

Community Newsletter

MESSAGE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Dear Jefferson Middle School Families,

As we reach the final days of the school year, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of you. Your partnership and support have been vital to our students' success, and we are so grateful to have you as part of the Jefferson family. It has been a joy to watch our students grow, learn, and overcome challenges this year.

To help us prepare for another great year ahead, we encourage you to get a head start on enrollment for the upcoming school year. Completing this process early ensures your student is ready to hit the ground running on day one.

You can begin the enrollment process today by:

- Visiting the enrollment website: [OKCPS Enrollment & Back-to-School](#)
- Calling us directly: Contact our office at 405-587-1300 for assistance.

Thank you for trusting us with your child's education. We hope you have a safe, relaxing summer break and look forward to seeing everyone back on campus soon!

Partnering in Education,

STEVE SMITH
Principal

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK IS MAY 4-8

We are excited to announce that this year's Teacher Appreciation Week will be Star Wars themed, with the first day of the week being dubbed "Star Wars Day."

We are so appreciative of our staff's hard work, not only this year, but the many years they have put in to become the teachers they are now.

We have a few staff members graduating with advanced degrees this year:

Ms. Ramona Diaz

Master's Degree in
Secondary Education
University of Central
Oklahoma (UCO)

Ms. Alexis Johnson

Master's of Science Degree
in Information Technology
Southern New Hampshire
University (SNHU)

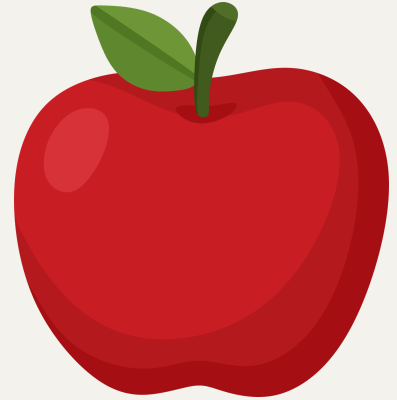
Ms. Shaunte Cooley

Bachelors of Science
East Central University

In addition, many of our staff have put in decades of service to this community, educating thousands of students over a lifetime.

We thank all of our teachers and staff for investing their time, energy, and heart into the future of our community. The world is a better place because of your service.

Parents and students, please consider doing something special for your teachers as we close out the year. Even a simple note expressing appreciation can be impactful.



AWARDS 8TH GRADE LIBRARY ASSEMBLY GRADUATION BOOKS ARE CEREMONY DUE MAY 4TH

End of Year Awards will be distributed to students on Thursday, May 14th, in the Cafeteria.

5th Grade's Awards Assembly will be during TB 8.

6th Grade's Awards Assembly will be during TB 7.

7th Grade's Awards Assembly will be during TB 1.

8th Grade's Awards Assembly will be during TB 2.

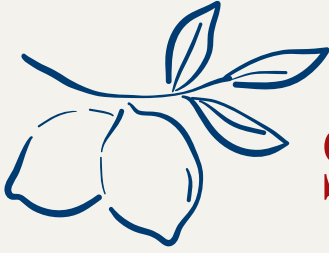


The 8th Grade Graduation will be at US Grant High School. Students should arrive at 6:00pm, doors open at 6:30pm, and the ceremony starts at 7:00pm.

Students who bought a cap and t-shirt in January should wear these to the ceremony. People who purchased these items should have also recieved three tickets. If you did not purchase these, they are no longer available to be bought. You cannot attend the ceremony without tickets due to the limited capacity of the venue.

Please have all library materials turned in by May 4th.





Resource Spotlight: Summer Resources



- **OKCPS Summer Learning Programs** are available for free for students who scored below the 50th percentile on the NWEA test. Breakfast and lunch is provided. Find out more here: <https://sites.google.com/okcps.org/summer-learning/middle-school>
- **EMBARK's Haul Pass Program** provides free bus passes to youth ages 18 and younger who are enrolled in Oklahoma City Public Schools. This includes free bus fare during summer break as well. For more information and to apply, visit www.embarkok.com/bus/haul-pass.
- **Oklahoma City Parks and Recreation Department** offers hundreds of events and activities open to the public, from skateboarding classes, to group fitness, to arts and crafts, and nature walks. Everything can be found on their website at www.okc.gov/Community-Recreation/OKC-Parks. Go enjoy the great outdoors this summer!
- **Metro Family Magazine** publishes low-cost things to do around the city for families as well as parenting tips, and other local resources!
 - Here is a list of low-cost, non-profit summer camps: <https://www.metrofamilymagazine.com/non-profit-summer-camps/>
 - Here is a list of free museums in OKC: <https://www.metrofamilymagazine.com/free-museums-in-okc/>
 - Here is a list of things to do for Mother's Day in OKC: <https://www.metrofamilymagazine.com/mothers-day-weekend-in-okc/>
- **Summer Meals - The Oklahoma Department of Education** has a portion of their website dedicated to child nutrition during the summer break. They even have a program that brings farm-fresh food to kids at no cost! Here is their website: <https://oklahoma.gov/education/services/child-nutrition/resources.html>
- OKCPS will also be providing breakfast and lunch at select locations for children ages 1-18. The locations, times, and eligibility requirements are here: <https://sites.google.com/okcps.org/summer-learning/summer-feeding>.
- **211** also gives a comprehensive list of food pantries, low-cost healthcare resources, clothing, and much more. Call them by dialing "211" or use their website at: <https://heartline.ok.networkofcare.org/211/index.aspx>
- **Pools and Aquatic Centers** can be found all over OKC. Check the locations, rules, and schedules on their website here: <https://www.okc.gov/Community-Recreation/Pools-and-Aquatic-Centers>

FEATURED EVENTS AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Teen Book Bags

Ongoing Event

All Day 5/1-5/22

Location: Online + Curbside (Southern Oaks) at Southern Oaks Library

Program Type: Books & Reading

Age Group: Teens

Do you like books? Are you between 12-18? If the answer to both of those are "yes," then we have the thing for you!

Sign up for a book bag and we will try to find you your new favorite book!

This event listing is for sign up. We will contact you when your bag is ready.

Teen Take-Home Kit: Mental Health Awareness Month

Ongoing Event

All Day 5/1-5/23

Location: Onsite (Almonte) at Almonte Library

Program Type: Arts & Crafts, DIY & Hobbies, Health & Wellness, Take-Home Kit

Age Group: Teens

May is Mental Health Awareness Month! Come grab a free take-home kit at the Almonte Library that will include all the supplies to make your own worry stone and calming bottle! The completed projects can be used to help reduce feelings of anxiety, stress, and tension. This kit is for ages 13-19.

Note: The worry stones will be made with polymer clay. The clay will need to be baked in an oven to fully complete the project.

Southern Oaks Chess Club

Friday, May 1, 2026

5:00pm-6:00pm

Location: Meeting Room A (Southern Oaks) at Southern Oaks Library

Program Type: DIY & Hobbies, Games & Gaming

Age Group: All Ages, Kids, Teens, Adults

Are you a seasoned chess player looking to get in some more practice or help bring new players into the game, or a new player looking to dip their toes into the world of chess? This all ages, all skill levels program will help you do just that! Come have fun and play over-the-table chess in a low stakes, relaxed environment.

Free Comic Book Day Event!

Saturday, May 2, 2026

All Day

Location: Onsite (Southern Oaks) at Southern Oaks Library

Program Type: Books & Reading, Community & Civics, Cultural Experiences, DIY & Hobbies

Age Group: All Ages, Kids, Teens, Adults

Free Comic Book Day is celebrated the first Saturday of May. Visit the Southern Oaks Library for fun and free comic books donated from the Free Comic Book Day foundation and our local Comic Book Store Atomik Pop!

Comic Book Day Celebration with Video Games!

Saturday, May 2, 2026

2:00pm-4:00pm

Location: Meeting Room A (Southern Oaks) at Southern Oaks Library

Program Type: Games & Gaming

Age Group: Kids, Teens, Adults

It is Free Comic Book Day! Join us at Southern Oaks Library to play some Nintendo Video games and celebrate Free Comics! Playstations and Xboxes will be set up for gaming during the celebration! Each person will receive a free comic donated from Atomic Pop!

After School Hangout

Monday, May 4, 2026

4:30pm-5:30pm

Location: Meeting Room A (Southern Oaks) at Southern Oaks Library

Program Type: Arts & Crafts, Cultural Experiences, DIY & Hobbies, Games & Gaming

Age Group: Kids, Teens

Join us every other Monday for an array of after-school activities. School-aged children and teens only!

Featuring "How to Write a Poem" with MLS Poet Laureate Hallie Waugh:

If you've ever wondered how poems are made (or wanted to try writing one yourself), this beginner-friendly workshop will guide you through the basics. We'll look at the elements of metaphor, sound, and imagery, offering time for participants to draft and share their work (optional). This workshop is designed for anyone who's poetry-curious or who's ever said they can't write poetry. You absolutely can, and we'll explore it together.

Teen Art Lab: Diamond Painting

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

5:30pm-7:30pm

Location: Meeting Room (Almonte) at Almonte Library

Program Type: Arts & Crafts, DIY & Hobbies, Health & Wellness

Age Group: Teens

Get ready to sparkle! In this relaxing, hands-on craft program, teens will complete a dazzling diamond painting artwork using colorful resin "gems" to build a shimmering design, one dot at a time.

Diamond painting is part paint-by-number, part mosaic art. Whether you're looking to de-stress, hang out with friends, or try something new, this program is perfect for all skill levels. No experience needed.

All supplies will be provided.

Graduation Hat Decorating

Monday, May 11, 2026

4:00pm-5:00pm

Location: Meeting Room A (Southern Oaks) at Southern Oaks Library

Program Type: Arts & Crafts

Age Group: Teens, Adults

Start celebrating early by bedazzling your graduation hat!

We will bring the craft supplies, you bring the hat!

Fiber Arts Club

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

6:00pm-8:00pm

Location: Meeting Room A (Southern Oaks) at Southern Oaks Library

Program Type: Arts & Crafts, DIY & Hobbies

Age Group: Teens, Adults

Bring your own project and materials and knit, crochet, or sew your way through the afternoon with members of the community who share your enthusiasm for crafts. All types of fiber arts welcome!

WE HAVE PROJECTS AVAILABLE - COME LEARN A NEW SKILL!

For teens and adults.

This is a recurring event held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

FOR MORE EVENTS ALL SUMMER LONG, VISIT WWW.METROLIBRARY.ORG

IMPORTANT DATES:

- May 4-8 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 4 - All library books are due
- May 5-6 - NWEA Testing
- May 11 - 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony
- May 14 - Awards Assembly
- May 21 - LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

5TH GRADE

SOCCER

6TH GRADE

BASEBALL

7TH GRADE

TRACK

8TH GRADE

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	27	28	29	30	01	02
03	04  LIBRARY BOOKS DUE	05 NWEA TESTING	06 NWEA TESTING	07 	08	09
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK  						
10 MOTHER'S DAY 	11 8TH GRADE GRADUATION	12	13	14 AWARDS ASSEMBLY 	15	16
17	18	19	20	21 	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!	29	30
  						