Superintendent's Warrior Report

Preparing Champions for LIFE!

Busy Bee Recognition Partnership

Idabel Public Schools loves to partner with our community. We recently agreed with Charlie at the Busy Bee restaurant to recognize the Idabel Public Schools employees that go above and beyond to help our students, fellow teachers and the district to excel.

Superintendent Doug Brown recently presented four teachers the "Busy Bee" award. The building principals nominated an employee from their building that is or has been working exceptionally hard to make Idabel Schools the best school in McCurtain county.

The August recipient was Central Elementary Principal's Secretary, Debbie Monk. Ms. Copeland continues to stresses that she could not function without Debbie. Debbie has recently informed the district she will be retiring in January. She will be missed.

The September "Busy Bee" award goes to High School teacher Bethany Farely. Bethany sponsors Student Council and leads an exemplary English department. She organizes the homecoming parades and is the unofficial photographer for Idabel High School! She also teachers ACT Prep courses and works

diligently with students everyday. The October "Busy Bee" Award goes to Nancy Williams at Primary South Elementary. Nancy has taught for 47 years with 41 of those being in Idabel. She has spent the last 8 years as a Reading Specialist at Idabel Primary South. She says she has taught students in every grade K-12 and still gets a thrill when a child succeeds after trying so hard!

Mrs. Jenna Pratt is the November "Busy Bee" award recipient from Idabel Middle School. This is Jenna's 1st year at Idabel Middle School after 22 years in education. She is a new Warrior and has three children with her husband Scott. Two daughters Haley and Madison. Madison is a senior at Idabel High school and an All-State softball player. She also has one son, a freshman at I.H.S.

Staff members are given a Free Samburger Combo meal from the Busy Bee! IPS is happy to recognize the amazing staff members we have and appreciate the community partnership with the Busy Bee restaurant.

Volume 20 Issue 05

Idabel Public Schools

November 12th, 2019

Special points of interest:

- IPS District Social Nov 13, 5:30
- Sr Citizens Thanksgiving Nov 20 noon
- Thanksgiving/Deer Season Break Nov 25-29
- Idabel Christmas Tree Lighting Dec 3 6:30
- Idabel Christmas Parade Dec 6 7:00
- School Board Meeting Dec 9 5:30
- Broadway Kids Perform Dec 10 6:30
- Taste of Christmas Dec 12, 6:00
- IMS Band/Choir Concert Dec 17 7:00
- Winter/Christmas Break Dec 23-Jan 3

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School Board Election update

It is that time of year, School Board Election time!

Every school district must submit a resolution to their county election board no later than November 15, 2019. The general election will be held on April 7, 2020. If mre than two candidates file for the same open seat or unexpired term during the December filing period, a primary election will be held in February. For those districts that have a five-member school board (Idabel), seat #5 is the seat that is up for election in 2020. This will be Mrs. Claire Downing's seat.

In addition to filing the resolution our district must publish a legal notice within a newspaper by Nov. 22, 2019. There will be fee charged by the newpaper for the legal notice. The district must also submit a press release to the local newspaper by Nov. 22, 2019. Both of these are legally required. The district does not have to legally publish the actual resolution passed by the school board.

GO WARRIORS!

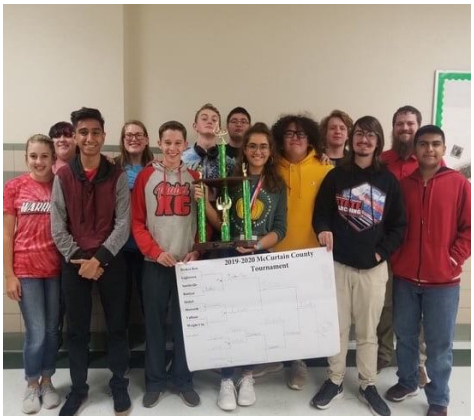
#ihswarriors Academic Team take County!

Congratulations to the #ihswarriors Idabel Academic Team who went undefeated (4-0) in the McCurtain County Tournament and walked away with 1st place; McCurtain County Champions! Leandra LeForce earned 2nd place overall in the conference as an individual.

The Idabel Academic team ended in third place overall in conference play with a record of 13 wins and 7 loses, 3 of which came from sudden death in overtime. Beating every team in the county at least once, including Broken Bow, Valliant, Haworth.

The Academic Team is coached by Mr. Michael Swafford, who said "It has been an amazing year for these hardworking kids."

McCurtain County Champions 2019!!



Mr. Swafford has taught Business Computers for the last four years, he taught Biology prior to that. He has worked in Idabel for eleven years.

Team members are: Alyssa Buckman, Blake Dial, Carlos Magana, Cody Dial, Cole Williams, Dalton Rachal, Harmony Brakebill, Jayvan Buckman, Joseph Reisdorf, Karalee Bundy, Leandra LeForce (Captain), Mauricio Salazar, Naomi Wharry, Rushil Patel, Tucker Bundy, & Zack Rowan.

Now the Academic Team is moving forward with State games after placing 2nd at District competition. The next game will be Regionals on Nov. 16th.

GO WARRIORS!

#ihswarriors Pride Marching Band takes 1st!

The #ipswarriors Vocal Music Department participated in the Southeastern Oklahoma All-District Honor Choir on November 7th on the campus of Southeaster Oklahoma State University. There were 15 vocalist who qualified from the middle school and 25 from the high school. They joined students from across SE Oklahoma and both groups performed wonderfully. The varsity vocalist are students in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades while the 9th graders join our middle schools vocalists in the Jr. High Choir. This may be the highest number of qualifiers from Idabel Schools ever. Preparing Champions for Life!

Primary South Teacher Spotlight

Trudy Procell has been a classroom teacher at Primary South for 9 years. She has taught both first and second grade and has taught in the 21st Century after school program for several years. She has been in education for 16 years and has lived in Idabel for 19 years.

Trudy is married to James Procell and has three children. All three of her children, Dr. Danielle Gray, Alex Labrador and Nicholas Procell, are Idabel graduates.

Alex, Trudy, Danielle, and Nicholas

Trudy is currently serving as the Family Service Coordinator for the after school program at Idabel Primary South.

Mrs. Procell enjoys teaching and spending time with family and friends.

Preparing Champions for Life!

District Starts Several Social Media Campaigns

Idabel Public Schools has begun an aggressive Social Media campaign recently to positively promote our employees, district, and some vital themes for our students. IPS has accounts on Twitter, Facebook, Instragram and our Live Feed on our website.

Every Sunday will be "#GettoKnowUs" Sunday. We will post an information bio on one of our employees each week to introduce our staff to our community, alumni and the world! We want to showcase our amazing employees!

Monday will be "#AttendanceMatters Monday" and we will be posting facts, tips and strategies about how important regular attendance is to students and our school.

Tuesday will be "#TimeMatters" Tuesday! This will be a day to remind families of the importance of spending face to face time with our children. We be posting facts, tips and ideas of ways our families can spend time with their children creatively.

Wednesday is now "#wifiwednesday" and will be used to share the great things our teachers and students are doing with technology in our classrooms across the district.

Thursday will be a fun one. The district will post old photos of students, activities and events at Idabel school's past on "#tbt or #ThrowbackThursday"

Friday our district will join a social media movement and make it "PositivePostFriday" or "#ppf". We will be posting positive stories about our students, faculty and district. Superintendent Brown would love to have everyone join in on these days and lets make it a social media trend on each day to celebrate the Warrior Nation!

OKLAHOMA ARTS INSTITUTE

The Oklahoma Summer Arts Institute (OSAI) is an intensive 2-week – June 13-18th—residential school that provides professional training to artistically talented OKLAHOMA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, including graduating seniors, in the visual, literary, and performing arts. OSAI offers training in the disciplines of acting, chorus, creative writing, dance, drawing and painting, film and video, orchestra, and photography.

OSAI faculty artists include winners of the Pulitzer Prize and the Academy, Grammy, Emmy, and Tony Awards. Students will join over 250 students from across the state as you study your chosen field and attend or participate in performances, gallery openings, film screenings, poetry readings, and more. Optional activities include nature hikes, karaoke night, a talent show, and a dance. You'll make lifelong friends and study with amazing teachers for a summer experience you'll never forget.

Idabel will host auditions for OSAI January 29th, 2020!

Preparing Champions for Life!

Idabel's Naomi Wharry attended OSAI 2019

Bond Projects Update

Geotechnical and civil engineering surveys were schedule last week but were delayed due to weather. They should be on campus to begin their work this week to survey and drill for core samples to prepare reports to move forward with construction plans.

The timeline for developing the construction documentation from Boynton-Williams Architects is scheduled to be completed by February 3, 2020.

Progress seems to be going smoothly! Other than the civil and geotechnical stuff being delayed because of weather, we are moving along well. Drawings have been sent to our other engineers and they have begun to set their drawings up.

GO WARRIORS!

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Sain is a Life Changer!

We are pleased to announce that Krista Sain, Elementary Counselor, from Idabel Central Elementary has been nominated as LifeChanger of the Year! The LifeChanger of the Year program recognizes and rewards K-12 school employees who make a positive difference in the lives of students.

The nomination process is open to all K-12 public, private and charter schools in the United States, and will conclude December 31st. Shortly thereafter, an Independent Selection committee, will select a total of 16 winners: a Grand Prize Winner, (4) Grand Prize Finalists, (10) LifeChangers, and a LifeChanger Spirit Winner.

This nomination means Central Elementary School is in the running for a cash prize , too!

Board Update

Superintendent Brown visited with Boynton & Williams Architects recently to get an update on out bond projects and was informed we are on schedule with the construction documents. These documents are the one of the keys to an early start in April. They are due at the first of February. The Board has already agreed to sell the bonds early, allowing the district to receive some money early and this would allow us to start construction in April. We will create a BOND Project link on the District website to keep patrons informed of the future progress once construction starts.

Mr. Brown recently was invited to participate in the Scholastic Comprehensive Literacy Summit in San Diego, California. Registration, travel and accommodations were paid for by Scholastic. He reports a great learning experience on improving literacy skills and family engagement. The networking gave him several ideas to implement in the future at IPS. A couple of ideas are "One Book, One District, One Community" project encouraging everyone to read the same book at the same time community wide to reinforce the importance of literacy. This would also encourage students to read more through a community wide movement. We want to be "Word Warriors and World Changers." Another focus will be to build strategies to meet parents/families halfway to increase parent engagement in their child's academics. There are several other points and strategies he will be sharing with our administrators and teachers.

The Oklahoma State Department of Education recently hosted an Administrators Conference in Oklahoma City. Several IPS administrators attended. This conference was specifically for administrators and covered topics like federal programs, child nutrition, the new ICAP (Individual Career and Academic Plan) and strategies to implement. The SDE had several great sessions and our administrators got several ideas and strategies to work on to increase engagement across the district.

Idabel Football has qualified for playoffs and will travel to Berryhill for the 1st Round.

The holiday season is upon us. Thanksgiving is on November 28th this year. So IPS will be out of school to celebrate Nov. 25th through the 29th. Then three weeks of school before the Christmas Holiday break on Dec. 23rd through January 3rd.

Happy Thanksgiving and good luck in the deer woods! GO WARRIORS!