CONGRATULATIONS TO

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL
of El Reno

OKLAHOMA A+ SCHOOLS’ NEWEST NETWORK MEMBER!

“We are pleased to be adding Sacred Heart school to our ever-growing state network. We have established a tradition of excellence with our whole school transformation model. Creating schools that work for everyone is our mission. We are proud of our over twenty-year history of serving public, private, and charter schools focused on collaboration and student success. The more schools we add to the Network, the more students in Oklahoma will have access to an integrated, innovative education, which instills critical thinking skills needed for success in their adult world.”
--Sandra Kent, Executive Director Oklahoma A+ Schools Institute

“We are absolutely honored and excited to become an Oklahoma A+ School. We look forward to fellowship and collaboration while we strengthen and expand our skills through integration of the arts. This will help our school to provide a stronger learning environment to reach across all areas of our curriculum and help us fulfill our Catholic mission in a more vibrant way.”
--Shannon Statton, Principal of Sacred Heart Catholic School
Good luck to our Poetry Out Loud Contestants!

Izzy Lewis  
Binnie Dang  
Emalyn Terry  
Haylei Cox  
AdyLynn Anderson  
Lanie Green  
Qw Wendy Davis  
Tina Haynes  
Ivan Schmitt  
Jamie Smothers  
Eesha Katta  
Brianna Cross  
Zoe Rolen  
Caspian Dudley  
Andie Wallace  
Michelle Jones  
Kaylee Smith  
Hannah Myers  
Cate Dennis  
Sarah Wheatley

Reflection Rubrics and Category of Affiliation (COA) forms are coming soon!

Schools returning to a summer summit will need to complete a Reflection Rubric

ALL schools will need to sign and return their COA form to their Regional Coordinator

Stay tuned for details from your Regional Coordinator!
THANK YOU FOR
21 YEARS
OF DEDICATION!

ROSALYNN WADE TO RETIRE

After twenty-one years in the role of Program Director, Rosalynn Wade has announced her upcoming retirement July 1, 2023. Rosalynn is the only OKA+ employee who has been with the organization since inception. Her knowledge and skill have been invaluable over the years and evolution of Oklahoma A+ Schools as it transformed from being a hosted organization to an Institute at UCO. She has built relationships with staff, fellows, and educators around the state, nation, and world, that in turn have impacted tens of thousands of students. We are going to enjoy the next four months with her as she completes her official duties with us. Rosalynn will certainly be missed and while we will fill the position, we will never replace her or her expertise.
Time is running out--Schedule your spring PD Today!

Contact your regional coordinator ASAP to discuss bringing an OKA+ experience to your staff this semester!

Tami Cotner - tcotner1@uco.edu  ●  Daniel Tippin - dtippin@uco.edu  ●  Destiny Turner - dturner18@uco.edu

Please allow at least 30 days for your RC and OKA+ fellows to prepare your school's custom-tailored PD experience

Last day for on-site PDs is Friday, April 14th, 2023
OKA+ Spotlight Series: Warren Pete, Principal of Millwood Arts Academy, Oklahoma City, OK

Warren is the principal of Millwood Arts Academy--Millwood's middle school--one of our OKA+ Network demonstration schools! Warren has worked in education for 25 years, including serving as a principal for the last 10. After graduating from John Marshall High School in 1992 he received a bachelor's degree in elementary education from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah and a master's from National Louis University. He was the founding teacher of the KIPP Reach College Preparatory school in OKC. He is married to his beautiful wife Keesha Pete, with whom he has three sons, a daughter, and two grandchildren.

When Warren arrived at Millwood he had no idea what OKA+ was and why the halls of MAA were decorated with posters like "arts," "curriculum," "experiential learning," etc. However, his eyes were opened after attending an OKA+ leadership retreat in Tulsa discussing Black Wall Street in the fall of 2018. Content from an on-site PD in 2019 discussing Black Wall Street from a student's perspective was implemented leading to MAA being featured on MSNBC, with said feature winning an Emmy.

Warren says of MAA and it's relationship with OKA+: "The journey to greatness is far from complete. The walls are beginning to speak daily and soon every inch of the Arts Academy will be able to tell a story through Art."

Be sure to say hello to Warren when you see him at the next OKA+ event!

Millwood Arts Academy serves grades 6-8 with an enrollment of 270 students of whom 98% are African American. MAA students are taught using a growth mindset curriculum, where they are infused with arts-integrated lessons and encouraged to seek knowledge outside the walls of their classrooms. Millwood students are champions on the court, on the field, and most importantly, in the classroom.

Don't MISS

• Poetry Out Loud state competition Tuesday, March 7th

• OKA+ offices closed Monday, March 13th through Friday, March 17th

• Last day for on-site professional development - Friday, April 14th

QUESTIONS? Aplusmail@uco.edu

OKA+ offices will be closed for

Spring Break

Monday, March 13th through Friday, March 17th