments while fellow BALC employee Joni Pollin introduced Birmingham.

BPSD superintendent Dr. Gary W. Quinn was on hand to congratulate each of the graduates as they walked across the FAC auditorium stage and collected their diplomas.

"The teachers are amazing at the Bartlesville Adult Learning Center," said Rummel, who works for the BALC's EvenStart program. "They tailor each student's education plan to meet his or her individual needs."

This year marks the 53rd of adult education in Bartlesville. The BALC – which is located in the McKinley Building (1536 SW Keeler) – offers year-round classes during the day and evening hours. The flexibility allows students to pursue their GED while working and/or raising a family. Those who would like to learn more about the BALC and the programs offered can call 336-6560.

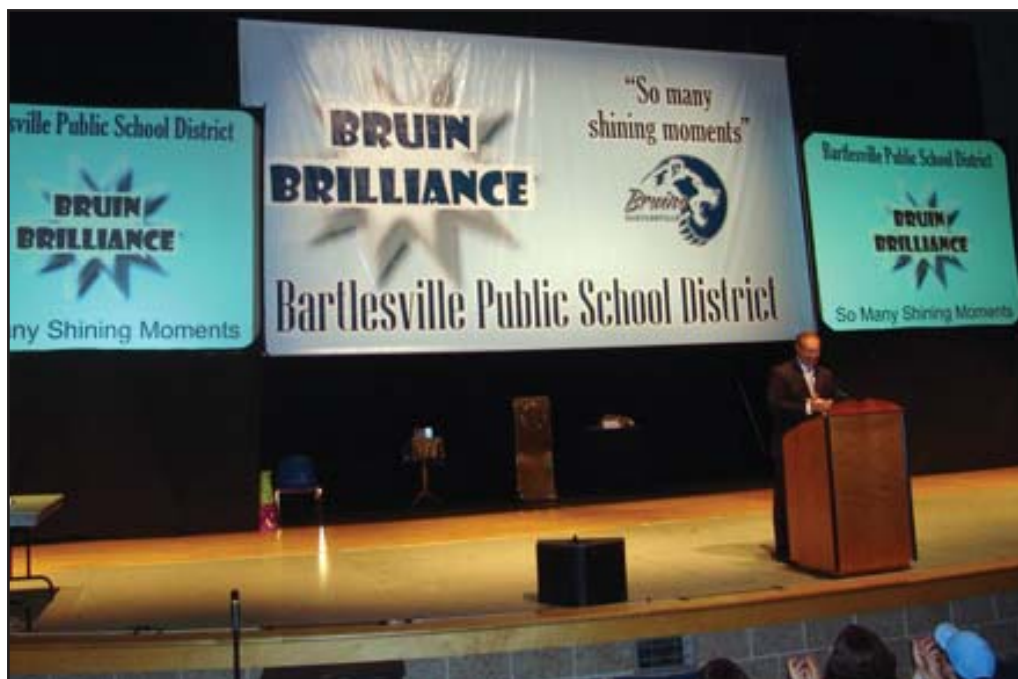
During the calendar year of 2008, the BALC boasted the highest pass rate for all of its students who took the GED – 89 percent – among all of the 32 adult learning centers in the state.

Toward the end of Sunday's program, which included a video and special appearance by noted country musician and Bartlesville High School graduate Chris Hester, the Downtown Lions Club made a \$500 donation to the BALC.

Many of those who earn their GED diplomas go immediately into the workforce or perhaps on to college. For those who graduated from the BALC's program this year, the future is bright.

"The sky is the limit," said Birmingham. "You can have in life what you want if you are willing to work for it."

'BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT' AT BHS SET FOR TUESDAY



Scheduled to begin in the Fine Arts Center auditorium on the Bartlesville High School campus, the "Back to School Night" event for BHS is set to take place from 6:30-8 p.m. on the evening of Tuesday, Aug. 31. After a brief greeting and an overview of the night's proceedings from school officials in the auditorium, parents and guardians will have the opportunity to follow their students' class schedules while touring some of the facilities which have been added to the campus in recent years. Pictured, the superintendent of the Bartlesville Public School District Dr. Gary W. Quinn speaks during the BPSD's 2010-11 Back to School Rally, which took place on Aug. 10 in the FAC auditorium.

Stellar Sites

The Bartlesville Public School District offers a wide array of useful tools for students as well as parents. For some extra educational insight, give these web sites a look:

PowerSchool

<http://www.bps-ok.org>

Click on the PowerSchool link toward the top of the home page.

- Parents and legal guardians can check with office personnel at their student's school to find out how to access PowerSchool.

- Information on students - such as grades and attendance records available via PowerSchool.

Study Island

<http://www.studyisland.com>

Use the "Member Login."

- Student login information must be obtained from teachers.

Bartlesville Public School District Activities (August 27 - September 2, 2010)

Friday, Aug. 27

Softball: Junior high at Claremore tournament (8 a.m.)
 Softball: Varsity at Joplin, Mo. tournament (8 a.m.)
 Volleyball: Varsity at Broken Arrow tournament (8 a.m.)
 Football: Junior varsity in Gridiron Classic at Tulsa Union (4 p.m.)
 Football: Varsity in Gridiron Classic at Tulsa Union (6:30 p.m.)

Saturday, Aug. 28

Softball: Junior high at Claremore tournament (8 a.m.)
 Volleyball: Junior varsity at Holland Hall tournament (8 a.m.)
 Softball: Varsity at Joplin, Mo. tournament (8 a.m.)
 Volleyball: Varsity at Broken Arrow tournament (8 a.m.)

Sunday, Aug. 29

(No events scheduled)

Monday, Aug. 30

Volleyball: Eighth grade Blue hosts Stillwater (5 p.m.)
 Volleyball: Eighth grade White hosts Stillwater (5 p.m.)
 Softball: Junior high at Barnsdall (5 p.m.)
 NCDCA business meeting (6 p.m.)
 Sixth grade "back to school" party (6:30 p.m.) (Central)

Tuesday, Aug. 31

Volleyball: Eighth grade Blue hosts Broken Arrow (4 p.m.)

Volleyball: Eighth grade White hosts Broken Arrow (4 p.m.)

Volleyball: Varsity hosts Broken Arrow (4 p.m.)

Softball: Varsity hosts Enid (4:30 p.m.)

First grade curriculum night (5:30 p.m.) (Kane)

Volleyball: Junior varsity hosts Broken Arrow (5:30 p.m.)

Fifth grade curriculum night in library (6 p.m.)

Softball: Junior varsity hosts Enid (6 p.m.)

Eighth grade "Back to School" party (6:30 p.m.) (Central)

"Back to School Night" (6:30 p.m.) (BHS)

Wednesday, Sept. 1

*** Deadline for Kane T-shirt orders ***

Central Middle School Parent Support Group meeting in library (Noon)

Thursday, Sept. 2

Student council officers meeting in Room 320 (7:45 a.m.) (Central)

Softball: Varsity at University of Tulsa festival (8 a.m.)

Volleyball: Freshmen at Jenks (4 p.m.)

Volleyball: Junior varsity at Jenks (5 p.m.)

Fourth grade curriculum night in library (5:30 p.m.)

Football: Eighth grade hosts Sand Springs (6 p.m.)

Kindergarten curriculum night in library (6 p.m.)

Volleyball: Varsity at Jenks (6:30 p.m.)

Football: Freshmen host Sand Springs (7:30 p.m.)



Editing, writing, design and photography by David Austin, Bartlesville Public School District's community relations coordinator, unless otherwise noted

"Bruin Brilliance: So many shining moments"