



Cat Chat



Cashion High School

September 2011

Words for Wildcats

By: Mrs. Oard

The state of Oklahoma has been very progressive in the systematic adoption of minimum standards of education for its students. I know that during almost my entire teaching career PASS (Priority Academic Student Skills) was the basis for instruction in all core classes, the arts, and physical education. In 2010, Oklahoma joined with over 40 other states to move to Common Core State Standards (CCSS) by 2014. The standards were created by teachers, parents, education experts, and others from across the country. The Standards provide clear, consistent expectations for what students should be learning at each grade in order to be prepared for college and career choices. These standards ensure that students, no matter where they live and attend school, will be focused on a postsecondary education and careers after high school graduation. The CCSS were designed to support our mobile society not only in the USA but globally.

Cashion Schools has already begun the transition to Common Core State Standards under the guidance of the Oklahoma State Department of Education. Students will be assessed according to these new standards in 2014 – 2015. While it may seem early, we hope to give our students every opportunity to adjust to the new expectations and find success in the classroom. Your administrative team has undergone some training with more to follow. In addition, teachers have already received information and some training to better serve the educational needs of your children. This will continue throughout the coming years with opportunities for teacher professional development within the district and at other sites.

The following link provides information for parents: http://educationnorthwest.org/webfm_send/1106. In addition, the National PTA® has created parent guides for grades K-8 and two for grades 9-12 (one for English language arts/literacy and one for mathematics). These guides can be found at <http://www.pta.org/4446.htm>.

As always, please feel free to contact your child's teacher, building principal, or me with questions or concerns.

Cashion FFA Celebrates the New School Year

By Brook Fields, Reporter

The Cashion school year began August 18 and a week later we held our annual Ice Cream Social. This is a way to introduce all of the new and enthusiastic FFA members and for the parents to interact with others and to learn more about the FFA. Parents and new members have questions about showing livestock, giving speeches, or participating on a judging team. It is the FFA's hope that these questions are answered at this event. We had eighty three people attend. The FFA members that attended were Quinton Thorp, Braden Crawford, Hunter Suntken, Cody Allen, Lane Welch, Madison Reasnor, Jesse Lyon, Joe Neece, Tessa Adams, Johnathan Pope, Tanner Herman, Jeremy Moore, Bailey Tyler, Adrian Thompson, Austen Evans, Baylee Broadbent, Jay Nail, Brook Fields, Caleb Coghurn, and Caleb Kimberling. The new members that attended were Trena Adams, Breanna Branch, Rachel Robinson, Brooke Allen, Ashten Evans, Melissa Emerson, and Alex Herman.

The new officers began introducing the new members and asking them questions in order to get to know them and their families. The meal was served at 6:30pm, followed by eight varieties of homemade ice cream.

As the school year is kicking off to an exciting and fresh start, there are many agricultural events and activities the Cashion FFA has completed. The first couple weeks of school are the busiest for our FFA chapter. We would like to thank all the parents that brought ice cream to this exciting event.

Secondary News

By: Mr. Vandruff
H.S. Principal

Welcome back to the new school year 2011-2012. Things have really picked up and school is moving along. Teachers reported back on August 15th for professional development, and students reported back on August 18th. Softball and Football seasons are off and running and the excitement of the seasons is contagious.

We have added new faces to the high school faculty which now will include Pam Beck who will teach English; Angie Cowan who is our new counselor; Dennis Diviney who will teach Special Education and coach; James Todd who is a Science teacher and a coach; Brilla Todd who will teach English and Science; and Steve Tiller who will teach Math and coach. Please welcome these new teachers to our Cashion family. I am extremely excited about what they have to offer to our students and to our community.

We are in the process of changing over to our new website. This website will be a great tool that will help you stay informed on upcoming school events and class projects. I am eager for the transition because it will help with our communication home. I would also like to suggest to all parents that you come to the office to get your parent passwords and usernames to see what your child is doing in the classroom. With this information you can look at class

grades, attendance and school lunch room balance information. This is an excellent way to be proactive and help your student stay on track.

Parents please help us with our policies and procedures regarding attendance and cell phones. Attendance is important. We are required by state law to keep an accurate record of attendance of all students. If a student must be absent from school, the parents should call the day before if possible, or the morning of the day the student is absent. If the parent does not have a telephone or fails to call the school, he must send a note back to school with the student stating the date of absence and the reason for the absence. Attendance office numbers are 433-2575 or 433-2703.

Regular attendance is of tremendous value to the student as well as to the school. Irregular attendance, regardless of the cause, will not produce satisfactory results. Regular attendance stimulates interest in work and prevents your student from being discouraged because of being behind in class. A student who has developed the self-discipline necessary to be present in school and on time will have the advantage both in school and on the job in future years. A pupil out of school one day really loses two days of work because he comes to school unprepared for the day following the absence.

When a student is absent, instruction, discussion, interactions and other intangibles are lost forever. Habits of regularity and punctuality are good habits to form. In addition, in many cases, business firms have refused to employ those whose school attendance has been poor.

We would appreciate your help as we embrace technology

in the classroom without hurting the educational environment. The following is the policy on cell phones: While realizing that cellular and other like devices provide excellent means of communication and connection between students and parents outside of school hours, their use during school is in conflict with our stated mission of focused educational opportunity during the school day.

Parents needing to contact students during the day should leave messages with the office. Please do not disrupt your student's academic day by calling or texting your child.

Cell phones are not to be used or even turned on during classroom or passing time. **Students may only use their phones before the first bell rings, after the last bell rings, and during lunchtime.** During all other times, phones must be turned OFF. They may not be turned on and may not be turned to silent. They must be OFF.

Students whose phones are found to be on (to include ringing, vibrating, "checking the time", etc) or who attempt to otherwise use them during school hours will have the device confiscated and brought to the office. The consequences will likely be as follows:

- **1st offense** – warning and parent contact
- **2nd offense** – detention and parent may be required to pick up phone
- **3rd offense** – ISD and parent will be required to pick up phone. Subsequent offenses likely to result in more severe disciplinary action. In addition, if a cell phone is used in the breaking of another school rule (e.g. cheating), the

consequences for the cell phone offense itself may be more severe than the current offense warrants.

Help us control cell phones while at school. Students are allowed to use their cell phones in a responsible way at lunch time from 12:00 p.m. to 12:35 p.m. If you are going to call or text your child, please do it during this time so your child won't receive a consequence or disrupt the learning of others.

I hope all of our students have a successful and rewarding school year. From time to time, you may have a question for your child's teacher. We encourage you to use the following procedure as a framework to address such concerns: first, contact your child's teacher via phone or email; second, schedule a conference with your child's teacher if you feel the matter is better handled in person than via phone or email; finally, contact me or our school counselor for other concerns. Following these procedures, or the chain of command, if you will, tends to promote positive relationships between parents, faculty and students. And we certainly appreciate your efforts to use these common procedures.

*Take Pride *Show Respect
*Demonstrate Kindness *LEARN
Kyle Vandruff

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• **Yearbooks** •
• **For Sale** •
• **\$40** •
• **While Supplies Last** •
• **See Mrs. Gruntmeir** •
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2011-2012 Student Body Officers

Pres.- Taylor Cochran
Vice Pres.- Shantelle Christensen
Secretary-Baylee Broadbent
Treasurer- Caleb Kimberling
Reporter-Jayci Robison

Senior Officers

Pres.- Austen Evans
Vice Pres.- Cale Cochran
Secretary- Cody Allen
Treasurer- Austin Hoffman
Stuco Rep.- Umar Sahi and Lane Welch

Junior Officers

Pres.- Sarah Arms
Vice Pres.- Mitchell Yearout
Secretary- Haley Hedges
Treasurer- Evan Bird
Stuco Rep.- Jay Nail and Lea Tucson

Sophomore Officers

Pres.- Cortney Maroney
Vice Pres.- Brook Fields
Secretary- Emily Buchalla
Treasurer- Lauren Buchalla
Stuco Rep.- Hunter Suntken and Kaylee Stephenson

Freshman Officers

President - Erin Smith
Vice Pres.- Gretchen Christensen
Secretary- Rachel Gooch
Treasurer- Megan Arms
Stuco Rep.- Quinton Thorp and Brett Wilson

8th Grade Officers

Pres.- Ashten Evans
Secretary- Baylee Beaty
Treasurer- Sidney Barker
Stuco Rep. - Luke Jenkins and Austin Temple

7th Grade Officers

Pres. - Brenna Jenkins
Vice Pres. - Peyton Wilson
Secretary - Rylee Broadbent
Treasurer - McCaleb Stewart
Stuco Rep. - Caleb Smith and Austin Christensen

STUCO

The Cashion STUCO has already kicked off a great yet busy start. We have six new faculty members and on the first day of school we already got them involved! We played a game of "Cashion's Teachers Got Talent" and put their skills to the test. It was fun and we are so happy to welcome these new members to the faculty.

Football has already started and homecoming is sneaking up on us. Homecoming will be September 30 and will be against our rivals, the Crescent Tigers. The theme will be **War on 74** and t-shirt orders will be accepted through September 19.

The cost of the short sleeved t-shirts is \$ 13 YS-Ad. L \$15 2X and 3X \$15 and for long-sleeved t-shirts is \$ 16 YS-AL and \$19 for 2X and 3X. The homecoming dance will follow the game and cost \$4.

Also don't forget to come out and support your sophomore through senior girls as they compete in the Powder Puff game October 4. We may even have a cheer competition between the senior/ sophomore boys vs. junior boys.

Counselor Corner

<http://www.okhighered.org/okpromise/2011-12-app.pdf>

NEW COUNSELOR- Hello, my name is Angie Cowan and I am the new counselor at Cashion Schools. I have been a counselor for 15 years and a teacher for 3 years. I am married to an educator and have one child, Tanner, who is a sophomore in HS. I feel so blessed to be a part of this community and to have the opportunity to work with your children.



OHLAP

Oklahoma's Promise (OHLAP)

You may be able to attend college for free! Are you an Oklahoma resident? Are you enrolled in the eighth, ninth or 10th grade in an Oklahoma high school? Do your parents make no more than \$50,000 per year? If you answered yes to all of these questions, then you are eligible for OHLAP, a program set up by Oklahoma legislature to help students pay for college. In order to prepare for college and fulfill the program's requirements, you must take certain high school courses, pass those courses and pass your EOI's.

If you promise to prepare for college in and out of the classroom, Oklahoma promises to help pay for your college tuition!

Applications must be completed in the 8th, 9th, or 10th grade.

Contact: Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education

Contact Phone: 800-858-1840

Contact eMail: okpromise@osrhe.edu

Website: www.okhighered.org/okpromise/about.shtml

Scholarship Information!!!!

- "Win a Scholarship" (9th-12th grade) www.anycollege.com

Quarterly deadlines: September 30

- Common Knowledge Scholarship Foundation www.ckfs.org
- Discus Award Scholarship (9th-12th - \$2,000 scholarships each month) www.discusawards.com
- Illustrators of the Future/Writers of the Future (9th-12th - \$1,500 scholarship every 3 months + \$5,000scholarship annually) www.writersofthefuture.com

READERS ARE LEADERS

MODERN WOODMEN of AMERICA FUNDRAISER FOR CASHION SCHOOL LIBRARY

Starting September 23, all grade levels will be participating in a read-a-thon fundraiser sponsored by Modern Woodmen of America. The goals of the program are motivating students of all ages to read, encouraging children and adults to read together, and purchasing new and exciting books for the school library.

All students PreK-12th grade will be encouraged to help raise money for their school library by securing pledges for the time they read over a 2 week period. Students can read anything they want – newspapers, magazines, novels, comic books, cereal boxes – anything! Students will also be credited for time they spend reading to someone else, whether it's an adult or another student. Our youngest students and beginning readers can participate by having someone read to them – it still counts!

The program will begin Friday, September 23. Proceeds raised will be matched by Modern Woodmen of America up to \$2,500. All funds will be used to buy new books for our school library. Many of the titles will be selected by the students participating in the fundraiser so that they can have a voice in what new books the library acquires. The PreK-6th grade student and the 7th-12th grade student who raise the most money will each win a prize – a **Kindle e-reader!!**

Thank you for partnering with Modern Woodmen of American and Cashion Public Schools to provide our students with the resources they need to become the best and brightest leaders of tomorrow. For more information, check out the library website (<http://cashion.k12.ok.us>) or contact Tara Hixon (433-2575 or thixon@cashion.k12.ok.us) if you have questions.

CASHION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ROCKS Principal Lisa Hudson

At Cashion Elementary we think “School Rocks!” We adopted a “rock ‘n roll” theme for school this year, and we invite you to stop by our building to check out the creative ways we’ve incorporated this theme into our classrooms. I am pleased to report that August has gotten off to a rockin’ start, and we are excited about kicking off the 2011-2012 school year.

We have a few announcements for parents regarding our academic programs this year. First, I am pleased to report that Cashion Elementary School has met the No Child Left Behind requirements for “adequate yearly progress” (AYP). This federal mandate has increasingly stringent guidelines for academic proficiency, and Cashion Elementary has once again met those guidelines. Additionally, our state Academic Performance Index (API) score is up 29 points from last year. This is further evidence of the high quality of teachers and students we have in the Cashion School District. Way to go, Wildcats!

In an effort to maintain excellence, I am pleased to report that we have expanded our academic interventions for 2011-2012. We will now be providing Title I reading and math remediation for students in all grades at Cashion Elementary. Formerly, our interventions targeted grade 1 through 6. This year, we’ll provide extra support for preschool and kindergarten students as well, in order to build a strong foundation for academic success in the coming years.

Finally, I would like to remind parents about before school and after school car traffic. We would appreciate your cooperation with drop-offs and pick-ups. Between the hours of 7:45 - 8:30 and 2:45 – 3:45, parent traffic is **prohibited** in the bus loop on the east side of the school. Parents are asked to use the west loop exclusively. It is also permissible to pick-up and drop-off at the sidewalk leading to the middle building in the parking lot. Your cooperation in maintaining the safety of our bus riders is greatly appreciated!

Thanks for making the start of school such a success. Rock on, Wildcats!

Cat Chat for Freshmen

The freshmen decided to set their dues this year at \$15. These dues need to be paid to Ms. Beck by Friday, September 9, 2011. Thanks.