

Oxford City Schools

Proud of our past  *Preparing for the future*

THE NEW LOOK

VOLUME III ISSUE I

FALL, 2010

OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL



For nineteen months the entire Oxford community anxiously watched as the construction of the new Oxford High School was being erected on the site of the former OHS hill. On Sunday, August 8, 2010, the public was invited to attend the official Open House for the new school. "The reality of our new OHS is the culmination of a strong community effort. This facility is a reflection of the commitment to children displayed by our school board and civic leaders," stated Oxford City Schools superintendent, Dr. Jeff Goodwin. Hundreds of people roamed the halls in awe of the new 130,000 square-foot learning facility, equipped with state-of-the art technology. The new Oxford High School has 31 classrooms, four science labs, four computer labs, three administrative offices, art room, kitchen, cafeteria, concession stand, and two weight rooms. A state-of-the-art computer lab is stationed on each floor while each classroom is outfitted with the most advanced electronic and digital teaching tools: computers, LCD projectors, digital interactive tablets connected wirelessly to a digital projector, and wireless access throughout the building. Celebrating a century of providing the highest quality education for the citizens of Oxford, on Monday, August 9, Oxford High School opened its doors to more than 1,200 students. Oxford High School is for the children of our community and will be for many years to come a focal point of education in our city.



OXFORD HIGH SCHOOL

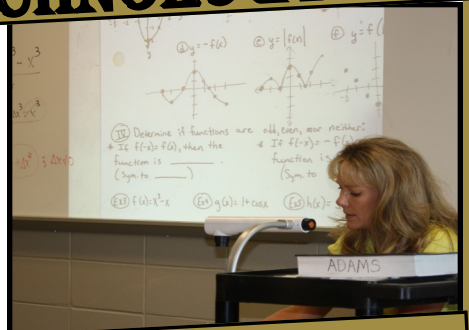
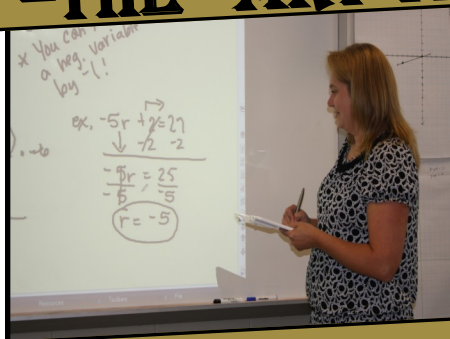
PREPARATION FOR OPENING



BIG "O" TRADITION



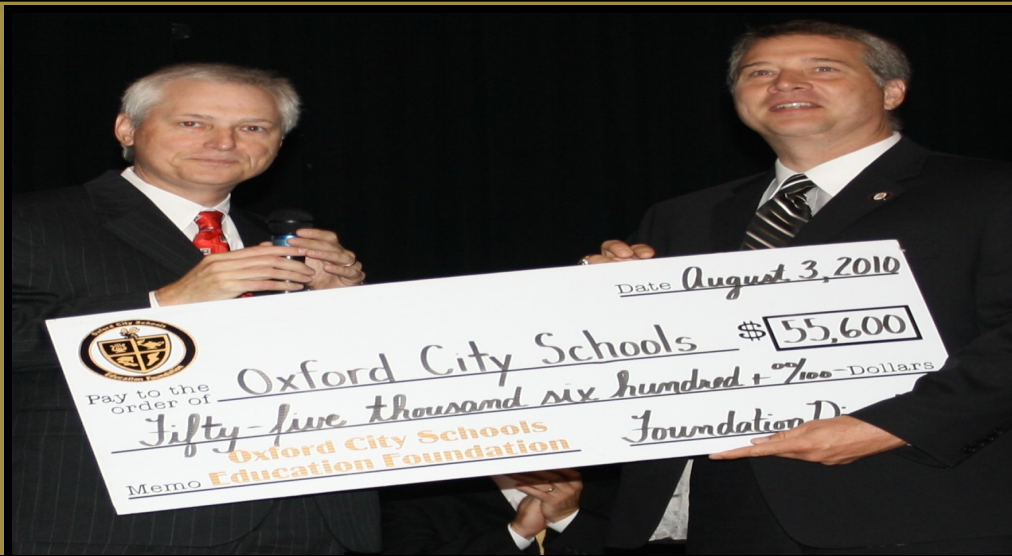
STATE -OF -THE -ART TECHNOLOGY



LEARNING LABORATORIES



A WINNING COMBINATION



Oxford City Schools Education Foundation President, Stan Nelson, presents \$55,600 check to Dr. Goodwin



Oxford City Schools Board of Education President, Karen Phillips, presents \$55,600 check to Dr. Goodwin

Thanks to the commitment of the Oxford City Schools Education Foundation and the Oxford City Schools Board of Education, every teacher in the Oxford City School System will receive \$400 for classroom instructional supplies. Due to proration, the state education budget provided no money again this year for teaching supplies.

"The mission of our organization is to enhance the educational opportunities for all students in Oxford City Schools. We realize this money will touch every child in every classroom in a positive way," stated Stan Nelson, President of the Oxford City Schools Education Foundation. The audience of faculty, administrators, and staff members responded with a standing ovation and a resounding applause when the checks totaling, \$111,200, were presented to Dr. Goodwin at the annual teacher institute on August 3. The school board also provided an extra \$10 for school supplies for students in grades K-8.

Coldwater Elementary School



- Alabama Reading Initiative
- Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative
- Art
- Music + "Jacket Sing-sations"
- Smart Technology (Interactive whiteboards, Qumo tablets, computer education)
- Gifted Education
- Electronic Broadcasting
- Alabama Wildlife Federation Outdoor Classroom



DeArmanville Elementary School



- Alabama Reading Initiative
- Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative
- Art
- Music + "Jacket Sing-sations"
- Smart Technology (Interactive whiteboards, Qumo tablets, computer education)
- Gifted Education
- Electronic Broadcasting
- Interactive Physical Education Program



Oxford Elementary School



- Alabama Reading Initiative
- Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative
- Art
- Music + "Jacket Sing-sations"
- Smart Technology (Interactive whiteboards, Qumo tablets, computer education)
- Gifted Education
- Electronic Broadcasting
- Certified Nat'l Wildlife Fed. Outdoor Classroom School



C.E. Hanna



- Alabama Reading Initiative
- Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative
- Art, Music and Band
- Smart Technology
- Gifted Education and Accelerated Learning
- Pre-Advanced Placement Curriculum
- Certified National Wildlife Federation Outdoor Classroom School



Oxford Middle School



- Alabama Reading Initiative
- Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative
- Fine Arts
- Smart Technology (Interactive whiteboards, Qumo tablets, automatic response devices)
- Foreign Language
- Advanced Curriculum
- High School Credit Enrollment
- Pre-AP Curriculum
- Electronic Journalism



Oxford High School



- Advanced Curriculum
- A+ Advanced Placement
- Dual Enrollment
- Advanced Career Tech
- ACCESS Distance Learning
- Alabama Reading Initiative
- Performing Arts and Fine Arts
- Early College Enrollment
- Smart Technology
- Individualized Computer-Based Instruction
- Foreign Language



MAKING IT HAPPEN

Stakeholders of the Oxford City Schools convened to listen to superintendent, Dr. Jeff Goodwin's, "State of the System" address at the Oxford City Schools' Strategic Planning meeting on August 31. Did you know that 95% of students in Oxford attend Oxford schools? Only 5% attend private schools. While the future of state funding is quite dismal, did you know that our survival and prosperity are due to the strong support from our City Government? Did you know that Oxford City School System received the highest marks possible on the AdvancED District Accreditation Review?

Parents, grandparents, business leaders, teachers, administrators, and community representatives assembled together with one common goal – to continue to make Oxford City Schools **the** leader in all aspects of education. Groups rotated to various break-out sessions as administrators shared district, school, and classroom level data. Collaboration among stakeholders was transparent as they identified areas of strengths and weaknesses and determined priorities to guide our system.

The participants even utilized state-of-the-art technology-*automatic response devices*- to answer survey questions related to the strategic plan. This technology is available to our students which enables teachers to optimize instruction and obtain data instantaneously. Together, we will continue to MAKE IT HAPPEN for our students!!!!





Coach Van Meter with son, Pierce.

Meet and Greet

Members of the Oxford community gathered at the Oxford Public Library on Sunday, August 1, 2010, to meet and get acquainted with three of Oxford's new varsity coaches and their families. Leading Oxford High School Varsity Boys' Basketball team will be Coach Joel Van Meter. Coach Van Meter has coached at several colleges including Jacksonville State University and most recently Morehead State University, Kentucky. Coach Van Meter stated that it is a privilege to be a part of the Oxford community. His wife Katy Skinner Van Meter and young son, Pierce, are already sporting the black and gold. Coach Barnes joins the Oxford staff as OHS Varsity Girls' Basketball coach. When at LaFayette, Coach Barnes' 2008 basketball team won the Class 3-A championship, and he was selected as the Area "Coach of the Year." Coach James Presnell, Boys' and Girls' Track and Cross Country Coach, and wife Karen come to Oxford from Tennessee. Presnell was nominated as National Coach of the Year as well as recording numerous state championships and individual state champions in track and cross country.



Varsity Boys' Basketball Coach
Coach Joel Van Meter



Varsity Girls' Basketball Coach
Coach Barnes



Track and Cross Country Coach
Coach James Presnell

WELCOME ABOARD NEW OCS FACULTY

Oxford High School

Kelly Abney, LA; Gregory Barnes, Biology; Amy Graham, Mathematics; Cortney Gurley, Reading; Marcus Harris, Spanish; Cole Heard, LA; Carla Key, Special Ed.; Lauren Murphy, Special Ed; Trent Phillips, Health Care; James Presnell, Business Technology; Joel Van Meter, Special Ed.; April Watson, Visual Arts; Lindsey Webb, Healthcare Science



C.E. Hanna

Adrienne Haywood., 6th Gr.; Hellon McWilliams, 6th Gr.; Terra Good, Special Ed.; Cheryl Robinson, 5th Gr.; Ashley Smith, Special Ed.

Colwater Elementary

Arnetrice Berry, K; Brandi Leslie, 2nd Gr.; Kelly Looney, Special Ed.; Holly Luke, Music (CES and DES); Leneshia Moyegun, ESL (CES and DES)

Oxford Middle School

Lauren Amos, 7th - 8th Science; YoLandra Ball, Computer Applications; Shatia Chandler, 7th - 8th Math; Dwight McDonald, Special Ed; Robert Taylor, Media Specialist; Marcus Harris, Spanish



DeArmanville Elementary

Shelia Boswell, 2nd; Julie Puckett, 4th; Candace Searce, Speech Pathologist

Oxford Elementary

DeMario Billingslea, P.E.; Nanci Morales, Special Ed.

"POTS OF CLAY"



Have you ever thought about the similarities between a clay pot and a family? Well, that was the topic in Ms. Summer Anderson's Teen Connections class at Oxford Middle School. After discussing the similarities, the students hammered the clay flower pot into pieces. This led to a discussion of how a family can break apart because of financial difficulties, death, divorce, alcohol and drugs, etc. The students then were challenged to put the pot back together again using masking tape. In comparison, what is the tape that holds a family together? Students replies were: encouragement, support, faith, good communication skills, trust, etc. "It took us a lot of time to put our pot back together. I know that to keep a family together, it takes a lot of time," said one student. All of us need to be mindful of how we treat others and what we say to our family members. Sometimes we need tape to mend the broken pieces.

"Team Lynch"



The Woodstock 5K race in Anniston has been a great tradition in this area for many years. However, this year's 30th annual race carried even greater significance. A group of Oxford City School employees ran the 3.1 mile race in memory of Dr. Steve Lynch. Dr. Lynch was an active supporter of all Oxford City Schools events and served as a director of the Oxford City Schools Education Foundation. Cindy, his wife, teaches at C.E. Hanna and is a beacon of light in every person's life that she touches. We join "Team Lynch" in honor of Dr. Lynch's life and his commitment to education and the students of Oxford City Schools!

BLOGGING



Ms. Bunn and Ms. Schwyn's 5th graders are boosting classroom communication and collaboration through the usage of internet blog.

Students are writing with a purpose! The students write and complete all aspects for each post topic which leads to more proficient writing skills. Blogging allows the students to share information with each other as well as with their teachers, parents, the community, and the global audience. Parents with internet access can view the team blogs—an important element that enhances parent partnership with the classroom. Blogging also prepares students for digital citizenship as they learn cyber safety. Blogs allow digital natives to use text, multimedia, widgets, audio, and images. "As we grow as bloggers we hope to foster peer to peer mentoring. This is surely powerful learning!" Ms. Bunn states.

CLIMBS



DeArmanville and Coldwater Elementary Schools were selected to participate in English Language Learner (ELL) training with the goal of expanding skills to improve student performance in the classroom. The CLIMBS program (Content and Language Integration as a Means of Bridging Success). In the second year of implementation, teachers attended professional development training where they developed a school-wide plan focusing on improving student performance among the English Language Learners. The CLIMBS team at DeArmanville and Coldwater will continue their training in an effort to improve and strengthen learning communities at their schools.

MEGA Conference



For the past two years, the Oxford Elementary School's "English as a Second Language" (ESL) team has provided professional development for its faculty in sheltered instruction. This type of instruction is an approach to teaching

English Language Learners (ELL) which integrates language and content instruction. This summer, the ESL team had the distinct honor of taking their training and knowledge to the state level. In July, the ESL team consisting of the principal, reading coach, ESL teacher, and three classroom teachers traveled to Mobile, Alabama to present at the statewide MEGA Conference. Sheltered instruction now in the third year of implementation has proven to increase student achievement. *Presenting were: Karen Reeder, Dana Bearden, Debbie Nelson, Lynn Stuebing, Stacey Robinson, and Debbie Clonts. Congratulations!!! Oxford continues to be a state leader in education!*

POTATOES & TOMATOES

Hanna's
Outdoor
Classroom

Sweet
Potatoes
from our
Outdoor
Classroom





“WALK OF CHAMPIONS– PHASE II”

Oxford High School celebrates in 2010 a century of providing the highest quality education for the citizens of Oxford. This 100 years culminates with the opening of a beautiful new building featuring a magnificent columned entrance portico with the focal point in front being an etched monument to Oxford High School. Surrounding the monument will be the “Walk of Champions” made of engraved brick pavers. The “Walk of Champions” will be a source of pride for Oxford and Yellow Jacket fans everywhere. Graduates, staff, families, businesses, and friends—purchase a brick paver and pledge your allegiance to OHS by being a member of the “Walk of Champions.”

4 x 8 brick paver = \$100
Brick order forms available at:

8 x 8 brick paver = \$200
www.oxfordedufoundation.org



“An investment in knowledge pays the best interest.”

Benjamin Franklin

STATEMENT OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Oxford City Board of Education that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, disability, sex, religion, creed, national origin or age, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program, activity, or employment.