

THE COMMUNICATOR

JUNE, 1976

UNION PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TULSA, OKLAHOMA

VOL. 1, NO. 9



The west grandstand at the new high school football stadium should be complete this week and work on the east grandstand will begin immediately. Seeding of finished slopes and the practice field should be completed within two weeks. Work on the press box is ahead of schedule and the project is still projected to be ready for use in time for the first home football game in September.



The new Boevers addition is ahead of schedule and is expected to be ready before the first of August. An unfinished expansion joint between the existing roof and that of the addition allowed heavy rains during the Memorial Day weekend downpour to flood about 75 per cent of the existing building. Carpets sustained the majority of the damage and dry walls soaked up water to a height of two feet. Insurance adjusters have not yet estimated the total amount of damage.

MS Principal, Athletic Director Hired



Dale
Stuckey

Dale Stuckey, former Cushing High School Principal, will take the place of Union Middle School Principal Britt Williams who resigned last month to go to Jenks.

Stuckey's appointment was approved by board action June 7 along with a new athletic director and 24 other personnel, according to Union Superintendent Dr. Wesley Jarman. The new principal will assume duties Aug. 1.

Williams, a former football coach who says he has never been able to get coaching out of his blood, will assume duties as assistant coach at Jenks High School August 1.

"I enjoyed the experience of being an administrator in the Union Public Schools. However, I enjoyed the rewards of being closer to the students as a coach more, so I am returning to my first love, coaching," said Williams.

Williams has been with the middle school three years following a coaching career that included a year at Union and three years at Oologah.

"Red Rogers (head football coach at Jenks) was coaching when I was in high school," said Williams. "I am looking forward to working with someone who has so many years experience in coaching and to learning from his storehouse of football know-how."

Stuckey comes to Union with over 21 years experience in education. His teaching and coaching career includes 13 years in systems in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. In 1968 he became assistant principal at Midland Public Schools in Texas and remained there until 1971 when he went to Midland College as counselor. He came back to Oklahoma as principal of Cushing High School in 1974.

He received his BA and Masters of Teaching from East Central University at Ada and has completed further graduate work in administration at Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas.

Gil Cloud, former McAlester High School football coach, was named athletic director for the district. A varied coaching career in football, baseball, wrestling, ice hockey and basketball at both the high school and university levels precedes the new director to Union. He is a 1964 graduate of Will Rogers High School, a 1969 graduate of the University of Tulsa and completed an M.S. degree in curriculum development at Kansas State University in Manhattan, Kansas, in 1973.

Also approved by board action was Sally Margetson as Director of Media Services. Ms. Margetson is one of the first to earn a masters degree in media technology in Oklahoma, according to Dr. Jarman.

At Union Middle School Pat Van Derwiele was approved to teach math and Sue Parkhurst to teach speech therapy at both the middle school and Union Elementary. Brenda Goodwin will teach first grade and Dixie Grahman will teach physical education at Union Elementary.

Briarglen gained Jacqueline Anderson in learning disabilities and Glenda Paul as a fourth grade teacher. Faye Pride will be counselor at Grove.

Boevers additions are Toni Tuttle in kindergarten; Jeanette McCombs, Kaye Patton and Marlene Fedders in first grade; Patti Pitcock, Marsha Makinson and Denise Haynes in second grade; Cathy Price and Sue Bishop in third grade; Barbara Campbell and Brenda Bigby in fourth grade; Catherine Jordan and Marjorie Learned in fifth grade; Virginia Tabor as art teacher; Diane Cornwell as speech teacher; and Jan Underhill as media coordinator.

Resignations were accepted from Jean Conkling, Middle School math teacher; Nancy Lasater, currently on maternity leave; Carolyn H. Bryant, Boevers first grade teacher; and Britt Williams.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board Meeting	July 5	7 P.M.	MSC*
Board Meeting	August 2	7 P.M.	MSC*

*Middle School Cafetorium

From the Superintendent's Desk

Summer Schedule Busy for Personnel

The 1975-76 school year has come to a close and plans are being readied for the opening of the 1976-77 school year. The vacation time for the students is used by the district to repair and renovate buildings and order, receive and deliver teaching supplies and books.

We also must revise the busing schedules to compensate for new housing additions.

Progress on construction of the second phase of Boevers Elementary is moving well and is scheduled for completion around July 15. It will roughly double the size of the present building and with the exception of a physical education building will be a complete facility.

The stadium construction is about on schedule and earthwork surrounding the stadium is complete except for mulching and seeding which should begin momentarily.

Construction has just started on the gymnasium and excavation to a depth of 16 feet should be finished in 10 days. Completion will probably not be until the end of May, 1977.

The mid-range building committee reported to the board on May 17 with plans for renovating the present Middle School complex. The plans call for adding covered walkways and other new rooms that will bring the facility up to fire and safety codes and will air condition the entire complex.

I hope to be able to issue a special bulletin later in the summer with an accounting of our expenditures for the past year and a projection for 1976-77.

Dr. Wesley Jarman

THE OPEN DOOR

Q. How will the recent Supreme Court decision affect dress codes in Union Schools?

The recent Supreme Court decision will not greatly affect the dress code of Union Schools. The dress code now in effect was adopted with input from parents and students. The attack on dress codes across the nation and more particularly in Oklahoma has been brought about because of the restrictions placed on hair length for boys.

The recent decision was rendered because some students at Seiling, Oklahoma, were suspended because of their hair length. The decision basically says that schools cannot adopt dress codes that are arbitrary but there must be a correlation between the rules and a student's opportunity to receive an education.

This does not mean that *all* dress codes are automatically thrown out as some may interpret. Particularly the court ruled that length of a boy's hair did not adversely affect that student's right or ability of those around him to get an education. If certain modes of dress are disruptive to the educational process then a school may impose this restriction and may enforce the regulation.

Keep in mind also this was a state court's ruling. It is, however, fairly consistent with Federal District Court rulings. The 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver, Colorado, has on occasion supported school districts and their right to adopt rules and codes of behavior that assure the rights of *all* students in achieving an education.

When the ruling has been clarified a little further we will review our dress codes and seek the advice of our school district counsel to determine if our dress codes need revision.

Q. May anyone come to school board meetings?

Q. How do we find out when school board meetings will be held?

Q. What effect do the "open meeting laws" have on Union School Board meetings?

I would like to combine the answers to the above questions into one commentary on school board meetings.

The school district itself is a government entity whose officers are elected by the registered voters who live within the boundaries of the district. Each member serves a five year term and the posts are staggered so that one board member is elected each year.

In our district there are five wards and their boundaries are changed following the census every 10 years. As the population changes a ward's boundaries will also change since there should not be much variance in the populations of the five wards. The state statutes give the board of education wide latitude in governing the local district. There are limitations in the board's power to tax and it must operate under rules and regulations set forth by the state constitution, state statutes and State Department of Education regulations.

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Issued to patrons of the Union Public School system free of charge. Subscription rates to other interested parties available upon request.

Editor

Frances Powell

Published the fifteenth of each month from August through May at 9134 E. 46th Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74145. Back issues are available. Printed by Mark Advertising and Graphics, Inc.

Hazards of Drugs, Smoking Studied

Background information on basic drugs including tobacco and alcohol, their source, and the physical effect of the drugs on the human body were the basis for recent study of fifth graders in Mrs. Pearl Watson's social studies classes.

Officer Les Dickson of the Tulsa Police Department explained to the children the rise in drug usage in schools today and what to do if they are approached by someone who wants to give or sell them suspicious material. A display of common drugs to which school children can be exposed was shown.

School nurse Sally Reibert also spoke to the children about the harmful physical effects of drugs and demonstrated a smoking machine to the class to show the effect of smoke on the lungs. The fifth graders wound up their study by collecting \$123. for the Cancer Society while distributing pamphlets on smoking and its effects.

"The Cancer Drive gave me a good feeling," said top fund collector Camela Cobbins, "not that we were just doing something in school, but doing something to help society."

The Open Door

(Continued from Page 2)

Law prescribes that boards of education meet the first Monday of every month in a regularly scheduled meeting. There are exceptions to this rule providing board members are notified of the change. A board may call special meetings anytime to conduct school business. All meetings of the board of education are open to the public and any citizen may attend any and all of the meetings. There are provisions for the board to go into executive session for the discussion of personnel only. In executive sessions only discussion can take place as no votes can be taken while a board is in executive session. The board must reconvene in a public meeting in order to vote on an issue and a roll call of members is required by law.

Boards of education are allowed to adopt rules by which to conduct their meetings. Any citizen wishing to bring an issue to the board should submit a letter to the board president two weeks preceding the regularly scheduled monthly meeting. The letter should contain the issue to be discussed and name a spokesman for the group to be heard. Other spokesmen should be listed also. It is at the board's discretion as to how much time is to be allocated to the parties to be heard.

The idea behind this is to allow the meeting to proceed in an orderly fashion. It is obvious that meetings of any kind have to be orderly to conduct business.

It is the desire of the administrative staff and the board of education that all citizens in the Union School District will feel welcome to attend the meetings. I would personally encourage you to ask questions in the "Open Door" column of the Communicator. You may also call the Administrative Center at 664-9400 if you have questions about the operation of the school district. Our records are all public and may be examined by citizens. We simply ask that you notify us enough in advance to make the material available to you.

Editor's Note: Any questions or comments you may have about Union schools are welcome and we will print as many as space permits. Answers are supplied by the superintendent. All submissions should be signed but name may be withheld from publication upon request. Address your questions to "The Open Door," The Communicator, 9134 E. 46th Street, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74145.

Boeiers fifth grade students from Pearl Watson's social studies classes look at posters made by classmates showing the dangers of drugs and smoking. From left are Andrea Dearing, Jane Burnsbe, Camela Cobbins, Sammy Christian and Terry Streetman.



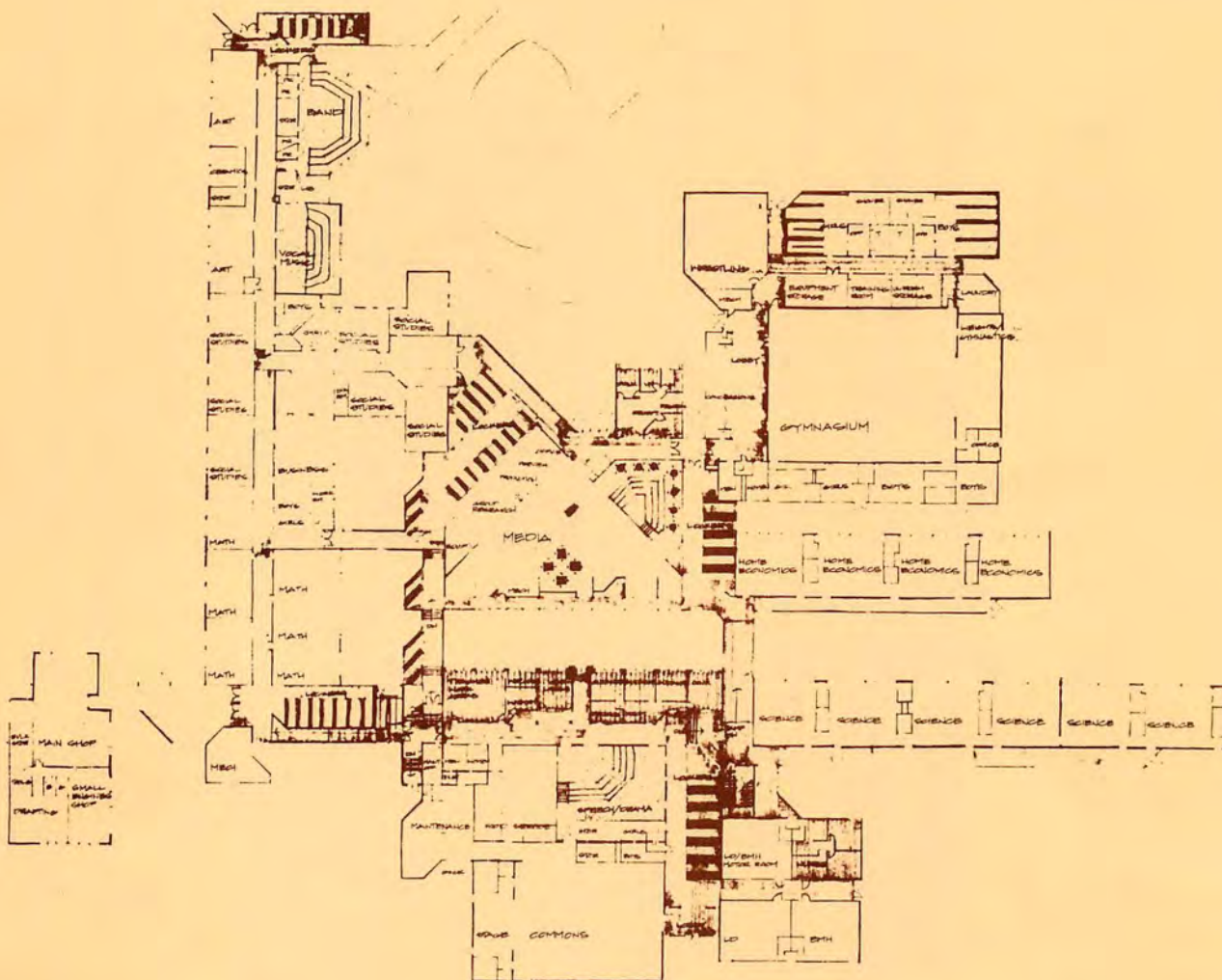
LARGEST SENIOR CLASS DEPARTS

152 seniors walked across the stage at the Mabee Center May 24 during graduation ceremonies that the students elected to conduct themselves. Departing from the usual practice of asking some prominent person to speak to the departing class, all speakers were members of the graduating class.

Growth in the Union District is reflected by the number of students who have made up the senior class over the years. Ten years ago 37 seniors were enrolled at Union High School. Five years ago there were 59. Two years ago 95 students were classified as seniors. With the pyramiding numbers created by large enrollments in the lower grades the number of students in the senior class would continue to grow at a fast rate even if movement of new families into the district ceased.



End of the year festivities include Students just beginning their long educational trek as well as those who have finished. Hap Yeilding, a kindergarten student from Union Elementary, is presented his diploma by teacher Judy Hammond.



PROPOSED MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPANSION — recommended to the Board of Education by the Mid-Range Building Committee for approval with the following considerations:

- The northern-most locker bank should be incorporated into the more centralized locker areas.
- The exterior of the facade facing 61st Street should project a unified design.
- If financially feasible the wrestling room should be enlarged to accommodate two mats due to a developing system-wide program.

New construction would include the media area in the center, the wrestling, locker, storage and laundry rooms to the north of the existing gymnasium and various locker banks, ramps and covered walkways. Most of the original building, industrial arts space on the southwest, art rooms, vocal music area and part of the home economics area would be remodeled. Financing for the project would depend upon passage of a bond issue sometime in the future.

Members of Mid-Range Building Committee are; Bill Scott, Chairman, Reuben Hays Jr., James Law, William Redmond, William T. Reeves, Charles Grote, and Elaine Wolfess.

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