

From the Principal's Desk

Bond Issue Passes

DHS staff and students would like to send out our greatest thanks to all of the stakeholders, volunteers, and voters that helped to pass our recent Bond Proposal.

The bond required a super majority approval which means at least 60% of the voters must approve the proposal. The bond was passed by 68% of the voters.

Now that the bond has passed the work will begin. The first step in this process will be developing an oversight committee. This committee will serve in a variety of capacities. The members will help monitor the expenditures and maintenance of the bond money. An architect selection committee

has been developed and interviews will begin on the week of March 26th. The recommendations for the architect will be taken to the April 10th board meeting. Once the architect is selected, they will begin on design and development. The design and development phase usually takes from 4– 6 months to complete.

Once that phase is completed, ground breaking will begin. As of press time a completion date is not yet known.

This is an important step for Duncan High School and for our district. The vision for Duncan Public Schools is to be one of the top districts in the state. These changes will be instrumen-

tal in aiding our district in improving.

Thank you again for helping Duncan Public Schools in continuing an ongoing tradition of excellence.

Once your high-schooler has been accepted to college, your mailbox is likely to bulge with credit applications. Credit card companies offer such irresistibly low rates that two-thirds of today's college students have at least one credit card. Make sure your kids are aware of the risks that come along with plastic. Read more on FamilyEducation:

[http://
life.familyeducation.com/personal-finance/
independence/37416.
html#ixzz1qKTC6Ds6](http://life.familyeducation.com/personal-finance/independence/37416.html#ixzz1qKTC6Ds6)

Special points of interest:

Practice Tests for the Oklahoma Written Driving Test (Free):

[http://
freedmvprac-
ticetests.com](http://freedmvpracticetests.com)

ACT Test Preparation (Free): [http://
number2.com/](http://number2.com/)

Register Online for the ACT: [http://
www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

Duncan High School www.duncanps.org

P. O. Box 1548, Duncan, OK 73534
Phone: 580-255-0700 Fax: 580-252-2445

**Parenting Tip:
Encourage cyber-safety**

Get to know the technology your teen is using and the websites he or she visits. If possible, keep the computer in a common area in your home. Remind your teen to practice these basic safety rules:

Don't share personal information online.
Don't share passwords.
Don't get together with someone you meet online.

Don't send anything in a message you wouldn't say face to face.

Don't text or chat on the phone while driving.

- Don't plagiarize.

Talk to a parent or trusted adult if an interaction or message makes you uncomfortable.

Cell Phone policy may be found on page 19-20 of the Student Planner/ Handbook.

It is only those who never do anything who never make mistakes- A. Farve

Yearbook Update

Apply early for 2012 newspaper and yearbook staff! Students interested in applying for staff positions on the Demon Pitchfork or the yearbook should pick up an application from Mrs. Snider in W-16 or the counselors' office. Those interested should be responsible, dependable, students who can work independently as well as on a team. Strong writing skills are a must, photography, InDesign and/or Photoshop software knowledge is helpful as well. For best

consideration, turn in applications as soon as possible. In addition, a new journalism class has been added this year. Introduction to journalism is open to any student interested in learning about how the media shaped our society. Emphasis will be placed on interviewing, news, feature writing, ethics and law. But we'll also look at photography and design. Students completing this class will be excellent candidates for news or yearbook staff the following year.

"YOU CAN CONQUER ANY FEAR IF YOU WILL MAKE UP YOUR MIND TO DO SO. REMEMBER, FEAR DOESN'T EXIST ANYWHERE EXCEPT IN THE MIND."

—
DALE CARNEGIE

Common Core Standards

The Common Core State Standards Initiative is a state-led effort coordinated by the National Governors Association Center for Best Practices (NGA Center) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO). The standards were developed in collaboration with teachers, school administrators, and experts, to provide a clear and consistent framework to prepare our children for college and the workforce. The NGA Center and CCSSO received initial feedback on the draft standards from national organizations representing, but

not limited to, teachers, postsecondary educators (including community colleges), civil rights groups, English language learners, and students with disabilities. Following the initial round of feedback, the draft standards were opened for public comment, receiving nearly 10,000 responses. The standards are informed by the highest, most effective models from states across the country and countries around the world, and provide teachers and parents with a common understanding of what stu-

dents are expected to learn. Consistent standards will provide appropriate benchmarks for all students, regardless of where they live. These standards define the knowledge and skills students should have within their K-12 education careers so that they will graduate high school able to succeed in entry-level, credit-bearing academic college courses and in workforce training programs. The standards:

- Are aligned with college and work expectations;
- Are clear, understandable and consistent;

Common Core (cont)

- Include rigorous content and application of knowledge through high-order skills;
- Build upon strengths and lessons of current state standards;
- Are informed by other top performing countries, so that all

students are prepared to succeed in our global economy and society; and

Are evidence-based.

Duncan Public Schools is one of the state schools responsible for assisting other districts in the implementation process of the Common Core State Stan-

dards.

For more information about CCSS go to <http://www.corestandards.org/>

The Oklahoma State Department of Education website also contains many resources about the CCSS.—
www.corestandards.org

Gear Up Comes To Duncan Public Schools

Duncan Public Schools Selected as Oklahoma GEAR UP School District

Duncan Public Schools has been selected as one of 24 Oklahoma GEAR UP School Districts, the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education announced. Over the next seven years, the Duncan community will benefit from localized education

services and activities that have been proven to help students better prepare for and succeed in college. GEAR UP, Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, is a federal grant program offered through the U.S. Department of Education to provide opportunities for

middle and high school students to acquire the academic skills, planning information, financial assistance and support they need to succeed in college.

Oklahoma was recently awarded a third consecutive, multi-year GEAR UP state grant totaling \$34.9 million. The mission of the state grant is to help make Oklahoma

communities more of a college-bound population by providing activities, services and information to strengthen classroom learning and student achievement, empower educators and community leaders and educate students and families.

“The announcement that Oklahoma has received its third GEAR UP grant is welcome news at a time when Governor Fallin and other state leaders are pushing hard to increase the number of college graduates in our state,” said Chancellor Glen D. Johnson. “This grant is a strong statement from our national education leaders that Oklahoma is making significant progress and is on the right track in helping our students a GEAR UP School Districts will participate in a variety of research-based services and activities including: professional development for educators that helps strengthen teacher effectiveness and student participation and achievement; curriculum development and evaluation to align classwork with Common Core and college readiness standards; standardized test preparation; free ACT assessments to every 11th grade student; free summer academies in science, math, technology and engineering on college campuses; college and career curriculum for

seventh- through ninth-grade students, community outreach and communication services that reinforce college-bound messages; and parent leadership academies that empower parents to become education advocates for their community. **[For a complete list of grant services, see attached GEAR UP Q&A or go to <http://www.okhighered.org/gearup/schools/GU-QA.pdf>.]**

“Oklahoma’s Promise has enabled students with limited means the opportunity to attend college. Unfortunately, many are not prepared for the rigors of college life or separation from familial support systems, so they do not finish college,” Duncan Assistant Superintendent Glenda Cobb. “The GEAR UP program will enable Duncan ISD to better prepare students for the college experience. We are looking forward to GEARing UP!”

GEAR UP will also continue to provide statewide student services such as the Student Information Hotline, OKcollegestart and GEAR UP websites and continual promotion of the Oklahoma’s Promise Scholarship Program.

You can give in to the failure messages and be a bitter dead-beat of excuses. Or you can choose to be happy and positive and excited about life." *A. L. Williams*

**PROM is Here
The DHS Prom
will be held at the
Simmons Center
on April 14th,
2012.**

DUNCAN HIGH SCHOOL

515 North 19th
P. O. Box 1548
Duncan, OK 73534

Phone: 580-255-0700
Fax: 580-252-2445

E-mail: gary.reed@duncanps.org

We're on the web:
www.duncanps.org

End of the Year Calendar

*Check www.duncanps.org for essay contests and new scholarships. Go to Duncan High School and then to counselor to access the information. There are many scholarships due on April 1st, so look them up on the website. If you have not applied to a college, now is the time to get applications completed!

FRIDAY
MARCH 2

BABY PICTURES--To be turned in to Mrs. D. Clark or Mrs. Hurst

MONDAY-TUESDAY DELIVERY OF SENIOR ANNOUNCEMENTS 8:00 A.M.-1:00P.M.
MARCH 12, 13

SATURDAY
APRIL 14

JUNIOR-SENIOR PROM 9:00 to MIDNIGHT
Prom--9:00 P.M.-12:00a.m.--Simmons Center

TUESDAY
APRIL 17

AAUW SENIOR RECEPTION--First Christian Church 7:00 P.M.
All senior girls and their mothers (or a guest) are invited. There is a slight chance the location of this event may change. If it does, it will be noted on a later invitation.

MAY 1-MAY 14

COLLEGE-BOUND SENIORS--Sign transcript list in the office designating the college they plan to attend. This is the only way Mrs. Kincannon will know where to mail your final transcript.

TUESDAY-WEDNESDAY CAPS AND GOWNS--To be distributed in senior English and Government classes. Concurrently enrolled students—see Mrs. Wade.
MAY 1, 2

WEDNESDAY
MAY 9

AWARDS ASSEMBLY--High School Auditorium 12:45 P.M.
Awards and recognition of students by colleges, school, and civic/church organizations.

THURSDAY
MAY 10

SCHOLARSHIP ASSEMBLY--High School Auditorium 12:45 P.M.
Scholarships and recognition of students by colleges and civic-church organizations.

SATURDAY
MAY 12

SENIORS' / PARENTS' DINNER AND PROGRAM DINNER--5:00 to 6:30 P.M.
PROGRAM--7:00 P.M.

Dinner will be served at Duncan Middle School. You may enter the service line anytime between 5:00 and 6:30 p.m. The price of the tickets will be announced later. The program(skits), which will be held in the High School auditorium at 7:00 p.m., will be open to the public (no charge).

SUNDAY
MAY 13

BACCALAUREATE--New Hope Baptist Church, PRACTICE 2:00 P.M.
Sponsored by the Ministerial Alliance. BACCALAUREATE 3:00 P.M.
Practice will be conducted at 2:00 p.m. at New Hope Baptist Church immediately prior to Baccalaureate, which will begin at 3:00 p.m.

MONDAY
MAY 14

ALL SPORTS ASSEMBLY--Duncan HS Auditorium 7:00 P.M.

TUESDAY
MAY 15

PICNIC AND COMMENCEMENT PRACTICE 5:30 P.M.
At Halliburton Stadium, 5:30 p.m., senior mothers will serve a picnic supper to seniors only. SCHOOL DRESS IS REQUIRED

WEDNESDAY
MAY 16

COMMENCEMENT PRACTICE--Halliburton Stadium 9:00-11:00A.M.

THURSDAY
MAY 17

FINAL EXAMS THURSDAY
Seniors must pick up their tickets for graduation before 3:00 p.m. at DHS in room 215 of the main building. Extra tickets will be given out at the NORTH gate of the stadium promptly at 4:00 p.m. Seniors are the only ones who may pick up tickets.

THURSDAY
MAY 17

COMMENCEMENT--Halliburton Stadium 8:00 P.M.
Seniors report to the practice field according to line. Line up at 7:00 p.m. promptly. Bring caps with tassels, gowns, and be in correct dress. We will put robes on after lining up.
No one is permitted on the track for pictures. Please take pictures before or after graduation. After commencement is over, pick up your DIPLOMA in the Driver's Ed building at the stadium.