



2017 SCHOOL PROFILES

Office of Educational Quality and Accountability

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BARNES ELEMENTARY (EC-5)

OWASSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Message from the Principal:

Dear Families,

June 2018

Within Owasso Public Schools, we are continuing a tradition of excellence. We are proud to be a part of a district where every student finds success in academics, athletics, the arts, and all other areas of their learning journey. The success of our students is built on the partnership we have with our families as well as with the Owasso community. As a school leader, I am blessed to get a first-hand look at our students' potential and leadership every day that they are with us, and take pride in the work we are doing here at Barnes! We are a school comprised of PK-5th grades – all of which are not tested grades. (The A-F School Report card is based on standardized achievement tests in 3-5th) Yet we know that what we do at the lower grades, affects student performance in the upper grades. We work diligently to use our data to drive our instruction for all students, responding with differentiated support when necessary; accelerating students and supporting students along the way.

Our staff works intentionally to create a positive environment where each student's strengths, gifts and interests are valued. We have a culture of high expectations, for both students and staff. I am exceptionally proud of our teaching faculty that puts students first in all that they do. Together, our students and teachers have faced the challenge for the last several years with standardized testing of attempting to hit a moving target. Yet, we saw significant gains in student achievement in just a year's time. In 2015, 2016 even more significant gains. We are not finished. We continue to "work on the work" as my staff and I call it. Here is a short video from our State Supt. of Public Instruction regarding our new state standards for schools. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z3oAlipI-3A&feature=youtu.be>

To us, our students are much more than a single test score. As a school site, we use multiple measures to ensure success for our students! If you'd like to learn more about the great things happening at Barnes Elementary, ask a teacher, counselor, specialist, secretary, paraprofessional, or myself. We'll be more than happy to give you more information regarding our response to our student data and progress toward academic learning goals for kids.

In 2016-2017 the State Department of Education created and adopted new state standards. The new standards are more comprehensive, complex, contain more rigorous depths of knowledge expectations and are better predictors of college and career readiness. If you have further questions about the new State Standards, called Oklahoma Academic Standards (OAS) here is a link to a Q&A from the State Dept. of Education.

<http://sde.ok.gov/sde/sites/ok.gov.sde/files/documents/files/Frequently%20Asked%20Questions%20-%20Test%20Results%202017.pdf>

As our teachers and students continue the work together in response to the new State standards, we ask for your continued support and involvement. We are in this together as we move forward in the tradition of excellence that IS Owasso Public Schools. I am blessed to be a part of this learning community and look forward to another amazing year ahead. #Rampride

With Sincerity,

Ms. Rylee Zaragoza, Principal