

Oklahoma Core Curriculum test results

Tulsa area scores for math/reading

District	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
Bixby	88/93	85/90	87/92
Broken Arrow	89/86	89/85	88/93
Glennpool	85/76	79/82	79/91
Jenks	96/95	96/92	94/94
Owasso	91/92	91/92	89/93
Sand Springs	83/76	79/72	86/93
Sapulpa	84/83	80/83	84/94
Tulsa	70/71	65/71	72/75
Union	89/88	87/87	89/90

SOURCE: School districts

Tulsa World

SCORES: About the test

Bixby and Union Public Schools show mostly gains.

FROM A-9

said the district always checks its results with those of comparable districts.

"We're very much into data in this school system," she said. "We analyze everything, and we break it down. We go to the content areas of each of the subjects. We don't just look at the score for the overall."

Bixby Public Schools reported gains in most grades for both reading and math, as did Union Public Schools.

Sapulpa showed a 9-percentage-point gain in math scores for seventh-graders and an 11-percentage-point gain for eighth-graders.

Owasso had steady gains across the board, making it one of the only districts with proficiency in both subjects of more than 90 percent for sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders in all but its eighth-grade reading score, which is at 89 percent.

Broken Arrow sixth-, seventh- and eighth-graders gained a few points or stayed the same in both reading and math scores, with a 3-percentage-point gain in its seventh-grade math score.

Union saw gains of 2 percentage points to 3 percent-

The Oklahoma Core Curriculum Tests, given in April to Oklahoma third- through eighth-graders, are meant to align with the state's Priority Academic Student Skills.

Students at each of the grade levels are tested in reading and math. Some grades are tested on additional subjects, such as science and social studies.

The results of the Oklahoma Core Curriculum Tests are important to school districts and individual school sites because of state and federal school-accountability laws.

The federal No Child Left Behind Act requires schools to make "adequate yearly progress" in reading and math test scores, the number of students who take standardized tests, and attendance or graduation rates.

Schools are expected to have 100 percent of students demonstrating proficiency in reading and math by 2013-14.

age points in some of its scores, but the sixth-grade score for math proficiency went down by 2 percentage points and its reading score by 5 percentage points.

"It looks like that we had a little decline in sixth-grade math and reading compared to last year," said Kirt Hartzler, assistant superintendent for teaching and learning at Union.

"I think any time you have a reduction, you're going to evaluate what's being taught," he said. "It's prudent to do that even if it's one or two points."

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HOSPITAL:

The building also will be environmentally friendly, using geothermal technology.

FROM A-9

practice, internal medicine, gynecology, gastroenterology, general surgery and neurosurgery, pediatrics, rehabilitative treatment and oncology.

The building also will be environmentally friendly, Roberts said. Geothermal technology — using a series of wells — will help heat and cool the facility.

Roberts, with Muskogee physician Tim Robison and others, has pushed for the new hospital for four years.

The City Council approved a rezoning measure to allow the construction in November 2003 but voted two years later to place a \$10,000 permit fee and feasibility-test requirement on any future private hospital projects.

The council turnabout forced Muskogee Community Hospital planners to move their planned facility from land near Bacone College.

The new facility will be at

Muskogee Community Hospital



the intersection of Main Street and Harris Road, just outside the city limits.

The city owned and operated Muskogee Regional Medical Center for years but turned over its management to a private firm this year.

Roberts does not see competition between the medical center and Muskogee Community Hospital as negative.

"There's a lot of opportunity for everybody," he said.

Muskogee Community Hospital plans to work with Bacone College and Connors State College on training and education in nursing, radiology and provider programs, Roberts said.

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SIGNS:

At one time, owners could reclaim their illegally placed signs.

FROM A-9

that would allow such signs on a limited basis.

In the past, when the city collected illegally placed signs, the sign owners could reclaim them from the city.

"I don't understand why we've been giving the signs

back when they simply turn around and redeploy them," Councilor John Eagleton said.

The proposed fine increase would apply to all property nuisance violations, including the mowing of grass and removal of trash.

Another change being recommended for the nuisance ordinance is a \$32 fee required for a 14-day extension that would allow a property owner time to rectify a violation.

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PLATES:

Williams' rarest find is a 1943 unused windshield sticker.

FROM A-9

"I'd give anything to know the owners," Williams said.

The rarest part of his collection isn't actually a plate.

License plates were not issued in 1943 because the government needed all the metal it could get for the war. Motorists received windshield stickers, instead.

Williams discovered a never-before-used 1943 windshield sticker at a Muskogee flea market.

Next to the sticker was a pile of letters. In one of them, a soldier who presumably was overseas wrote to his mother and asked her to keep the registration on his car active and asked her to park the vehicle in the garage.

Web sites:
Williams' plates:
www.tulsaworld.com/joecoastie
Information about collecting:
www.tulsaworld.com/plates

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Barney Williams has about 2,000 license plates in his collection, but he's on the lookout for more.

Photos by SHERRY BROWN/Tulsa World

BARNEY WILLIAMS' COLLECTION

Purple Hearts: Each plate comes from a veteran who was injured somewhere at some time, Williams said. Many wars are represented.

Birthday: Williams has plates from every state in the year he was born, 1938.

Handicap motorcycle plates: These are super, super rare, Williams said.

Oklahoma: He has a plate from every year from 1938 to the present.

State plates: He has one from every state.

Bicycle tags: Williams has dozens from cities across the country. One was dug up from an old park in downtown Muskogee and is dated 1943.

Most costly: Williams once paid \$275 for a 1953 Utah motorcycle plate.

Oldest: A 1909 Pennsylvania plate marks Williams' mother's birth.

Motorcycle: For Williams, these smaller plates (below) are some of the most valuable and fun to collect.



A rare 1915 Oklahoma motorcycle plate.

Tulsans won't be left holding plastic bags

Dear Action Line: There is kind of a small but important recycling crisis brewing.

Albertsons has been the only outlet for recycling plastic bags. Even the Metropolitan Environmental Trust won't take them, and there are indications that the successors to Albertsons aren't going to take them, either.

This might leave Tulsa without a place to recycle those millions of plastic grocery bags! — B.H., Tulsa.

At least two retailers still collect the bags locally and send them out of state for recycling.

Reasor's: All Tulsa-area Reasor's stores have green cabinets, with holes in their tops, in their entryways into which people may deposit any store's plastic bags.

Reasor's bought the Albertsons store at 15th Street and Lewis Avenue, and it is expected that that store also will take grocery bags for recycling.

Wal-Mart: Wal-Mart's Tulsa stores collect clean, new, plastic grocery bags in boxes at the front of their stores and truck them to Bentonville, Ark., for recycling.

Metropolitan Environmental Trust: Tulsa's leading public recycler doesn't collect the bags because this



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area does not have an end-use recycler, making the cost of transporting the used plastic bags to out-of-town recyclers cost-prohibitive.

Retailers can afford to do it because they have trucks that are headed that way anyway.

Metropolitan Environmental Trust Executive Director Michael Patton said a plan is in the works for a manufacturer of plastic-and-sawdust landscaping timbers to come to Tulsa.

"If this happens, the M.E.T. will start collecting plastic bags from the public," he said.

"It is an Arkansas company, and it's made several inquiries about us collecting bags for it.

"I think there is a good chance we will be collecting plastic bags within the next 12 months because we will have a market for them," Patton said.

Submit Action Line questions to 699-8888. Action Line pursues consumer complaints submitted with photocopies of documentation to Tulsa World Action Line, P.O. Box 1770, Tulsa, OK 74102-1770.



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