

SUPERINTENDENT'S POST, AUGUST 2016
By Chuck McCauley | Bartlesville Public Schools



It is with great anticipation and excitement that I welcome you to the 2016-17 school year. This will begin my first school year as the Superintendent of Bartlesville Public Schools, and I could not be more excited and honored.

I hope the summer went well for students, new and returning, with them finding time to rest and recharge for a productive year at Bartlesville Public Schools. We kept busy throughout the summer months preparing for their return.

The year kicked off with our annual Back to School Rally this past Monday, August 15. The rally, a BPSD annual tradition, featured performances by the Bruin Brigade Marching Band, cheerleaders, and pom squad. No district funds are used on the rally; sponsors make it possible. Sponsors for this year's rally are Truist Credit Union and Sodexo.

As we begin another school year, we look forward to you being a part of our Bartlesville Public School community and hope you become involved in your schools and events. We especially welcome new families into our school community as they become engaged in our students' education. We are fortunate to have a school district in which students, staff, families, and the community work together to support our mission: *In partnership with parents and our community, the Bartlesville Public School District exists to provide an exemplary educational experience that is comprehensive, challenging, and inspirational to all students so that they will realize their greatest potential and become positive contributors to their community.*

As our classrooms fill up tomorrow morning, it will be exciting for our students to encounter the new renovations at Central Middle school. A lot of work has gone into providing additional space and learning environments. There will be an Open House to explore the renovations at Central this Sunday, August 21 at 2:00 p.m. We'll start with a brief presentation in the renovated cafeteria on the north side and have self-guided tours afterward. With the completion of Central's renovation, our 2013 bond program will have run its course. It added district-wide security improvements, addressed our two outdated middle school facilities, and expanded Bartlesville High School to accommodate 9th-12th grade students.

We still have facility needs across our district and challenges from reductions in state funding. We must continue to invest local dollars in our students to meet the needs of the district going forward. Therefore, I encourage all community members to learn about the upcoming school bond issue election. The best source of information about the election is www.BruinBond.com. Be sure to vote on Tuesday, August 23.

The first day back for students is tomorrow morning, August 18. On behalf of BPSD, I would like to wish everyone great success as we welcome roughly 6,000 students to the start of their educational journey of 2016-17. I look forward to seeing our students, faculty, and families in our buildings and at events. I will see you in the schools! GO BRUINS!