

Newsletter



OPS Adds Elementary Art for 2026-27 School Year

OPS elementary students are enjoying a fourth "specials" class this year thanks, in part, to the Owasso community's support of the 2025 Student Investment Plan.

Art class has returned to all nine elementary schools!

Over the summer, the OPS Operations Team used funds from that 2025 school bond to renovate and equip classrooms to best function as art rooms. This included altering flooring, adding sinks and purchasing furniture for the rooms.

We look forward to seeing all of the amazing creations and creativity that this new class will unlock!



Morris Vanbeber and Jackson Crawford pose with the Owasso Board of Education after being recognized at the Board's September meeting.

National Merit Honors

Congratulations to Owasso High School seniors Jackson Crawford and Morris Vanbeber, who were named National Merit Semifinalists.

They are among approximately 16,000 semifinalists across the nation, which represents less than one-percent of U.S. high school seniors. Finalists will be announced in February.

This honor speaks to the hard work and dedication that they have put into their education. Way to Be Your Best!

Looking Ahead

October 1

Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 5

OPS Board of Education Meeting

October 6

Elementary Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 12

District Collaboration Day - No School

October 13

Professional Development Day - No School

October 14

Conference Exchange Date - No School

October 15-16

Fall Break - No School

November 9

OPS Board of Education Meeting

November 23-27

Thanksgiving Break

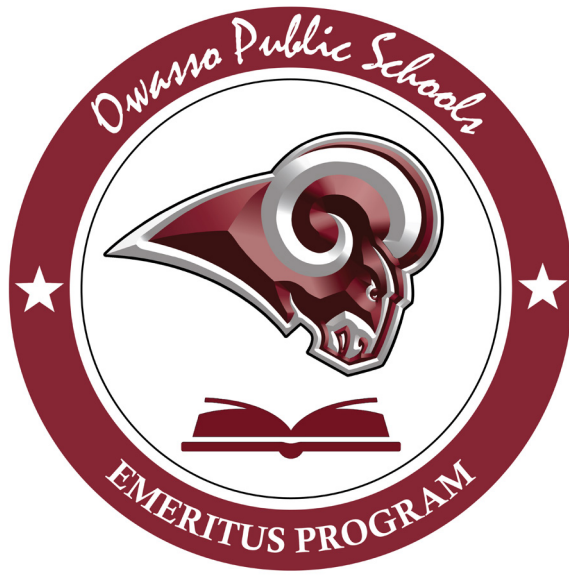
Projects Update

It has been a busy summer and fall for planning & construction around the District as we continue progress on projects approved by the Owasso community as part of the 2025 Student Investment Plan. Here are some highlights:

- Smith Elementary had a new roof installed and also replaced three HVAC units. This project was completed in August.
- Work began at the 8th Grade Center on a new cafeteria and science labs that are part of a tornado-safe structure. Once this phase is complete, the current cafeteria will be transformed into additional special education classrooms, fine arts spaces and restrooms.
- Work also started at the 5th Grade Elementary Center, which will be constructed adjacent to the 6th Grade Center. This project also includes a safe structure for the 6th Grade Center as well.
- The tennis courts at the 8th Grade Center received a much-needed

resurfacing to go along with upgraded lighting and fencing. This project was aided by a \$60,000 grant from the United States Tennis Association.

- Mills Elementary received fresh interior paint throughout the building.
- Each school received shatter-resistant safety film installed on windows in strategic locations. Specific buildings received additional access controls and security camera additions/upgrades along with updated fire panels and intercom systems.
- Work has begun on a new roof at the East Campus of the Owasso High School.
- Owasso Stadium received new turf, while the gym at the OHS East Campus also was resurfaced.
- Projects currently in the design phase include:
 - The safe structure at the 7th Grade Center
 - The Fine Arts Instructional Addition at Owasso High School
 - The Multi-Use Athletic Facility



Emeritus Program

Owasso Public Schools is proud to launch the Emeritus Program, an honorary initiative recognizing retired and retiring teachers who have served at least 20 years in the District and demonstrated a lasting commitment to the Ram community.

The program will honor these educators with the title of *Emeritus* and provide opportunities for them to remain connected to the schools, traditions and community they helped shape.

Is there an educator who has retired or is retiring and has made a lasting impact on you or your family? We want to hear from you! Anyone can nominate an individual by December 1.

A District committee will review all nominations and select the inaugural Emeritus honorees. Those selected will be recognized during the annual Owasso Public Schools Evening of Distinction in March.

To learn more or submit a nomination, please visit the [Emeritus Program webpage](#).

Ram Spotlight: Terri Cash

On August 24, Terri Cash celebrated an incredible milestone — 40 years with the OPS Transportation Department as a bus driver!

In her 40 years behind the wheel, Mrs. Cash has changed routes just once and has safely transported generations of Ram students throughout Owasso. Her impact extends beyond her daily route, as she also plays an important role in training new OPS bus drivers.

We are incredibly grateful for Terri's 40 years of dedication, dependability and care for our students. Her commitment to OPS and the Ram Family is truly something to celebrate!



Shoutouts!

» October is National Principals Month. We are grateful for the incredible leaders who help our schools be their best every day!

» OHS students Abigail Baker, Hayden Reed, Isabella Zamudio and Katya Sandoval Morgan each received merit awards at the Oklahoma Student Art Exhibition Awards Showcase in September.

» The OHS Varsity Cheer program claimed its eighth consecutive Performance State Championship, earning the top spot in the Large Co-Ed Division at the state competition on Sept. 26. Way to go!

» Shoutout to Owasso Cub Scout Pack 897, who spent a weekend cleaning the grounds at Ator, Hodson, Mills and Stone Canyon in preparation for the first day of school in August!