

THE COMMUNICATOR

MAY, 1976

UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

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District Takes Action on Needs

Frequently buried in mountains of paperwork the Union administration, board of education and trust authority have taken action on a myriad of district needs this month.

Construction on phase 1 of the gymnasium-auditorium-music complex at the high school has already started. Bids were taken last month and the contract was awarded May 6 to the low bidder, Seraco Construction of Wagoner, Oklahoma, for \$2,192,006. Work began within the following week and should be completed by May, 1977. Phase 1 includes the gymnasium portion of the complex with food service facilities for the high school and concession stands for the gym.

Phase 2 will include completion of the gym and construction of the auditorium shell to be completed by September, 1977. Phase 3 will include completion of the auditorium by October, 1977, and phase 4 is completion of the music complex by November, 1977. Construction will begin on each phase as money becomes available. Phase 1 is being financed by bonds voted in the election last fall.

In late April the trust authority closed a \$1,750,000 loan with Republic Bank and Trust Company through which they will finance the stadium. The closing climaxed months of meetings and planning sessions with financial consultants, lawyers and bank authorities and took mountains of paperwork and legal documents. The 9,000 seat stadium is already well underway with completion slated this fall.

Selection of administrative and certified personnel for 1976-77 has taken much of administration time and the board approved 25 new Union employees at the May 3 meeting. Details are given in a related story on this page. Purchase of three new buses were also approved by the board at the May meeting. An activity bus with a 48-passenger capacity will cost \$36,000 and will be painted according to colors and design specified by representatives from the high school. The bus will be used to take sports teams, the band, or other groups to competitive meetings away from the home district. The other two buses are 84-passenger school buses and will cost \$37,044 each. All three vehicles are diesel powered.

The administration and board are looking at a new elementary school site in the northern part of the district. Frates Properties, Inc. has offered to sell the approximately nine acre site to the district at \$12,800 an acre. A bond issue will need to be voted this fall to provide the funds to purchase the site. The site is located in Section 19, one of the most populous areas of the district.

RELATED PHOTOS ON PAGE 3



GEORGE HAYES



JAMES PATTON

New Assistant Superintendents To Assume Positions July 1

George Hayes and James Patton will take up their duties as assistant superintendents for Union Schools on July 1. Hayes, who will be Assistant Superintendent Personnel and Instruction, and Patton, who will assume the duties of Assistant Superintendent of Business Management, were approved in board action May 3.

Hayes has been an administrator in Moore and Noble school systems and is a Company Commander in the U.S. Army Reserve. He graduated from Central State University in Edmond with a BA in history and MT and has completed education administration certificate requirements at the University of Oklahoma. He graduated from Chandler High School.

He and his wife Patricia have two children, George Edward, Jr., and Gabriel Erin, five. He has written two articles, "Whisper of Educational Decay" and "Are Curriculums Adequate to meet Society Needs?" for the *Oklahoma School Board Journal* and published "Christmas Reflections" in *Ideals Magazine*.

Patton is now Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Owasso and has been an administrator in Moore, Chickasha and Crescent schools. He taught at Edison in Tulsa from 1966 to 1970 where he also coached and served as an academic counselor.

He received his BS in industrial arts from Central State University and took graduate work in counseling and guidance at the University of Tulsa before completing his Masters in education at Northeastern State University. Since 1972 he has taken post graduate work at both OSU and OU. He graduated from Stroud High School in 1958.

Continued on page 3

Office Personnel Form Service Organization

District office workers have joined ranks to form the Union School Association of Educational Office Personnel, according to Dorris Long, School District Treasurer.

"The object is to achieve a finer and more efficient service to the school and the community through a four point program of service, recognition, fellowship and communication," she says.

The 23-member association met May 4 to elect officers and approve the constitution and by-laws. Sue Cabiness, secretary at Union High School, was elected president; Marilyn Buck, secretary at the administrative offices, was elected vicepresident; and Barbara Roderick, Briarglen secretary, was elected secretary-treasurer.

The group plans to offer educational programs for the office personnel, open new lines of communication between the schools and with the administration offices, work on community relations and improve their effectiveness in office procedures, according to Ms. Cabiness. She indicated the group has just begun to formulate ideas for workshops and seminars.

Pride in Schools Evident at Union



Congratulations are in order to Mr. Ray Satepauhoodle for the organization of the Union Heritage Day. It was a fine display and demonstrates a cooperative spirit between members of our community.

This has been a good year for various groups of students representing Union Schools. It is my desire and goal that all of us will take pride in the things of which we are a part and help others know that we have a unique situation at Union in that we have the comforts of a small community with direct access to the metropolitan area.

For this fall we have ordered a new school activity bus with the red and white school colors. It will have high back seats with an AM-FM stereo tape system and will be powered by a caterpillar diesel engine. It features air brakes and automatic transmission. In addition to this we have ordered two 84-passenger fleet buses to be placed in service on the regular bus routes.

We have signed a contract on the gymnasium-auditorium-music complex and have issued a work order on the gymnasium portion. We have structured the contract so that each phase may be undertaken as the money is available. The stadium and earthwork are really progressing well at this point with completion set in time for our first home game. Work is on schedule at Boevers with completion hopefully by July 15. It will be a nice addition featuring a media center, reading well with fireplace and an art room.

We are now completing preliminaries on a 9.3 acre school site in Section 19 (the square mile bounded by Mingo, Garnett, 31st and 41st.) We hope to vote bonds this fall for construction of a new elementary school in that area to be opened in the fall of 1977.

If you know someone who would like to receive the Communicator please call our office and we will be happy to add them to our mailing list.

THE OPEN DOOR

Q. When will school boundaries for next year be announced?

A final decision on school boundaries will be made on May 17 at a special board meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School Cafetorium.

Q. We have had difficulty hearing school board proceedings at the monthly meetings. Is anything being done to improve the sound?

Because of patron interest, which incidentally reflects a healthy climate for the continued growth of the system, we plan to install some form of desk microphones for each of the board members. A microphone stand will be provided for patrons who may wish to address the board. The system was scheduled for a try out at the last meeting but did not materialize. We hope to have it installed in time for the next meeting.

Patrons attending a board meeting for the first time may be somewhat puzzled by the proceedings. Generally there are a number of items on the agenda that are routine and as such may be handled swiftly and with little discussion, leaving some doubt in the patron's mind as to what happened. We are working on a solution to this problem through various methods of keeping those in attendance better informed as the meeting proceeds. I can assure you that this board is cognizant of the public's right to know and will always make an attempt to keep them informed. I feel that the addition of an adequate PA system will do much to enhance the procedure of the board meetings and also help keep the public informed.

Q. When is the last day of school and when will report cards be issued?

May 26 will be the last day of school for all students in Union Schools. Report cards will be handed out that day. We are also running a shortened schedule that day. High School and Middle School students will be dismissed at 1:00 o'clock and all elementary students will be dismissed at 1:30. Lunch will be served on the 26th.

Dr. Wesley Jarman

Senior High Awards Assembly	May 18	9:00A.M.	MS Gym
Chorus Concert	May 18	7:30P.M.	MSC
Senior High Assembly	May 19	9:00	MS Gym
Spring Band Concert	May 20	7:30P.M.	MSC
Baccalaureate	May 23	2:00P.M.	First Baptist Church in Broken Arrow
Graduation	May 24	8:00P.M.	Mabee Center
Last day of School	May 26	—	—
Board Meeting	June 7	7:00P.M.	MSC

THE COMMUNICATOR

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Editor

Frances Powell

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"Newest" Elementary Boasts "Old" Advantages

Union Elementary School may not be housed in the district's most beautiful facilities, but on the inside this "new" school has a lot going for it.

Built in the late 1950's when the emphasis was on California style, the rooms are much larger and sunnier than classrooms in the newer elementaries built after construction costs skyrocketed. Each room has numerous sky lights and the roof is sloped so that the high windowed north wall allows in a maximum of light.

True to the California styling each door opens to the outside rather than a hallway, so restrooms and water fountains are built into the rooms themselves. There is no need for a child to leave his room at all except when taken for supervised play on the playground or when led by the teacher to the cafeteria for lunch.

Walls and space physically separate the elementary school from the middle school and few elementary school children ever encounter middle school students. The fear that younger children might be intimidated by older students has been expressed by some parents.

NEW PERSONNEL

Continued From Page 1

Patton and his wife Kaye have one daughter, Kimberly, nine.

Kenneth Bibb, currently an elementary principal in Liberal, Kansas, has been employed to fill the Boevers principalship. He is a graduate of Southwestern Oklahoma State University and Western State College at Gunnison, Colorado, with graduate work concentrated in elementary education and administration.

Other teachers, coaches and administrators approved by the board are Annette Fisher, second grade; JoAnne Johnson, second grade; Marian Tisdal, second grade; Wendell Twist, third grade; and Charlotte Ryan, speech therapist. The above will fill vacancies at Briarglen.

Rebecca Freeman, first grade; Cheryl Mackey, third grade; Cathey Money, first grade; and Jessica Padgett, learning disabilities, will all be at Grove.

Cynthia Anderson, fourth grade; Carol Evans, second grade; Susan Mullen, fourth grade; Susan Craine, fifth grade; and Karen DeBoer, special education, will teach at Union Elementary. Karen Bell will teach vocal music at both Union Elementary and the Middle School.

Tony Spears will be head seventh and eighth grade wrestling coach and physical education; David Campbell, assistant seventh and eighth grade wrestling, assistant seventh grade football and social studies; Don Bailey, head seventh grade football, basketball and track, physical education and health; Mrs. June Dwyer, head seventh grade girls basketball and track, assistant eighth grade girls basketball and track, and physical education; and Ray Bell, instrumental music and assistant band director at the Middle School.

At the High School will be Larry Robinson, assistant principal; Land Jacobson, social studies and varsity football coach; Jay Maples, drivers education and varsity football coach; Gary Berchtold, drivers education, study hall and varsity football; Bob Powell, attendance dean and head ninth grade football coach; Bill Padgett, social studies and varsity football coach; and Clark Ogilvie, assistant ninth grade football and wrestling coach and science.

"We haven't ever had a problem with the children mixing at all," says Principal Richard DeHaan. "The middle school students have not come over here at all. The middle school comes earlier and leaves earlier. When we leave for the buses the middle school students are already gone.

"They are entirely separated. Our building is off to the side of the middle school building and is not a part of it. When my youngsters eat lunch the older students are inside their classrooms. I've never seen them in the hallways at the same time and will never mix in the same hallways because of our scheduling."

The larger classrooms mean more flexibility, says DeHaan. The teacher can do more and the completely windowed, open and well-lighted atmosphere is very pleasant. The teachers also have more closet space in which to store materials than is available in the newer schools.

"The class sizes should be much smaller. We're going to average about 20 students in a class, which creates a smaller teacher-pupil ratio," says DeHaan.

"The curriculum is very, very similar to the curriculum Grove is using. These youngsters will go right into the same material that they are coming out of. We are getting the new Lippincot series, all new books, and we will give the books we're using now back to Grove. We will share the speech therapist with Grove and share the counselor with Briarglen. We will have a vocal music teacher, a fulltime physical education teacher, and as far as equipment is concerned we have cassettes and headsets in each of the rooms."

The school ordered all new equipment since Boevers took their equipment with them when they moved into their new building and left the facility to the fledgling new Union Elementary.

DISTRICT TAKES ACTION

From Page 1



School board member Larry Henderson, left, and trust lawyer Sam Stone stamp legal documents while Steve Raulerson, financial consultant, and Superintendent Dr. Wesley Jarman, right, put together lengthy loan documents during loan closing procedures at Republic Bank and Trust Company.



Dressing up for 89'er day, Paula Butler, Grove 4th grader, is assisted by Ms. Sara Turnbow, above left, while Kelly Carper and Jimmy Keir, also Grove 4th graders, relive scenes from the past, above. David Engle stakes out a claim at Briarglen, above right, after he and his 4th grade classmates make the land run, below right. Back at Grove Principal Don Irvin befriends a couple of fellow pioneers, Shelly Phillips and Gary Fautt, both 3rd graders.

History Comes **ALIVE**



Bicentennial projects are in focus at all the schools this spring. Above left, Wayne Williams and Stephanie McCullough, 5th graders at Grove, admire the wall hanging made by Mrs. Anna Wilson's 3rd grade class. Briarglen 5th graders Brian Gallatin and Sherry O'Hara take another look at the wall hanging they helped make in Mrs. Linda Cotton's class.



Awaiting danger Miss Kristine Barrus' 2nd graders circle the wagons at Grove. Sena Smith cuts wagon wheels for his entry in the land run at Briarglen, below left, while Nicky and Vicky Davis are assisted by 4th grade teacher Ms. Diane Morton, below. Members of Mrs. Lola Sanders' 3rd grade class at Grove wait for customers at their wagon shop.

Union Students Are Winners!

State and metropolitan competition was hot and heavy in April and May but over and over Union students proved they were winners.

Group competition swept in victories in nearly every field. The UNION HIGH SCHOOL BAND brought back a "1" (superior rating) in marching and a "2" (excellent rating) in concert from the Tri-State Music Festival in Enid last week. Fifty-six bands from 13 states participated in the competition at Tri-State, the biggest music festival in this part of the country. This was the first time the high school band has been up against major competition and they drew the "1" rating from all seven judges. Each judge is in charge of a different segment of analysis.

The band plans to sponsor their own marching contest next year after the district contest, according to band director Bill Stone. The contest will be held in the new stadium and the bands invited will be those who have received a superior rating in their district competition.

The 6th GRADE GIRL'S TRACK TEAM took first place in the 440 yard relay at the Miami Track Meet held May 1. There were around 1200 entries, according to coach Benny Cotton, but competition was limited to age groups. It was the first time the girls had ever participated in a track meet.

Members of the relay team were Margaret Weeks, Stacy Strickland, Phyllis Atkins and Terry Weryavah. In individual competition Margaret Weeks placed third in the 50-yard dash, Terri Weryavah placed second in the 100-yard dash, and Phyllis Atkins placed first in the softball throw and third in the broad jump.

The UNION REDSKINS 6th GRADE GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM stand with 7 wins and no losses.

In April ELEVEN HIGH SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES STUDENTS took part in history competition at Northeastern State University and Union was the only school to place three students in the top 10 percent. Nicky Benton, senior, in world history competition, and Nick Snyder, junior, and David Boltz, sophomore, in American history competition, all finished in the top 10 percent of 90 entrants from 26 schools. The students were up against many large metropolitan high schools like Tulsa's Hale, according to teacher Jerry Powell who accompanied them. History students plan to go to Oklahoma State University for more competition next year.

BUSINESS STUDENTS from the high school went to Claremore Junior College in April for a skills contest with a dozen other high schools, according to teacher Kathy

Johnston. Four of the students took home prizes. Tommy Franz placed first in Accounting I, Debbie Wolf placed second in Typing II, Vicki Powell took fourth in Typing II and Renda Cartwright placed second in Typing I.

UNION HIGH SCHOOL TRACK STARS brought back four prizes from state competition including three state championships. Pat Vaughn set a new state record in the two-mile, winning the state championship by about 100 yards. Pat's a junior. Larry Abercrombie, senior, came in third in the 3A 440 yard dash. Amy Carter became state champion for the third time when she set a new state record in the high jump. Janine Cunningham, a freshman, came in first in the 440 to become state champion. Coaches are Mike Hammond and Jim Bradshaw.

VOCAL MUSIC STUDENTS went to the Muskogee District Contest in late March. The soloist and ensembles brought back a total of 25 Superior Medals and one Excellent rating. The Select Choir received one Excellent rating in both concert and sight-reading. The "Union High School Madrigal Singers," part of the Select Choir, received the only "1 + " given at the contest.

Individual awards have been presented to outstanding members of the RED CROSS COUNCIL. President Steve Fry, Chairman of the Tulsa Blood Donor Committee, and Jim Franz, editor of the Tulsa Red Cross Council newsletter, "The Informant," were awarded "Youth of the Month" by that organization in March and April respectively. Steve is a sophomore Jim, a junior, was sent to the national Red Cross Youth Services meeting in Oregon in May as one of two representatives from the Tulsa metropolitan area. Union High School has won 11 Humanitarian Awards from the metropolitan chapter.

BUSINESS-VO-TECH student Mark Roundtree won an Olympic-sized gold medallion and a trip to Florida to the VICA national convention when he placed first in job interviewing at state VICA competition. 1400 students from 175 state schools were competing.

Seven MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRL SCOUTS won First Class Badges, equivalent to the boys' Eagle Scout award, at ceremonies May 11. Shelly Dearing, Cindy Dennis, Robbin Drago, Cheri Frank, Laura Knowles, Janet Lee and Sherri Rogers have been awarded 176 badges among them and five challenges each this year.

Due to space and time limitations we were unable to list all awards received in national, state and regional competition. Those listed above are the awards reported to our office, before our deadline and we hope anyone we missed will accept our sincerest apologies.



The wonders of the world of diamonds are viewed by Roger Beck, 4th grade, left. He is assisted by geologist Wes Reynolds of Reynolds Jewelers who displayed and explained the stones to all Union Elementary 4th and 5th grades. Grove Elementary 5th graders Sheila Hanson, Betsy Balinger, Darren Dennis and Deanna Schlack watch quail eggs as hatching time nears, above. Mrs. Nancy Irvin's 4th graders at Briarglen are given a special presentation by guest geologist Larry Richardson of Texaco Oil Company. Looking on are Karen Sue Gettings, Brad Richardson, Charles Hope, Denise Weingartner and Brian Creazzo.

Indian Summer Program Scheduled

Recreation, Indian culture classes and tutoring will be offered this year in a new Indian Summer Program, according to Ray Satapauhoodle, director. The program was approved by the Indian steering committee last week and will be made available to all interested students in grades one through 12.

"More details will be issued later," says Satapauhoodle. "All who are interested should contact the Indian

Education Office." The telephone number is 252-4477.

"I would like to issue a big thank you for all the students, helpers, performers, displayers and other people who participated in Indian Heritage Day."

The Indian Education Program has sponsored a one month crash tutoring program after school during May. Three new tutors have been employed: Larry Haikey, Arthur Bell and Sheryl Redbird.



The Easter Bunny visited kindergarten students at Union Elementary just before the holidays. Richard Lihou, father of Lance Lihou, dressed up for the part and gave the children a party complete with games and refreshments. The kids were thrilled according to teacher Judy Hammond.

Band will Be Offered To 5th Graders in Fall

Instrumental music will be offered to all interested 5th graders in the district next year. Classes will be taught by Verl Pharis, currently instrumental music instructor at the middle school. Pharis will travel to the schools during the school day.

All fourth grade students in the system have recently been visited twice by district band instructors. On the first visit instruments were demonstrated to familiarize the students with the various sounds and personalities of each type. A music test was given on the second visit to determine the natural ability of the student. Parents of students who show talent will be contacted by phone and if interest is shown an appointment will be set up to acquaint parents with instrument rental programs available through music stores.

Beginning band will also be offered next year for 6th graders who did not have instrumental music available to them this year.

Elaine Minson Named Teacher of the Month

Elaine Minson, Union speech pathologist, was named "Teacher of the Month" by the Regional Education Service Center in April. She has been with Union five years and currently works with children at Briarglen, Grove and Union Elementary.

"Elaine has been working diligently in providing appropriate diagnostic and therapeutic programs for children with communicative disorders. She has been very instrumental in planning for the needs and expanding the services for the children who are communicatively disordered. Elaine is a well-trained professional who maintains an energetic and cooperative working relationship with the children, faculty, and administration at Union," reports the Service Center News.

Next year she will be assigned to Grove and the administration hopes to place a speech pathologist at each of the other elementary schools.

Union School Booster Club

1976-77 — New year! New facilities! New league-3A! New life! New hope! COME JOIN - help us concrete all this to strengthen UNION'S PRIDE in our Athletes. Our membership drive is on. Membership charpeople are Mr. & Mrs. Diz Spencer, 627-9682. Our officers are: Warren Roderick, President; Vice President, Eugene Gray; Secretary, Delores Starr and Treasurer, Clara Grove. Monday, June 14th at 7:00 P.M. we will have homeade ice cream and cake as a kick-off for membership. This will be held at the GRAY'S ICE CREAM PARLOR located between 61st and 71st on 129th - (look for markers). COME ONE — COME ALL! This is a great time to get acquainted with the parents of your children's fellow athletes, as well as the Coaches. Be a BOOSTER — \$5.00 per individual membership. Any questions, please contact the President at 622-3357.

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