



# Eagle Talk

## Road Map

SAYRE SCHOOLS

May~June~July 2016

**“ONE’S DESTINATION IS NEVER A PLACE, BUT A NEW WAY OF SEEING THINGS.”**

**-HENRY MILLER**

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 10

### Directions...

*Plans.* The best made plans somehow remind me of a vintage road trip—with a road map spread out across the dash that connect the dots of your impending journey. The destination appears to be a million miles away, but you start the engine anyway. The drive is filled with pit stops, delays, and sometimes even break downs—but it also contains lessons learned, new experiences, and unforgettable scenery. In the end, it’s not even the destination that you remember most—it’s the people riding next to you and the moments that propelled you to where you want to be.

Plans for a school district are much the same—only our gas tank is filled with ideas, feedback, data, hope, and the best intentions. This school year has went by so fast—much like the road disappearing behind you—leaving many miles between where

you were and where you are now. We feel that Sayre Schools has made great strides this year and shown growth in areas that needed some extra love and attention.

What we have learned is that this journey has only just begun. We are about to embark on a new road, filled with new faces and ideas. With help, this school and

**“Some journeys don’t have endings, they lead to new beginnings. These are the journeys that lead to great adventures!”**

**--Alex Haditaghi**

We have researched and purchased new technology, mapped our curriculum, and provided additional support for students, teachers and subject areas. We also implemented district student assessments to give ourselves the ability to see where we are. But most importantly, we had honest conversations about what we want Sayre Schools to be, what we want for our children, and the best way to get there.

community will build their own road map to follow—if we have to, we’ll construct new roads and bridges to keep us moving in the right direction.

School districts need a VISION for the future and a PLAN to get there. So jump in, buckle up, and join us for what promises to be an amazing ride!

## What's the Plan?

We were looking for something strategic, long-term, well-planned, and involved a variety of stakeholders from both the district and the community—and we believe that we have found just the thing!

“Through For The People: A Vision for Oklahoma Public Education, public education leaders made recommendations and proposed strategies for propelling education in Oklahoma forward. One of the chief recommendations is that the leaders and community of each district work with their stakeholders to develop a united vision for their district.” To do this, Sayre Schools will work with the Oklahoma State School Boards Association (OSSBA) in collaboration with the K20 Centers for Educational and Community Renewal at the University of Oklahoma. This comprehensive process is called Continuous Strategic Improvement (CSI) and will engage all stakeholder groups to create universal ownership and support for district and school improvement. The entire process will take eight to 12 months to complete and is divided into four phases.

### Phase I. Engage

It is critical that, as part of this plan, educators engage stakeholders in conversations about the purpose and process of education in a local context to provide input data and ideas for later planning processes. After gathering and analyzing data, this group of stakeholders will answer the question: “Who are we?” *Who are these stakeholders?* They are participants representing the school district, students, parents, and community members. *What are their goals?* A few examples might be: to examine the community role in education, be transparent and inclusive, honor the input citizens gave into the district’s CSI initiative, inform citizens about the strategic planning process, create a proactive rather than reactive process.

### Phase II. Plan

The purpose of this phase is to help districts find a shared sense of purpose and direction, allowing citizenry to shape the future of their community and the role of their school district within that community. This group of stakeholders (30 to 40 people) will come together to answer the question: “Where are we now?” Specific outcomes include a strengths and weaknesses analysis of the data, a review of the district mission, and developing goal areas and performance objectives for the CSI plan.

### Phase III. Act

Change is inevitable in the world of public education. The purpose of this phase is to identify which changes will result in transforming our district into what we want it to become. This kind of transformation will require school and community leaders to re-purpose and re-imagine schooling, not just reform it. Stakeholders will assemble to answer the question: “Where do we want to go?” After analyzing the goal area and performance objectives, the team will write performance measures and targets to answer this question as well as look at the initiatives and actions steps that might be needed to answer the question: “How do we plan to get there?”

### Phase IV. Achieve

The purpose of this phase is to ensure a collaborative and innovative workplace in which teachers and leaders have the capacity to focus on student learning. This phase will include the Board of Education’s approval of the CSI plan and participation in a process to develop school-level implementation plans. In addition, a district plan will also be developed to align the district budget to the plan for ongoing transparent communication and monitoring. We are so excited about the possibilities that lie ahead for the Sayre Eagles. We can’t wait to continue our journey in August!

## May Highlights

May 2- HSBG; Regional Tourn @ Kingfisher  
May 2- Spring Vocal Concert (Aud)  
May 3-4- HSGG; State Tourn (Aqua Canyon/Guthrie)  
May 3- HSSB; State Tournament  
May 3- MS/HS Art Show  
May 3- Spring Band Concert  
May 4- Elementary Awards Assembly (grades 1-3) @ 9:00am  
May 4- Elementary Awards Assembly (grades 4 & 5) @12:45pm  
May 5-7: HSBA; Regional Tournament  
May 5- College Graduation Practice  
May 6-7: HS State Track Meet (Carl Albert HS/OKC)  
May 6- School Board Meeting (Central Office @ 12:00pm)  
May 6- SWOSU @ Sayre Graduation (Auditorium)  
May 9-10: HSBG; State Tournament (Arrowhead/Canadian)  
May 9- All Sports Banquet @ 6pm  
May 10- HS Awards Assembly (10:00am)  
May 10- MS Awards Assembly (2:00pm)  
May 10- FFA Awards Assembly (6:00pm)  
May 11- MS Reward Party (Elk City)  
May 11- Baccalaureate Service (6:00pm)  
May 12-14: HSBA; State Tournament  
May 13- HS Graduation Ceremony (Auditorium @ 7:00pm)  
May 16- Semester Exams (Odd Hours)  
May 16- Kindergarten Graduation (Auditorium @ 2:00 pm)  
May 17- Semester Exams (Even Hours)  
May 17- Second Semester Ends  
May 24-25: Report Cards Available for Pick-Up

**Source (referenced and consulted):**  
Oklahoma State School Boards Association.  
*For the People: Continuous Strategic Improvement.* OSSBA. 2016. Web. 28 Apr. 2016.



By: Andrea Dickson  
Dir. of Curriculum & School Improvement