

MONTHLY NEWS AND UPDATES FROM PIEDMONT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

PIEDMONT

FOCUS



SCHOOL SITE UPDATES



PIEDMONT ELEMENTARY STAFF COMPLETES CAPTURING KIDS' HEARTS TRAINING

On November 13th and 14th, Piedmont Elementary became our second school site to participate in Capturing Kids' Hearts training. This two-day professional development experience focused on strengthening relationships among staff and fostering meaningful connections with students. Through engaging activities and focused sessions, our team came together to build trust, deepen understanding of one another, and enhance collaborative culture within the school.

The training emphasized the importance of healthy relationships and culture-building through the Capturing Kids' Hearts EXCEL Model™, which stands for Engage, Explore, Communicate, Empower, and Launch. Staff members gained practical tools for communication, conflict resolution strategies, and opportunities to practice giving and receiving candid feedback. By participating in this immersive program, our team is better equipped to lead with clarity, trust, and a shared sense of purpose.

Hosting a two-day training session for the entire school staff in the middle of the school year is no small feat, but our Piedmont School community truly rose to the occasion. As our Piedmont Elementary teachers immersed themselves in training, parents volunteered as part-time substitutes, athletic directors stepped in to cover recess duty, and administrators, along with district staff, filled in for classes and other responsibilities. It was a true all-hands-on-deck effort. Our community consistently goes above and beyond to support our schools, and we are deeply grateful.

We are excited about the lasting, positive impact this training will have on our staff, students, and overall learning environment.



I absolutely loved the training and I feel like we, as a staff, are so much more connected. I was eager to get back to the classroom to start implementing everything I learned as soon as possible.

-Jinan Hadnot, Pre-K Teacher



SCHOOL SITE UPDATES



PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL

At PHS, our expert teachers lead professional development for their colleagues. Each month during faculty meetings, teachers share a literacy strategy that has proven successful in their own classrooms. In November, Mrs. Thiele and Mrs. McGee guided the session, providing practical strategies to support literacy instruction school-wide.



PIEDMONT INTERMEDIATE

Piedmont Intermediate was honored to welcome the Oklahoma Fancy Dancers Native Dance Troupe, who shared stories, songs, and dances celebrating Native American Heritage Month. Students and staff were engaged throughout the performance, gaining a deeper appreciation for Native American culture, traditions, and history.

HONORING VETERANS ACROSS THE DISTRICT

Our schools were filled with pride and gratitude as we honored the veterans in our community and families. Veterans Day is an important tradition in our district, with every school participating in activities that teach students about the duties and sacrifices of our service men and women. From beautiful vocal performances to ceremonies, guest speakers, and more, our schools did a wonderful job recognizing and celebrating our veterans.



SCHOOL SITE UPDATES

PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL

Desi Ward, a sophomore in speech and debate, captured first place at last month's competition at El Reno High School. She earned top honors as the best overall 6A policy speaker and now heads into December's Booker T. tournament with her sights set on another strong finish.



PIEDMONT EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

We had a fantastic week celebrating Friendsgiving in our classrooms! Some of our kindergarten classes invited families to help students design their own "Balloons Over Broadway" floats, which the kids proudly showcased in a mini parade through the ECC halls. It was a joyful way to learn, create, and spend time together.



NORTHWOOD ELEMENTARY

Northwood's 2nd Grade Macy's Thanksgiving Parade is always a favorite tradition, held the Friday before Thanksgiving break. In preparation, students learn about the history of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and the time, effort, and creativity required to bring it to life. Each class selected a book and created balloons inspired by its characters. Parents were invited to cheer on their students as the parade made its way through the school, with classes stopping mid-gym to show off their creations before continuing through the halls. This fun, engaging event is a highlight of the year for both students and families.



STONE RIDGE ELEMENTARY

The Stone Ridge Veterans Day Assembly is a meaningful tradition each year. Several honorees are selected to receive a Quilt of Valor, honoring our veterans and their families. Our 3rd-grade students performed, and The Stone Ridge Singers, led by music teacher Kelcey Jordan, added a special musical touch to the celebration.

DISTRICT UPDATES

ENROLLMENT

	NOVEMBER 2025	DECEMBER 2025
Piedmont ECC	484	488
Northwood Elementary	608	610
Piedmont Elementary	423	424
Stone Ridge Elementary	710	710
Piedmont Intermediate	803	803
Middle School of Piedmont	864	866
Piedmont High School	1626	1618
TOTAL	5519	5520



The Piedmont Special Services Department recently added a mini bus that accommodates two wheelchairs along with traditional seating for students. It will support life skills programs and unified sports activities. A special thanks goes to a Piedmont parent who helped the district secure the vehicle at a remarkable discount, making this addition possible for our students.

PPSEF GRANTS

The Piedmont Public Schools Education Foundation awarded more than \$41,000 in teacher grants across the district in November! Congratulations to all of our dedicated educators who received funds for their classrooms. We are excited to see the innovative and creative ways our team puts these resources to work for our students.



PPS LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Piedmont Leadership Development meetings are underway with 30 engaged participants, including many new faces. Our first session explored the district's "big rocks" (key initiatives) and encouraged leaders to reflect on their personal "why" and what drives their work. This is the 4th year for Leadership Development and we are always excited to see the high levels of interest across the wide spectrum of our district.

DISTRICT UPDATES

PIEDMONT ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES



CHEER COMPETES AT STATE

The Piedmont Varsity and Unified Cheerleading teams competed at state on November 14th and 15th. Our Varsity team earned an impressive 3rd place finish in the class 6A finals. We are incredibly proud of the hard work and accomplishments of both of our cheer teams.



WILDCATS HEAD TO THE NEXT LEVEL

Congratulations to our Piedmont High School student-athletes who have committed to their sport at the next level!

- Kason Elsen, Hesston College
- Jack Guinn, Eastern Oklahoma State College
- Jarret Isennock, Southern Nazarene University
- Clayton Harrington, Northern Oklahoma College - Tonkawa
- Reid Smith, Eastern Oklahoma State College
- Zane Pruitt, Southern Nazarene University
- Austen Mueller, Pittsburg State University
- Braxton Marshall, University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma
- McKenzie Kihang'A, Northern Oklahoma College - Enid
- Madeline Kimball, Henderson State University
- Courtney McDermott, Butler Community College
- Marlee Pope, Oklahoma Baptist University
- Camryn Bray, Oklahoma Christian University
- Ashlyn Emmert, Crowder College
- Kadence Hardman, Sterling College

ATHLETICS UPDATE:

PHS football had a successful season, advancing to the second round of the playoffs and hosting the first-round game. Wrestling, basketball, and swim have begun their seasons and are representing Piedmont Schools well.