

**Education Committee
Career Services
May 2021 Monthly Report
Diane Kelley, Executive Director**

Alternative Education, Career Skills, and Testing Report

The total number of active clients utilizing the Alternative Education Program's AZTEC online GED assistance platform is continuing to increase; clients continue to report that the platform is a helpful supplement to teacher instruction and guidance.

The Alternative Education program has increased its presence at the Cherokee Heights location offering TABE assessments for GED and Career Services program enrollment, GED/HSE teacher instruction, and access to the online AZTEC platform. Client graduation numbers have shown an increase within the month.

Testing Services is now transitioning to 'online' and 'offline' TABE assessment options, allowing more opportunities to areas that had limited availability, and making the test easier and quicker to administer and score for staff.

Career Skills Staff continues to offer the Career Skills Education Course (CSEC) to smaller groups to maintain adherence to COVID-19 meeting guidelines and respond to individualized needs for participants attempting to gain employment.

Upcoming Program Initiatives

The Alternative Education Program is continuing to develop strategies to increase GED/HSE teacher services to areas that had limited access in the past.

Career Skills staff are preparing for offering the CSEC to Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) participants within COVID-19 meeting guidelines.

Testing Services will continue to monitor the progress of utilizing online TABE assessments in Tahlequah offices, and once the process is efficient, a training and implementation period will be set for other Career Services locations.

GED/HSE Testing Rates

- GED® / HiSET® Graduates:
 - Month GED Graduate Total: 7
 - Fiscal Year To Date Total: 16
 - HiSet Paper Testing: 0
 - Online GED Test: 7

Graduation Goal is being evaluated, but has tentatively been set at 50 for the FY period.

- Individual Testing Results (By Subject):
 - Science: 1 Pass, 1 Fail
 - Social Studies: 6 Pass, 3 Fail
 - Math: 4 Pass, 1 Fail

- Writing (RTLA): 0 Pass, 0 Fail
- Reading: 7 Pass, 0 Fail

Participant AZTEC Usage

- Total Active AZTEC clients: 200
- Adult Education Participant Totals:
 - Total time: 375.5 hours
 - Learning Objectives: 243.0 hours
 - Drill and Quiz times: 49.5 hours
 - Exam times: 83.0 hours
- Career Skills Participant Totals:
 - Total time: 2.25 hours
 - Learning times: 2.0 hours
 - Drilling & quizzing times: 0.25 hours
 - Exam times: 0.0

Career Skills Staff Contacts

- 5 Career Skills Classes: 25 completions

Resume Preparation

- Resumes completed for Career Services clients and other referrals: 14

Contacts/Completions

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Career Skill Classes | 25 |
| Specialized | 19 |
| Resumes | 19 |
| Math Tutor & GED Services | <u>14</u> |
| Total Completions | 77 |

Specialized Classes/Training/Workshops Administered

- **Confidentiality Training** – Career Skills staff implemented a participant training that focused on handling confidential materials and maintaining client confidentiality in work environments that deal with protected information.
 - 18 individuals

Other Services

- Three students completed GED Intake
- Five individuals took TABE assessments
- One individual received information or application assistance with RRR Registration for Technology, Food Distribution and Resource Information

Testing Services

| Pearson VUE | Tests Administered |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Tahlequah | 101 |
| Pryor | 47 |
| Stilwell | 30 |
| Sallisaw | 0 |

HiSET

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Pryor | 1 |
| Tahlequah | 3 |

MOS

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Tahlequah | 3 |
|-----------|---|

Total Tests Administered: 185

Talking Leaves Job Corps

Talking Leaves Job Corps won 3rd Place in the Stilwell Strawberry Festival Parade on Saturday, May 8, 2021. The float was created by the Recreation department headed by Jordan Lee, Center Recreation Supervisor.



Vocational Rehabilitation

Five Students Graduated May 2021

- Northeastern Oklahoma A&M
 - Medical Lab Technician
- Tulsa Community College
 - Fire and Emergency Medical Services Technology (Associates degree)
- University of Arkansas Fort Smith,
 - Biology
- Northeastern State University,
 - Median Studies/Marketing
 - Psychology

Six Students Attending Summer School 2021

- Northeastern State University
 - 2- Psychology
 - Health/Physical Education
- Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology
 - Culinary Arts
 - Automotive
- Northeastern Oklahoma A&M
 - (graduated in May) but she is taking two classes to get started the MLT Bachelor's program at University of Arkansas in August

Vocational Training

Business Tech

- Three students received MOS 2016 Certifications
 - PowerPoint: 2
 - Word Expert: 1
- Two Business Tech Practicum students hired full-time
 - CN Gaming Commission
 - CN Cherokee First
- One student placed in Practicum
 - CN Commerce Services
- One student hired Full-Time
 - Kenco Distribution in Pryor, OK
- Eight new students on 4/19/21
 - Braggs: 1
 - Colcord: 2
 - Tahlequah: 5
- Eleven students participated in Career Skills Training on 4/26/21

Child Care

- One student received her CDA and Employed Full-Time at the Following Child Care Center:
 - Sweet's Child Care Center in Tahlequah
- Two students completed the program and received their CDA's and are currently looking for Full-Time employment

Surg Tech

- Four Surg Tech students are all doing well in the program
 - Hulbert: 1
 - Stilwell: 1
 - Tahlequah: 2
- Five Surg Tech students in their clinicals in area hospitals and surgery centers located in Arkansas and Oklahoma
 - Stilwell: 2
 - Tahlequah: 2
 - Westville: 1

RN Scholarship Program

- Three Nursing Students are New to the Scholarship Program and doing well in classes in the Connors State College Nursing Program
 - Brokenbow: 1
 - Oktaha: 1
 - Tahlequah: 1
- Five Graduating Nursing Students will begin the RN Residency Program on June 7, 2021 at Hastings Hospital
 - Bunch: 1
 - Cookson 1
 - Gore: 1
 - Kansas: 1
 - Stilwell: 1
- Three Graduating Nursing Students are working PRN at Hastings Hospital with potential for Full-Time positions
 - ICU: 1
 - ER: 2
- Two Nursing Students on Residency at Hastings Hospital Hired Full-Time on 4/4/21
 - One from Little Kansas in ER
 - One from Tahlequah in Med Surg



CAREER READINESS ACT

Trainings



Career Readiness Act Program:

High Voltage Lineman Training Program

An open house/ribbon cutting event is currently being planned for the Training Grounds. Information and dates will be forthcoming.

- Lineman Class 3 Update
 - Students have been out on paid internship since April 5th
 - Will be returning to classroom training on Monday, June 7th
- Lineman Class 4 Update
 - Students will be leaving for an 8 week paid internship starting Monday, June 7th



Internships are a vital part of this program. It allows prospective employers the opportunity to evaluate the candidates before hiring them while providing hands-on learning. In turn, students are able to evaluate potential employers to ensure it will be a good fit for them. We are always searching for business partners to provide paid 8-week internship opportunities for our students. Internships provide direct benefits to both students and business partners.

High Voltage Lineman Training Program

Cherokee Nation Career Services is searching for business partners to provide 8-week internship opportunities for our high voltage lineman training students. Internships provide direct benefits to both students and business partners.

LOOKING FOR:

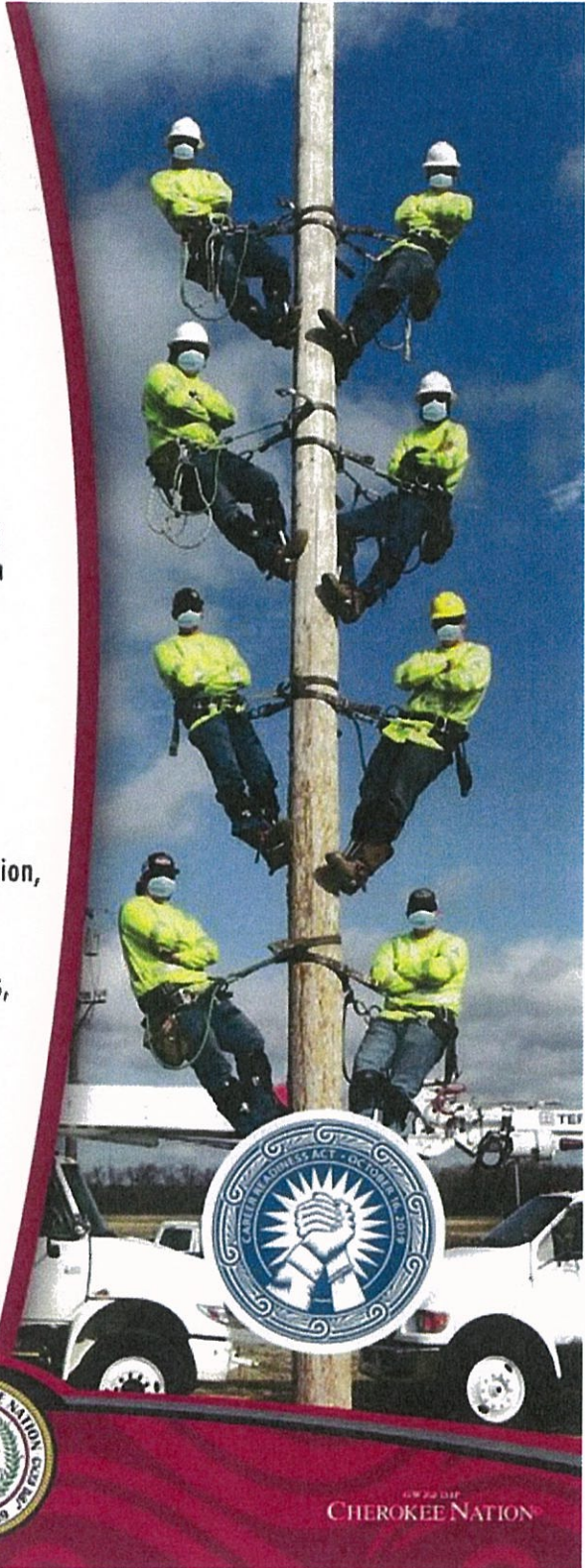
- **Contractors**
- **Electrical Cooperatives**
- **Municipal Utility Providers**

Students will have a Class A CDL, OSHA 10 certification, CPR certification and climbing gear.

Students have experience in climbing, digger trucks, bucket trucks and setting poles.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Hunter Palmer
Manager of Economic Development
Cherokee Nation Career Services
918-453-5723
hunter-palmer@cherokee.org



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Fiber Technician Training Program

We have seven companies that we are currently in partnership with to provide internships and employment upon completion of the program

- Fiber Technician Class 2 Update
 - Our 8 Fiber Tech Students are currently out on a paid internship with the following companies
 - Ervin Cable Construction, LLC
 - Rose Ranch Construction
 - Superior
- Fiber Technician Class 3 Update
 - Beginning Tuesday, June 8th in Tahlequah.



Fiber Technician Training Program

Classes starting soon in Tahlequah!
Course is designed to train individuals in the fiber technician trade.

TRAINING INCLUDES

- OSHA 10
- CPR
- CDL Permit

REQUIREMENTS

- 18 years or older
- Be able to obtain CDL permit
- Cherokee Nation citizen
- Living on Cherokee Nation reservation

FOR MORE INFO

Travis Gulley
Jobs Business Development Coordinator
Cherokee Nation Career Services
918-453-5555
travis-gulley@cherokee.org



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Mobile Training Trailer

Mobile Training Trailer can be utilized for mobile job fairs, and further expand short-term classes.



Building Trades Program

Currently recruiting students for our Building Trades Program. Class is Monday- Friday, 7am – 4pm.

This program provides training in basic building trades. Participants learn occupations such as carpentry, masonry, and electrical work. The program also instructs students on effectively competing for employment. The program works in conjunction with the Home Improvement Program in the Community Services Department.

BUILDING TRADES Program

Get paid for hands-on training
while learning a career!

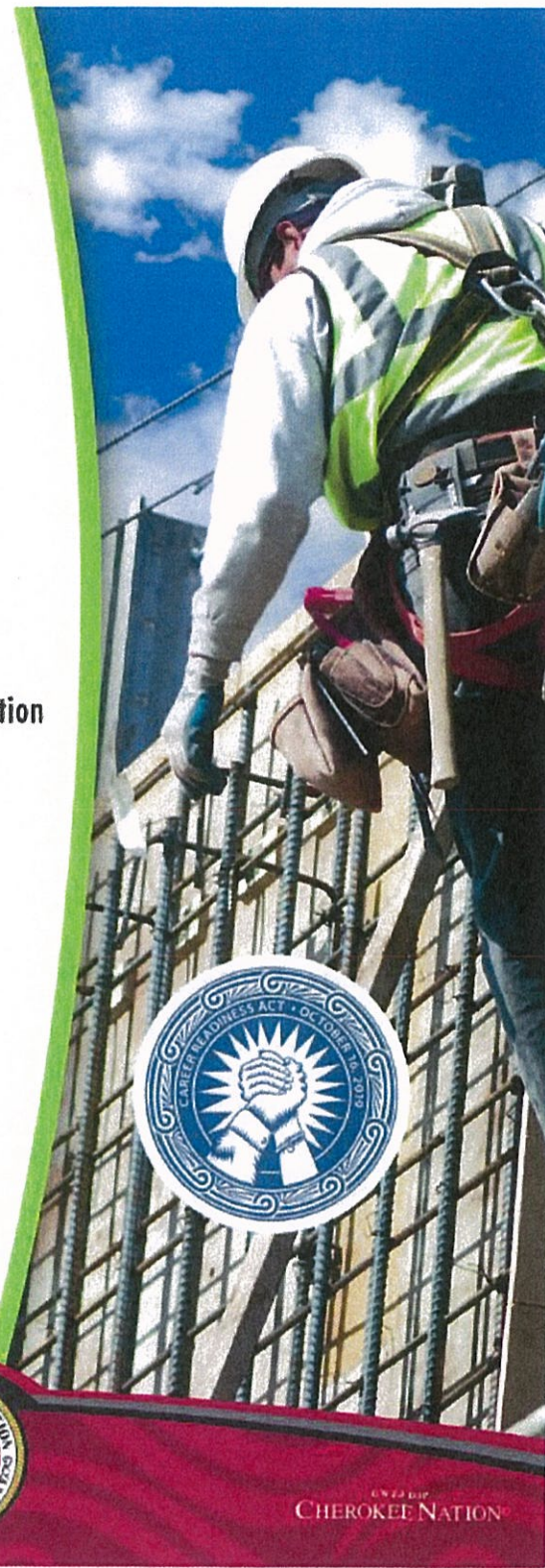
- Must be a Cherokee Nation citizen
- Must reside in the Cherokee Nation reservation
- Must be 18 years or older

This program combines classroom training
with hands-on instruction to prepare
individuals for skilled employment.

**TRAINING AVAILABLE
IN TAHLEQUAH, OKLA.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Call 918-453-5555

TRAINING STARTS SOON!



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College Resource Center

Valedictorian/Salutatorian Applications (Class of 2021) Deadline April 16, 2021:

- 99 Applications received
 - 94 Approved
 - 69 Valedictorian = \$47,000.08
 - 25 Salutatorian = \$15,750.00
 - 59 Public High Schools Represented

School Year 2021-2022 Applications Received as of May 13th. Deadline is June 15, 2021:

- 1,108 Total Applications received
- 42 Concurrent
- 911 Undergraduate
- 155 Graduate

Outreach & Presentations:

- Gen Z Leadership Program completed April 14. As of May 13, 2021. Videos open until May 21, 2021 for viewing.
 - 4,442 estimated attendee's
 - Certificates are being sent out by email to students that attended.
 - This webinar series was an alternative for community service for scholarship recipients for Spring 2021.
- Emails being sent out weekly to contacts and students regarding scholarships and other opportunities such as outside scholarships and internships.
- Renewal Emails going out weekly to current students to apply for Fall 2021/Spring 2022.
- Virtual Night with Connors State College April 27, 2021
 - 15 attendee's
- May 6, 2021 OSU Honoring Ceremony for Osteopathic Medicine graduates
 - 8 Cherokee Students Honored

Spring 2021 Stole Report:

Associate – 44
Bachelors – 241
Masters – 47
Doctorate – 23
Faculty – 6

Students on program receiving stoles – 240
Students not on program receiving stoles – 115

Total: 355

Future Plans:

Application

- Concurrent Enrollment, UG, Grad deadline is June 15, 2021 at 11:59pm CST
- Continuation of processing of new year scholarship applications

Cultural Outreach

Accomplishments:

- **Return to Schools** - Conditions remain for small groups to be masked at all times, students/school personnel must remain masked as well. School are asked to sign agreeing to the mask policy before Cultural Resource staff visited the classroom.
- **Training/Inservice** - Staff visited the Western Heritage and National Cowboy Museum, Spiro Exhibit, April 16.
- **Outreach Activities** - Staff continues to prepare basket starts and delivers supplies to schools for virtual presentations. Eight written cultural inquiries were answered. CRC staff is fully booked for November 2021 and October is filling quickly.

April Numbers: Audience 955

YTD Numbers: 5,451

Upcoming initiatives: Staff will be assisting in the upcoming events.

- Camp Cherokee
- Cherokee History book guide
- JOM Art and Writing competition
- Cherokee National Holiday
- Tri-Council Meeting (June)
- Siloam Springs Heritage Festival
- Air National Guard Cultural Days

Head Start

Activity

April

YTD

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| # of classrooms/sites | 69 classrooms 21 sites | 69 classrooms 21 sites |
| # of site visits by HS/ECU staff | 159 Site Visits | 192 Conducted |
| # of PD hours completed | 19.75 hours offered | 38.75 hours offered |

April - CACFP

| | | |
|----------------------|------------|-----------------------------|
| Breakfast 3909 | Lunch 3769 | Snack 3685 |
| Total Food Cost – \$ | | Reimbursement – \$25,078.17 |

Accomplishments:

- 1) Conversion of the old Ga-Du-Gi clinic space in to office spaces and training room has been completed. The old exam rooms are now offices for the Children’s Village supervisors.

- 2) The Head Start classrooms are completing the 43rd year of operation. Children will be out for the summer May 12, 2021 and returning children will start the 2021/22 school year on August 9 2021. The Early Head Start infants and toddlers will take their annual break on July 15-Aug 9, 2021.

Upcoming initiatives:

- 1) As a result of the American Rescue Plan, all Head Start and Early Head Start grantees are eligible to receive additional funds proportionally based on funded enrollment levels. The two year funding allows grantees to consider activities that continue supporting children and families and investing in safe and high-quality early childhood learning opportunities. This one-time funding could be used to meet both short- and long-term needs and determine whether purchasing, leasing or contracting for services is more prudent.
- 2) The Head Start five-year grant is due June 1. This is the base funding for the Early Head Start and Head Start operations and includes new initiatives that might include alternate sites, new program goals to be completed in the five year cycle, staffing patterns.
- 3) Project Head Start will be 56 years old May 18, 2021. We plan to do a small internal celebration. However, Cherokee Nation Head Start will be 43 in August 2021.

JOM/ Johnson O'Malley Program

| Activity | May | YTD |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------|
| | JOM | YTD Total |
| # of students on program | 24,749 (5/11/2021) | 24,749 |

JOM-

Accomplishments:

- o Submitting school reimbursement claims: Blue Jacket, Colcord, Copan, Grand View, Locust Grove, Maryetta, Muldrow, Vian, Warner, Collinsville, Ketchum, Zion, and Tahlequah
- o Budget revisions: Vinita, Foyil, Locust Grove, Porum, Inola, Ft. Gibson, Ketchum and Warner
- o Technical Assistance – Claremore, Ft. Gibson, inola, Okay, Owasso, Vian, and Vinita
- o Assistance purchasing items for Locust Grove, Porum, Briggs, Sallisaw and Warner
- o JOM Program monitoring via WebEx:
 - ❖ 4/19/2021 Tahlequah
 - ❖ 4/19/2021 Kansas
 - ❖ Also with Colcord, Gans, Grand View, Sallisaw, Collinsville, Ketchum, Adair and Warner
- o 4/28/2021 – Zion Cultural Day made Frybread for 400, beading station
- o 5/3/2021 – Peavine Cultural Day 120 students, stickball station
- o 5/11/2021 – 2022 OKJOM Planning meeting via zoom.
- o JOM Staff Virtual Call meetings
- o Partnered with Culture Resources Center Staff to create list of where to find Cherokee cultural resources to pass along to our schools

- E-mailed Briggs, Colcord, Locust Grove, Maryetta, and Porum Cultural Resources as requested.
- Assisted Special Projects with Cherokee Art. Helped judge, sort and deliver cards.
- E-mailed all 24 schools the deadline dates for submitting budget Revisions.
- E-mailed all 24 schools with the dollar amount of unclaimed balances.
- Delivered Mifis to Braggs and Cave Springs Schools
- OKJOM Virtual Planning for 2022 Conference
- Cultural presentations at Heritage Center for Military Personnel building homes for veterans
- JOM Spring Child Count Completed
- JOM 2021-2022 Child Count to be submitted to BIE with total count of 25,594 (includes potential served)
- Education Committee with Tribal Council Virtual Attendance
- Passport Trainings Completed by JOM Staff:
 - ❖ Successful Communication
 - ❖ Working Together
 - ❖ Generational Differences in the Workplace
 - ❖ How to Handle Discipline Issues
- JOM Cherokee Writing Competition 55 submissions from 8 schools
- Language and Challenge Bowls completed virtually with 11 schools, 220 students
- Art Competitions completed virtually with 25 schools, 410 students
- Total amount of dollars awarded to students for virtual competitions was \$17,710.00 to 27 schools
- Virtual meeting with Norman Public Schools Indian Education Department to provide information
- Oklahoma Historical Society virtual conference
- Met with XR Studios about a project
- Creative and Scope and Sequencing of the video project
- Collaborated with History Preservation Officer and IT to work on digital history course
- Collaborates to work on history book teacher's guide and curriculum.
- Stilwell Cultural Day
- History Program for Military Presentations
- Cherokee History Presentation for Native Leadership
- Working on Camp Cherokee supply lists and curriculum

2022 OKJOM Conference Planning

- a. Conference date March 30 – 31, 2022 WinStar Conference Center & Casino
- b. Theme – OKJOM 2022 –Strong, Resolved, Resilient.

Future Plans/New Initiatives:

- 6/8/2021 2022 OKJOM Planning Meeting 9:00 a.m.
- Cultural day with Stilwell School
- Stickball at Hulbert High School
- Stickball at Owasso Elementary
- Working on Cherokee School videos
- Submitting the Award Cards request

- Getting all award cards delivered to the schools by the second week of May
- Oklahoma Historical Society Conference April 22 -23

STEM-

- Launched Camp Cherokee Application
- Telephone Meeting with Sequoyah National Wildlife Refuge
- Environmental Review committee permit completed
- Camp Cherokee Planning in progress for Residential Camp July 25-July 30
- STEM Research for Students in progress for summer project to be held June 1- July 16
- Cultural presentations on site from school requests with following required safety guidelines
- Cultural presentations at Cherokee Heritage Center for Military Personnel building homes for veterans
- Delivered Mi-Fi Colcord and Caney Valley
- Delivered supplies to Miami
- Delivered award cards to Caney Valley, Oolagah, Sequoyah Claremore, and Dahlenegah

Future Plans/New Initiatives:

Camp Cherokee
STEM Research Experience with Students

History Preservation Officer

- Two work committees established for (1) Developing Curriculum Guide for History Book and (2) Online History Course
- Virtual meetings with US Marshal Museum
- Tribal Lighthouse Monument Written Communication for Opening Event
- Filming for Osiyo TV Cherokee Almanac
- Meeting of Advisory Committee on History and Culture

Sequoyah Schools

Program Highlights

67 Sequoyah High School students graduated on Friday, May 14th at 6:30pm at NSU Stadium. All of our students made it academically this school year and those that need extra help will attend summer school! What an accomplishment for our teachers and students!

Secretary of the Interior, Deb Haaland gave the commencement address virtually at the graduation. It was a proud moment for all! Thank you for all your leadership, Secretary Haaland!

Students finished semester tests and have all work turned in last Friday. Summer school will focus on credit recovery and bridging the achievement gap left from the pandemic which began in March of 2020. Summer school will begin on May 27th and end on June 18th, with all day classes being held with certified teachers. Summer workouts and conditioning is also taking place.

We have almost 100 Freshman applications accepted for our SHS class of the class of 2025. Positive changes are happening and we striving to help students every step of the way! We have a great team that loves our SHS kids!

Recent Extra-curricular results:

Kelsey Morgan was selected the Drum major role for the 2021-2022 school year for the Pride of Sequoyah High School band!

SHS Drama department's One Act Play placed 2nd at the OSSAA Regional Competition. Chance Chambers, Ryly Ziese and Jacob Fine were awarded All Star Acting honors.

Phil Angieri- long time Assistant Football coach and teacher at SHS (16 years) has retired after 52 years in education. Congratulations Coach Angieri! We will miss you!

Jacob Cummings, Athena GoingSnake and Ryly Ziese qualified for OKLAHOMA ACADEMIC SCHOLAR with a 3.7-4.0 gpa and at least a score of 27 or higher on the ACT.

4 SHS Archers competed virtually in the Open National NASP tournament. **Zack Cooper, Hayden Girty, Joseph Etzkorn and Rosie Catron.**