



# Bobcat Tracks

A publication of the Hope Public Schools

## HPS 'positives' rising in first half

The impact of 'positives' across all aspects of the Hope Public Schools in the first semester of 2019-20 has been evident.



### “Beating the Odds” in academics

Four of the five campuses of the Hope Public Schools were recognized for “Beating the Odds” in academic growth by the University of Arkansas Office for Education Policy.

HPS Superintendent Dr. Bobby Hart said the data shows HPS schools are living up to the “Beating the Odds” concept.

“The students, parents, teachers and staffs of these buildings deserve all the credit and recognition we can heap on them,” Dr. Hart said. “They are overcoming challenges and are growing and learning at rates that are above many others.”



### P.A.W.S.

People, Awards, Wins, and Successes. Page 3



### Supt. Corner

A word from Hope Schools Superintendent Bobby Hart. Page 4



### Artist in Residence program

A variety of artistic concepts are introduced to students by working artists.

Read more, Page 4.

Hope High School, Beryl Henry Elementary School, Yerger Middle School and Hope Academy of Public Service were recognized in the data released by the OEP on Nov. 14.

HHS was ranked third among the Top 5 high schools in the Southwest Arkansas Region in English Language Arts growth with a score of 81.17. HHS also ranked fourth among the Top 5 schools in the Southwest region in math growth with a score of 80.57.

Both BHE and Yerger were recognized among the Top 10 middle school campuses in Arkansas for overall growth in combined ELA and math scores.

Yerger ranked ninth with a composite score of 82.28, while BHE was one point back at tenth with a composite score of 82.27.

The OEP ranked BHE No. 1 statewide in ELA growth with a score of 85.97 and No. 1 in the Southwest region in ELA growth. Yerger ranked No. 2 statewide in ELA growth with a score of 84.68 and No. 2 in the Southwest region in ELA growth. Yerger also ranked fifth in math growth among the Top 5 middle schools in the Southwest region with a score of 79.90.

HAPS ranked fourth among the Top 5 middle schools in the Southwest region in ELA growth with a score of 82.06.

### **Campus initiatives**

Each campus across the Hope Public Schools has shown rising “positives” through the semester.

Clinton Primary School – Emphasis on grade-level reading skills growing through Reading Fair, Battle of the Books competition, and Dolly Parton Imagination Library initiative.

Beryl Henry Elementary School – Enrichment programs include band, choir and Gifted/Talented classes; services include migrant and family, English Language Learner program; Parent-Teacher Organization offers parental outreach; regular activities offered to include parents; OEP award among top academic growth in state.

Yerger Middle School – Community support of student needs includes contributions and donations to food pantry and services estimated at \$12,000; increasing incentives for perfect attendance; community-based EAST program projects partner with City of Hope and others; social media presence growing; robotics program growing; movie in the park plan for parental engagement developed.

Hope Academy of Public Service – Currently 215 students, steady enrollment; growing reputation for public service component, extending into high school grades for state requirements; partnerships, including The Call, providing services to parents of foster families, adoption of Grady Street as continuing service project, Downtown Merchants’ Association, and Hope Haven/Heather Manor nursing homes.

Hope High School – Growth of ninth grade registration for ACT, Accuplacer for concurrent credit; community closet; mentoring partners; parental engagement computer portal; family movie night; civic club support of ACT Aspire incentives; 97 percent attendance first nine weeks for Ninth Grade Academy; reduced ninth-grade discipline referrals; introduction of student-led conferences in ninth grade; development of mini-grant writing; planned redesign of ninth grade assembly space.

Hope Collegiate Academy – Students are learning to “take care of business” on the collegiate level; improving study habits; making smoother transitions from high school coursework to collegiate studies. The HCA 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.

# IBOBCAT P.A.W.S.



## People

Maurice Henry, director of transportation and facilities for the Hope Public Schools, was named the 2019 U of A Hope-Texarkana Outstanding Alum of the Year at the annual Arkansas Community College’s Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. The annual outstanding alumnus is someone who renders special and outstanding service to the College, brings distinction to the College, and/or brings recognition to the College through outstanding service and significant contributions to his or her community, state and/or nation.

## Awards



The Hope High School Botcats finished fifth overall Nov. 2 at the 2019 BEST Robotics Competition in Little Rock, winning the Most Robust Robot award for the most durable design and third place in Spirit and Sportsmanship. Team members Yovana Martinez, Zoltin Delloso, Jadora Rivera, Timothy Rowe, Samantha Bailey, Jacob Gunn, Cole Ayers and Dale Coleman were required to design and build a robot capable of specific tasks related to a hypothetical power grid. Mentors Chad Ayers and Val Knight offered technical support and advice, and the Hope Kiwanis Club provided financial support, according to faculty coach Kathy Knight.

## Wins



The Hope Public Schools bands program has brought home its first state marching contest qualification under bands director Julie Gladden. The Hope High School Marching Band show “Machine” finished 12<sup>th</sup> among class 5A bands statewide in Little Rock with a score of 74.32. The band qualified for state marching competition after receiving a Division I rating at the South Zone Region II Marching Assessment which was hosted by Hope on Oct. 22 at Hammons Stadium.

## Successes



The Hope High School Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps AR-20101 passed its Headquarters Inspection with the highest marks in the local unit’s history this year. Inspector Chief Master Sergeant (ret.) R. Wayne Barron awarded the unit a “Meets Standards” score in six of seven criteria, plus an “Exceeds Standards” rating for outstanding administrative support of the program, instructor support and quality of facilities. Cadet Second Lieutenant Gianna Knight was named “Top Performer.”



# CAMPUSES

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

## Artist in Residence offers variety of artistic concepts

The Artist in Residence program of the Southwest Arkansas Arts Council, in collaboration with the Arkansas Arts Council, and its partnership with the Hope Public Schools brought Native American, ancient Egyptian and Greek, pioneer Arkansas and fossil art to HPS campuses during the fall semester.

Noted southwestern and Arkansas artists Norris Chee, Mary Overton, and Sue Allen Pico spent one-week residencies on four of the five campuses in the district during the semester.

Chee, a Native American, worked with students in Kendrick Adams' classes at Hope High School teaching airbrush art techniques using stenciled templates on fabric to create tee shirts with original art.

Chee began working as a professional airbrush artist in 1994, after working in a number of mediums for several years as an artist in Arizona.

Artist Mary Overton concentrates upon history and science in her approaches with students. Sixth grade students at Beryl Henry Elementary School worked on two world history-based projects to plan, layout and draw a landscape reflecting the scene of the Great Pyramid of Cheops in Egypt.

After completing the pyramids project, Overton returned to BHE to engage the students in a more complex project involving detailed art which might be reflected on ancient Greek vessels such as kraters, apulia, lekythos, amphoria and oenochoe styles of drinking vessels, storage vessels and commercial vessels.

Overton also directed students at Hope Academy of Public Service in a "fossil art" project where students drew works representing the geologic strata of the Earth where fossilization begins with emphasis upon color, structure, line and symmetry.

Artist Sue Allen Pico brought pioneer-era Arkansas to social studies classes at Yerger Middle School with an emphasis upon designing a covered wagon suitable to sustain a family of four on the trek westward through Arkansas. Pico introduced concepts in pioneer life and the students were responsible for incorporating them into a workable design, or risk being left out of the wagon train making the journey.

"When you came west, you brought only what you needed to survive and settle," Pico pointed out. "There were no convenience stores; and, the nearest trading post may be a two-month journey one way."

## 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 school year is halfway over for 2019-2020, and like the families we serve, we realize time is flying by. I want to use this space to tell all of our stakeholders that we are grateful for the opportunities we have been afforded to work with each of you. Together we are improving outcomes for the students of the Hope Public Schools.



HPS Supt.  
Bobby Hart

We also want to invite you to continue to listen to our district podcast. 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.

**BOBCAT TRACKS**  
is a publication of  
the Hope Public  
Schools. Ken  
McLemore, Editor

