



CLAREMORE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

Superintendent's Newsletter

NOVEMBER 2009

We are rapidly approaching Thanksgiving and though economic times make it difficult for many, on a daily basis we find much to be thankful for in our school district and student's lives.

November will mark the official dedication of the Pat Heidlage Gymnasium at Westside Elementary School. This is a fitting tribute to Mrs. Heidlage who gave 32 years of service to Claremore Public Schools and its students as a physical education teacher and tennis coach. Everyone is welcome to attend the dedication on Monday, November 9th at 6pm.

Congratulations are in order for our Varsity Speech and Debate Team under the direction of Ms. Gina Brown. The team took first place honors in the Bishop Kelly Speech Tournament over such notable schools as Broken Arrow, Bartlesville, Owasso, Booker T. Washington, and Bixby. Well done!

The Pride of Claremore recently competed in the state marching contest. Our high school band was one of the top performing bands earning a "superior" rating, which is the highest level in the OSSAA competition. Congratulations to Band Director Kevin Couch and his students on this excellent showing.

As you may know, Roosa Elementary is one of six schools in the state named a National Blue Ribbon School this year. Principal Glen Abshere and Media Specialist Jonnie Gayman are traveling to Washington, DC to attend the awards ceremony. Students, parents and staff are to be commended for this great distinction.

Claremont Elementary staff and students will be having their "Tunes for Turkeys" (students will be singing) for donations of food items for families in need. This takes place November 9th – 13th. Last year's event raised enough food items for 45 families. Please support this great community service endeavor.

Veterans Day assemblies will be part of a number of the schools special events during the coming week. This is a time for the school community to recognize those that served our nation in the military. It is important to teach our student body the importance of respecting those that defend or have defended the Constitution, "against all enemies foreign and domestic". Thank you, Veterans!

November marks the time of the year when we begin airing up the basketballs. The 2009-2010 season for hoops will get in to full swing shortly. We are excited about this year's mens and womens varsity squads. Coach Campbell will direct the Lady Zebras for his 15th campaign and Coach Stewart will coach the Zebras for his third season. It will be an exciting time and there is great anticipation about this year's prospects for post season tournament play. Meet the Zebra night is set for Tuesday, November 10th. Don't miss a moment of the action and please support the Zebra Basketball programs.

Michael McClaren
Superintendent