

# MAYO TIMES

THE



JAN 2016

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

*Kenneth S. Gaslin*

I hope each of you had a restful break from school and enjoyed the extended time with your families. I will admit that I worked a few days at the beginning of the break, but I sure can get a great deal accomplished when I'm in the building alone. After those first few days of getting caught up, I did enjoy an extended break. I was ready to come back, however. I enjoy what I do and I missed seeing students, parents and staff members. I assume that can be interpreted to mean that I am not ready to retire. I'm fortunate to have a job I enjoy.

Now that we are well into winter, I want to remind you that we are likely to see school closings due to inclement weather. School closings are announced on the TPS website, TPS Facebook page and most media outlets. The fastest way to receive updates is through the School Way app, which you can download from [www.tulsaschools.org/app](http://www.tulsaschools.org/app). Messages from School Way are instantly delivered to your phone.

**I am sure that most of you are aware of the \$47 million dollars in cuts to education. These cuts, announced by the State Department of Education, are for the remainder of the school year. The "revenue failure" can be attributed to the effects of recent budget cuts and the decline in oil prices. I am sure there are other factors as well. This is an issue for our state government. We are left to deal with the consequences.**

It would be premature for me to speculate how these cuts will affect Mayo. Our superintendent, Dr. Gist, and the school board will decide how to balance the budget despite these mid-year cuts. I am confident that they will protect school sites and classrooms as much as possible. However, you should be aware that we are also expecting additional cuts this year. More importantly, we expect to see significant cuts to the budget for next school year. It is likely that we will see an increase in class sizes, which may result in the loss of classroom teachers. We won't have that information until later in the year, but I want you to be aware of the possibility.

I hesitate to provide this information, but I want to provide you with a concrete example of the effect of increased class sizes. The 2015-2016 staffing allocation includes a ratio of one teacher for twenty-three students in grades 1-3. The total number of students in a grade is divided by twenty-three to determine how many teachers would be allocated.

### **If the teacher/student ration remains at 23:1:**

46 students divided by 23	2 teachers	<b>Class size of 23</b>
57 students divided by 23	2.47 teachers (rounded down to 2)	<b>Class size of 28/29</b>
58 students divided by 23	2.52 teachers (rounded up to 3)	<b>Class size of 19/20</b>
62 students divided by 23	2.69 teachers (rounded up to 3)	<b>Class size of 20/21</b>

### **If the teacher/student ratio is raised to 25:1:**

46 students divided by 25	1.84 teachers (rounded up 2)	<b>Class size of 23</b>
57 students divided by 25	2.28 teachers (rounded down to 2)	<b>Class size of 28/29</b>
58 students divided by 25	2.32 teachers (rounded down to 2)	<b>Class size of 29</b>
62 students divided by 25	2.48 teachers (rounded down to 2)	<b>Class size of 31</b>

I want to make it clear that I have no information that suggests this will happen. I know that our school board will do everything it can to protect class sizes. The impending cuts, however, may leave them few options for next year. I simply want to demonstrate how a generic, politically neutral headline of "Revenue Failure" can be translated. The "revenue failure" is real. The cuts are real. The effect will be real. Your vote matters. Your involvement matters. Your voice matters.

***And now, I will gently step down off of my soap box so I won't reinjure my foot.***

# PTA PRESIDENT LETTER

Welcome back and Happy 2016! Hoping you had a restful and rejuvenating winter break! I know I, for one, was ready for school to start back. It's hard to believe that we're at the half way mark! Lots of big events coming up – and lots of volunteering opportunities! Remember that the Mayo Foundation-sponsored **Trivia Night is Saturday, January 23rd at the Campbell Hotel (starts at 7 pm for registration and cocktails, trivia begins at 7:30)**. If you haven't attended this event in the past, you're missing out! Teams of 6 should be formed – more info is included in this week's Home and Back.

**Also up-coming is the MayoKicks! auction! The auction is scheduled for March 5th.** It is a silent and live auction and party and is the largest fundraiser for Mayo PTA. The funds we raise at MayoKicks! help us send our students on exciting, educational field studies; subsidize community school supplies; feed our students nutritional snacks; feed and care for our pets; and maintain our building and grounds. Keep in mind that this is a major undertaking for PTA and we need all the help we can get! Please, please reach out to Tami Hensler ([tamihensler@hotmail.com](mailto:tamihensler@hotmail.com)) and/or Whitney Lahann ([whitneylahann@gmail.com](mailto:whitneylahann@gmail.com)) to see how you can help – be it gathering donations, helping with planning, or even just helping with event set up and tear down. Routine meetings are scheduled for planning – details will be posted on the Mayo PTA Facebook page. Additional information on the event itself will be sent out in Home and Backs in the next few weeks.

**Finally, please join us at our January PTA board meeting this evening, January 14th at 6:30 pm in the Mayo library!** Coming to these meetings is an excellent way to get one on one involvement with Principal Joslin and the PTA board and to have a chance to make your voice heard! Have a new project or program you think we should support at Mayo – come and let us know! The more people we have involved, the better job we can do at making Mayo an even better school and community. Hope to see you there!

## Marjie Boone-Smith

Mayo PTA President – 2015-2016



## The MayoKicks! auction committee needs donations!

Did you get something for Christmas that you can't use? Are you a local artist with some amazing pieces to share? Do you provide a service to the community? If so, please consider donating your goods or service to this year's Mayo auction.

In addition to Mayo Way Fees, all auction proceeds go back into Mayo to help cover curriculum costs. Each year, the PTA spends

- **\$40,500 for field studies and overnights;**
- **\$17,000 for daily snacks;**
- **\$7,000 for school supplies;**
- **\$2,400 for family curriculum.**

Please help the PTA continue to provide these unique opportunities to Mayo students by bringing by a donation and be sure to save the date, March 5, for this years event!

If you have any questions regarding gift donations, contact Whitney Lahann at 918-402-1257 or [whitneylahann@gmail.com](mailto:whitneylahann@gmail.com). If you are interested in being an event sponsor, please contact Tami Williams at 918-760-2664 or [tamihensler@hotmail.com](mailto:tamihensler@hotmail.com).



# THE WRITE STUFF



## JANUARY 23, 2016 5TH ANNUAL MAYO TRIVIA NIGHT

**Look for the registration form in your Home & Back or go to the office and pick one up.**

Organize a team of 6-The cost is \$150 per team.  
Light snacks will be provided with the entry fee and a cash bar will be available.

- 7-7:30** Registration, cocktails and instructions  
**7:30-10:30** Trivia Rounds  
**10:30** Socialize into the Campbell Hotel Lounge

Questions? Email: [holly@all-enmedia.com](mailto:holly@all-enmedia.com) or [jenny@therobyfamily.com](mailto:jenny@therobyfamily.com)

Make your reservation for a "staycation" at the Campbell now! Go to [www.thecampbellhotel.com](http://www.thecampbellhotel.com) to select your unique room, but call the hotel (855-744-5500) to make your reservation and ask for the "Wilson" rate for discounted room!

## A MONTHLY COLUMN WRITTEN BY OUR VERY OWN ARMSTRONGS.

Hello and Happy New Year! In the Armstrong area we have been getting ready for five events coming up soon: Crystal Bridges Museum of Art January 28th and 29th. Crystal Bridges is an art museum with several different art pieces. It is also known for being on water; Biztown is February 8th and 9th. BizTown is a super fun place where your children can be in a business (kind of like micro-society); Our Overnight is February 18th-19th. An Overnight is when we can have fun in an educational way. We stay somewhere and sleep overnight; The Living Museum will be March 4th. The Living Museum is when your children get to be a character in our history. The 4th Graders are to be Explorers. 5th Graders are going to be famous colonial people; Colonial Days happens in March and is a week when we learn about famous people from the past. Testing will be coming up soon in February and March!!!

**-Joy Crow**

It's a BiZy month in January. We are going to Crystal Bridges. The next month is very crazy. We have a whole bunch of cool stuff like the Armstrong overnight and BizTown. March is very crazy too. We have a Living Museum and Colonial Days. Crystal Bridges is January 28th and 29th. We need parent volunteers!!!

**-Otis Hecker**

In February we are going to BizTown! And, also coming up is Crystal Bridges! I'm so excited about it and really happy. BizTown can help kids get experience on how to open a bank account and help them with cashing in checks and kids can have fun!

Crystal Bridges is an art museum in Arkansas. This museum is awesome! I have been there and it is so cool!! I'm so excited for it. This will be awesome!

**-Sophia Gray**

# ON THE CALENDAR

## JANUARY

### Thursday, 14th

Report cards sent home

PTA Board Meeting  
7:30 pm

### Friday, 15th

Deadline for Mayo and Thoreau  
Lottery Applications

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS  
Professional Development for  
staff

### Monday, 18th

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS  
Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

### Monday, Jan 25th -

### Friday, Feb 5th

SRI Testing window for grade 3

### Monday, Jan 25th -

### Friday, Feb 5th

SMI & SRI Testing window for  
grades 4-5

### Thursday, 28th

½ Armstrongs Field Study to  
Crystal Bridges

### Thursday, 29th

½ Armstrongs Field Study to  
Crystal Bridges

## FEBRUARY

### Thursday, 4th

Mayo and Thoreau Lottery  
Thoreau Middle School  
6 pm

### Monday, Jan 25th -

### Friday, Feb 5th

SRI Testing window for grade 3

### Monday, Jan 25th -

### Friday, Feb 5th

SMI & SRI Testing window for  
grades 4-5

### Friday, 5th

Early Release Friday  
1 pm

### Monday, 8th -

### Friday, 26th

MAP Testing window for  
grades K-3

### Monday, 8th

½ of Armstrongs to JA Biztown

### Tuesday, 9th

½ of Armstrongs to JA Biztown

### Thursday, 11th

Friendship Parties during  
Family  
2:15 pm

Lottery Letters mailed out  
by ESC

PTA Board Meeting  
6:30 pm

### Friday, 12th

Spring Pics/Free Dress Day

### Monday, 15th

NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS  
Presidents Day

### Tuesday, 16th

Foundation Board Meeting  
Noon

### Thursday, 18th

Armstrong Overnight  
Field Study

### Friday, 19th

Armstrong Overnight  
Field Study

### Tuesday, 23rd-

### Friday, 26th

5th Grade writing test window

## JANUARY SNACKS

**Monday 11th:**  
String Cheese

**Tuesday 12th:**  
Veggie Straws

**Wednesday 13th:**  
Danimals

**Thursday 14th:**  
Nutra-Grain Bars

**Friday, 15th:**  
No School

**Monday, 18th:**  
No School

**Tuesday, 19th:**  
Fruit Snacks

**Wednesday, 20th:**  
Cuties

**Thursday, 21st:**  
Cheeze-Its

**Friday, 22nd:**  
Pudding

**Monday, 25rd:**  
Pretzels

**Tuesday, 26th:**  
String Cheese

**Wednesday, 27th:**  
Apple Slices

**Thursday, 28th:**  
Nutra-Grain Bars

**Friday, 29th:**  
Danimals



## Congratulations to Elyse Smith and Mario Williams.

Elyse was selected as Mayo's Teacher of the year and Mario was selected as Mayo's Support Employee of the Year. This recognition is well-deserved. Please take the time to congratulate them the next time you see them.

