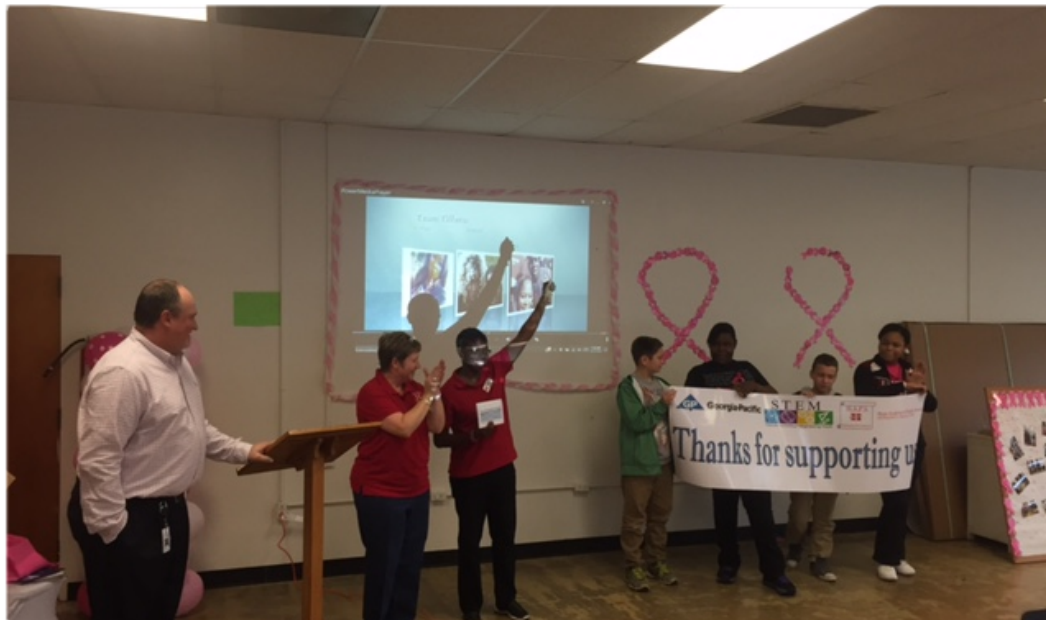


Bobcat Tracks



A publication of the Hope Public School District



HAPS opens 'innovation' door

The Hope Academy of Public Service opened the door to the 'school of innovation' concept for the HPSD this year.

Supported by community involvement, including a \$5,000 innovation lab grant from Georgia-Pacific Co. - Hope, the new grade 5-8 open enrollment academy provides a rigorous curriculum in a project/collaborative-based environment. The school on the Augustus Garland campus has 157 students, and is the model for the development of additional academy structures within the HPSD.

The Georgia-Pacific Co. grant funded the purchase of 3D printer technology for the innovation lab at HAPS, which will allow students to build prototype parts for specific projects.

A public service curriculum is under development through a partnership with the William J. Clinton School of Public Service in Little Rock. The



'Strive for Five'
Student challenge to cut absences to five or less per semester. Page 2



School bus safety
Parents are reminded to be school bus safety aware. Page 3



Parent-Teacher Conferences
Next Parent-Teacher Conferences are set for March 16.

graduate student team includes Zack Huffman, University of Mississippi, BA in public policy leadership; Caroline Dunlap, University of Vermont, BS in environmental studies; Crystal C. Mercer, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, BA in theater arts and dance; and, Andrew Trevino, University of Colorado at Boulder, BA in political science and University of Arkansas at Little Rock William H. Bowen School of Law student. Other potential higher education partnership opportunities include the University of Arkansas Hope-Texarkana. The “school of innovation” concept may also expand with the proposed development of academies at Beryl Henry Elementary School and Yerger Middle School. The proposed BHE campus will focus upon the cultural and digital arts and the proposed YMS campus will focus upon agricultural sciences. A target date has not been set for the two “open enrollment” projects.

‘Strive for Five’

Student attendance challenge takes first steps to cut absences.

A districtwide initiative to improve student attendance in class is showing positive results. Initial reports from the first nine-week grading period of the 2016-2017 school year shows student support for the “Strive for Five” initiative. The initiative has been particularly significant at Hope High School, where 42 students maintained perfect attendance with no absences or tardies, and 452 students were absent between one and five days. The goal of the initiative is to reduce absences and tardies to fewer than five per semester. At Beryl Henry Elementary School, 142 students qualified for reward incentives. Incentives range from special privileges to lunch with Superintendent Bobby Hart and participation in drawings for prizes.

HHS prize winners included Keith Brown, junior; Rogelio Garcia, senior; Luis Torres, sophomore; and Genesis Muldrew, freshman (above right, with Hart and HHS Assistant Principal Mike Radebaugh); and, overall winner



Gia Ventura, freshman (bottom right with Radebaugh).

DEPARTMENTS

What's going on in the administrative departments of the Hope Public Schools?

Curriculum

Revisiting Rtl with a focus on Tier 1 Core instruction was a positive development that resulted in additional support to students.

Federal Programs

The federal McKinney-Vento homeless program has provided family support services to 61 students in 2016-2017.

Finance

More than 150 HPSD employees are using new digital vouchers for direct deposit services.

Food Services

Child Nutrition Director Deanna Gilbert is featured in the Dec. 16 issue of School Nutrition Magazine, published by the School Nutrition Association.

Maintenance

Three outstanding new employees have made an impact. All HPSD custodians now have uniforms, and the new look has been positive.

706

On April 26, 2016, Arkansas school bus drivers in 100 school districts counted the number of instances of motorists illegally passing a school bus. They reported observing 706 occurrences.

Let's work together to keep Arkansas' students safe.



School Improvement

HPSD continues to make gains. Administrators, principals, teachers and staff are delivering positive, rigorous education for all students.

Social Services

The "Strive for Five" student attendance initiative is showing positive results.

Special Education

The Special Education Department is working to build capacity as the necessary support system for students, faculty and district stakeholders.

Technology

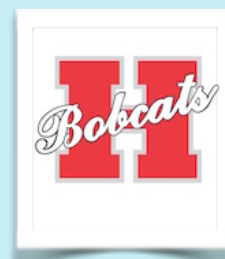
ChromeBooks in the classroom helped teachers better utilize technology, and allowed students to increase content creation dramatically.

Transport/Facilities

The construction of 24,575 square-feet of new classrooms and building, plus 4,012 square-feet of remodel is due to be complete in July or August.

SUPERINTENDENT'S CORNER

We are extremely pleased with the results of the work from all of our campuses. CPS' reading scores are improving; BHE's ACT Aspire results show growth; YMS and HHS culture and climate data show improved discipline rates; and, our HAPS campus is building inertia and has provided a new opportunity for choice for our families. It is an exciting time to be a Bobcat.



CAMPUSES

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

BHE makes state list

Beryl Henry Elementary School has been named an Arkansas School Recognition Program campus by the Arkansas Department of Education.

Beryl Henry Elementary School is among 201 schools statewide that were recognized by the Arkansas Department of Education. BHE was named as one of the schools in the top 6-10 percent of academic growth. Hope Schools Superintendent Bobby Hart congratulated the BHE staff and students on the accomplishment.

"We all celebrate your success and are proud of the efforts from all," Hart said.

The Arkansas School Recognition Program is designed to reward public schools that experience high student performance and high student academic growth, according to the ADE announcement.

"These schools have demonstrated exceptional academic improvement and have inspired students to work hard to achieve their goals," Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson said in the announcement.

Hart said the "bottom line results are improving" at Beryl Henry Elementary.

ABC Preschool

The UA Extension Service provided information to ABC students about proper nutrition; will return in the Spring semester.

Clinton Primary

Spring activities are blooming at CPS with county spelling bee, fourth grade STEM Wars, and academic awards assembly.

Beryl Henry Elem.

BHE hosted an educational forum Jan. 12 that gave parents, students, and teachers a voice in improving education in Hope, and a great way to interact with families of students.

H.A.P.S.

Individualized Learning Plans for all students directs college and career planning; while 3D printers are now in use from Georgia-Pacific Co. grant.

Yerger Middle School

Student and teacher surveys are helping us improve techniques and programs to build a stronger team and attain student success.

Hope High School

The Student Voice Committee shares thoughts on strengthening HHS while teachers share concerns with administration; working together to ensure a world-class education for everyone.

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

