



# Bobcat Tracks

A publication of the Hope Public Schools

## HPS 'Reaching New Heights' in 2019

Initiatives and people take the Hope Public Schools into 2019-2020 with emphasis upon greater horizons for students.



### Bobcat Clinic a first for Hope Public Schools

A first for the Hope Public School District and southwest Arkansas was celebrated by more than 100 local residents, state and local educators, and HPSD students Aug. 20 with the ribbon cutting and opening of the Bobcat Clinic on the Hope High School campus.

The medical and behavioral health services clinic is the first of its kind in southwest Arkansas and the realization of a two-year effort by the HPSD and the greater Hope community, HPS Superintendent Dr. Bobby Hart said.

"Today's celebration is the culmination to two years of work," Dr. Hart said. "Our grant team led by Assistant Superintendent Portia Jones and our clinic coordinator Mrs. Gretchen Carlton, along with our district nurse's team, did a remarkable job in putting the grant together."



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People, Awards, Wins, and Successes. Page 3



#### Supt. Corner

A word from Hope Schools Superintendent Bobby Hart. Page 4



#### Yerger clubs offer diverse fun

A variety of student organizations are offered at Yerger Middle School for 2019-2020.

Read more, Page 4.

Start-up and construction remodeling funds of \$500,000 were provided through the Arkansas Department of Education as the result of the district's application and a community-wide collaboration.

ADE School Health Services Grants Manager Brittany Rogers said the HPSD and community were to be congratulated for a unified vision.

Medical services will be provided through a partnership between Hope Public Schools and CABUN Rural Health Services, while behavioral health services will be through a partnership between HPS and Arkansas Counseling and Psychodiagnostics.

Bobcat Clinic medical services hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday throughout the year with the exception of the month of July. The clinic will close from 11-11:30 a.m. daily for lunch.

The clinic will follow the HPS calendar during the academic year, and will observe HPS holidays and special campus closure days, Carlton said.

### **Collegiate Academy adds to academic horizons**

The pilot program developed on the University of Arkansas-Hope campus last year has become the Hope Collegiate Academy.

"The junior group will be integrated into the regular student population daily," he said. "This is a first, and we are excited for those students, as well as the incoming sophomore class."

The program is housed in the Johnny Rapert Library Complex on the University of Arkansas-Hope campus, and will immerse students into college level studies through the 12<sup>th</sup> grade to graduate with a Hope High School diploma and an Associate's Degree or Professional Certification from UAHT simultaneously and free of cost.

"This program is one that Hope Public Schools is proud to offer, and is a program we believe sets us apart from any school district in our area," Hart said.

Students must meet the residency requirements of the Hope Public School District and must be enrolled as a Hope Public School student.

The HCP Academy is a public school, and is free of charge. A maximum of 60 college credit hours is attainable that will transfer a student to a four-year college or university as a junior; or, provide a student with a workforce-ready degree or certification.

### **Food services model changes for district**

The goal of the new leadership team in the kitchens on the Hope Public Schools campuses is fresh fun that thinks outside the lunch tray. Aramark Food Services Director for HPS Cortney Nutt and Aramark HPS Executive Chef Nicholas Collins are new to HPS Child Nutrition Services as part of a food services operations agreement between Aramark and the HPS. Deanna Gilbert continues to serve as Director of Nutrition Services.

Nutt is a native of Glen Rose, Ar., and currently resides in Friendship. She is a 2007 graduate of Glen Rose High School. Nutt is currently pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in culinary business management from Arizona State University. She worked as an Assistant Director in food services for four years with Chartwells, a nationally-known food services company. Nutt has been employed by Philadelphia, Pa., based Aramark for a year, prior to taking the assignment in Hope. Nutt is an Arkansas Department of Education Certified Child Nutrition Manager.

Aramark HPS Executive Chef Nicholas Collins is a 2017 graduate of Hope High School, and he holds an Associate Degree in culinary services from Texarkana College, conferred this year. He is a former student in the culinary service program at HHS.

"We want to put a spin on things to make it fresher and exciting for the students," he said.

# BOBCAT P.A.W.S.



## People

The Flamingo Games brought a new twist to Back to School for the Clinton Primary School faculty flock. After dividing into teams at Hammons Stadium, each team was given the same set of tasks to complete prior to reporting back to the CPS building. Among the tasks was a requirement to plant a team flamingo on a Hope Public Schools property. The morning was part of a campus professional development component designed to provide teachers and administrators with a get acquainted day toward building relationships among faculty members.



## Awards

Sandra Calhoun, kitchen manager at Clinton Primary School, will be one of 200 food services professionals worldwide to be recognized in October by one of the largest employers in the business. Calhoun has been named to the Aramark “Ring of Stars” by company CEO Eric J. Floss. A native of Nashville, Calhoun is a graduate of Nashville High School, who began working in the child nutrition department of the HPS in 2016 in food preparation, working her way into managing the largest kitchen in the Hope district. The CPS campus serves some 850-900 students per day in grades PreK-4.

## Wins



The Hope Public Schools bands program has benefitted from some instrumental support; literally. After receiving two clarinets from Texarkana during a donation event in June, HPS Bands Director Julie Gladden said the program was promised three new Sousaphones and received a total of 15 donated instruments. A donations website called “Flutes for a Growing Band Program” at DonorsChoose.org online has also raised money to purchase instruments. Any donations, whether of instruments or monetary help, are considered tax deductible, Gladden said.

## Successes



The Hope Public Schools’ summer meals program hit a record this year. Deanna Gilbert, director of nutrition services, said 5,608 lunches were served from June 2 to Aug. 3, besting a goal of 5,000 meals. The program provided free meals Monday-Friday at Hope Fair Park, Hope Northside Park and Hope High School cafeteria. A modified school bus was provided, with a library for children to take a book home. Programs were sponsored by the Hempstead County Master Gardeners, the Hope Fire Department, Pafford Emergency Medical Services, the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, the Hempstead County Sheriff’s Department, and the Hope Rotary Club.

# CAMPUSES

What's positive on the campuses of the Hope Public School District?

## Yerger club offerings bring positive fun to YMS

Diverse, positive fun at the Yerger Middle School campus is growing this year through clubs and student organizations. Offerings for 2019-2020 include:

**Art Club** – Sponsor, Darlene Bailey

Art Club is open to students who love art and want to create their own works of art with guidance from art faculty.

**Debate Club** – Sponsors, Hosea Born, Delma Stewart  
The Debate Club aids academic ability as students learn skills in research, organization, listening, public speaking and presentation planning.

**Fellowship of Christian Students** – Sponsor, Earlene Gulley

FCS is a student-led, faith-based organization where students encourage one another through prayer, music and devotionals. Members are asked to participate in service projects and take leadership roles on campus.

**Home Economics Club** – Sponsor, Jennifer Stevens  
Open to boys and girls, Home Economics Club offers opportunities to learn sewing and cooking basics along with meal planning and budgeting skills.

**Lions Quest Club** – Sponsor, Angela Williams  
Lions Quest teaches success skills such as responsibility, effective communication, goal setting, healthy choices, and resisting peer pressure.

**National Junior Honor Society** – Sponsor, Deadra Simington

NJHS is a nationally-recognized program which honors students who have demonstrated excellence in scholarship, leadership, service, character and citizenship.

**Photography Club** – Sponsor, Eric Ramilo  
Students learn photographic skills and how to produce work for display.

**Robotics Club** – Sponsor, Melinda Strike  
Students design and produce functional robots through engineering, teamwork and problem solving applied in robotics competition.

**Student Council/Student Voice** – Sponsor, Shonda Young  
Student Council promotes harmony and understanding between students and faculty, cooperation among student organizations, community service and character.

**Teach HPS Club** – Sponsor, Nancy Bradford  
Teach HPS focuses recommended students upon skills needed to pursue a career as a future educator.

## Hope Schools Vision...

...World Class Students, World Class Learning, World Class Citizens.

## Hope Schools Mission...

The mission of the Hope Public Schools is to provide all students a quality education through the collaborative efforts of the schools, families, and all stakeholders to create productive citizens in our ever-changing society.

### SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

Our district wants to hear from you. We have multiple methods from e-mail, phone and face-to-face to text and survey responses. Please let us know how we are doing and how we can better serve you. Our parent engagement survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R57NKRT> online. Also, you can hear about what is going on by subscribing to our podcast.



HPS Supt.  
Bobby Hart

We discuss important topics in education and try to highlight our students and staff. You can find our podcast on our website or at <https://anchor.fm/bobby-hart> online. Thank you for believing in the Hope Public Schools.

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