

# NOC, Enid Schools recognized for business partnership

Northern Oklahoma College and Enid Public Schools was one of 27 business and higher education partnerships throughout the state were recently recognized as innovative collaborations that further the education of Oklahoma's workforce.

The Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education's Regents Business Partnership Excellence Award is designed to highlight successful partnerships between higher education institutions, businesses, and the community to further cultivate the higher learning environment through State Regents' Economic Development Grants. Kyla Guyette, Chief Executive Officer of the Oklahoma Workforce Commission; State Regents' Chair Dennis Casey; State Regent Steven W. Taylor; and Chancellor Sean Burrage participated in the ceremony, held May 6 at the University of Central Oklahoma.

"When Oklahoma businesses partner with our colleges and universities, they're not just accessing talent – they're investing in our state's future," Burrage said. "The State Regents are proud to recognize and celebrate these positive collaborations that promote economic growth, innovation, and job creation in Oklahoma."

"The partnership between Enid Public Schools and Northern Oklahoma College is incredibly strong and we were pleased with this opportunity to showcase it," said NOC President Diana Morris Watkins. All of us at Northern

are grateful to the EPS administration for their willingness to support collaboration that truly create Life-Changing academic and extra-curricular opportunities for students. "

The following remarks were read as the schools went forward to accept their award.

Enid Public Schools (EPS) is a valued partner of Northern Oklahoma College, fostering collaboration to strengthen educational offerings and community impact, growing the student pipeline for the workforce of northwest Oklahoma. Through a long-term facility usage agreement, EPS and NOC share resources and services, including the Integris Infield of Dreams and Failing Field, where EPS assisted with turf installation and new lighting. The Early 30 and Dual Credit to Degree initiatives have celebrated concurrent student successes, with the first four students receiving Enid High School and NOC diplomas in spring 2024. Additionally, EPS hosts NOC men's basketball, offering elementary students a memorable experience.

Institutions involved in these partnerships provide \$500 for tuition waivers to employees of the partnering businesses; internships that enable current students to work at the partnering businesses; faculty externships with the partnering businesses; and/or enhancement of the partnerships with additional equipment,

(See **Partnership** on Page 2)



**NOC and the Enid Public Schools were recognized for their business partnership May 6 at the University of Central Oklahoma. Pictured (L-R): NOC Vice President for Development & Community Relations Sheri Snyder, Oklahoma State Regent Dennis Casey, Enid Public School Board of Education Member Torry Turnbow, Enid Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Dudley Darrow, OSRHE Chancellor Sean Burrage, NOC President Diana Morris Watkins, NOC Vice President for Financial Affairs Anita Simpson, Enid Public Schools Financial Officer Dr. Sam Robinson, NOC Vice President for Enid Jeremy Hise, NOC Board of Regent Jason Turnbow, State Regent Steven Taylor. (photo provided)**

# Partnership

(Continued from Page 1)

materials or supplies. The State Regents provide a \$500 match to the waivers. year's partnerships, visit <https://okhighered.org/econ-dev/rbpea/>.

For more information about RBPEA and this

## NOC Calendar

**May 19**

Begin Summer Office Hours

**May 20**

Targeted Enrollment, Wilkin Hall, 9 a.m. – noon or 1 p.m., 4 p.m., Tonkawa

**May 21**

Targeted Enrollment, Zollars Library, 9 a.m. – noon or 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., Enid

**May 22**

Targeted Enrollment, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Commons, 9 a.m. – noon or 1 p.m. – 4 p.m., Stillwater

**May 23**

No Classes/Offices Closed

## May NOC Faculty/Staff Birthdays



Matthew Gray	May 17	Teresa Walker	May 21
Ian Layne	May 17	Eric Taylor	May 25
Linn Laughrey	May 21	Janet Jarvis	May 26
Brodie Salyer	May 21		

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2025-2026**



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application is now open.  
2026-2027 FAFSA Opens  
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**2**

[studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)

**3**

[studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov)  
NOC School Code: 003162

**Contact Financial Aid**  
Tonkawa 580.628.6500  
Enid 580.548.2261  
Stillwater 580.628.6500  
Email: [Financial.aid@noc.edu](mailto:Financial.aid@noc.edu)



# NOC set to become Purple Heart College

The Northern Oklahoma College Board of Regents approved a proclamation that makes NOC a Purple Heart College.

Regents passed the proclamation at Wednesday's meeting in Enid.

The board heard a presentation from Elaine Johns, Executive Director of the Woodring Wall of Honor and Veterans Park in Enid. Three-time Purple Heart recipient Jack Toney was also present at the presentation.

Johns explained the mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

"The mission of the Military Order of the Purple Heart is to foster an environment of goodwill and camaraderie among combat wounded veterans, promote patriotism, support necessary legislation initiatives, and provide service to all veterans and their families."

NOC will receive campus signs, a large personalized plaque, and a professional proclamation suitable for framing.

Board of Regent Chair Jason Turnbow said, "We appreciate this opportunity and we thank you for your service."

A formal ceremony will be held during the Fall 2025 semester.

In other actions, the regents approved an Exchange of Service Agreement and Resource Agreement with the Northern Oklahoma College Foundation, inc. The annual agreements allow the NOCF and NOC to operate.

Regents also approved the Group Three Trustees for the NOCF including Patricia Hullet, Brady Purdy, LynnDe Funk, Dr. Cheryl Evans, and Tom Poole. There was one resignation from the NOCF, Ken Bellmard.

"While we will miss having Trustee Bellmard's input," NOC President Diana Morris Watkins said, "We are proud of the work he's doing in Washington DC which prevents him from continuing on the board at this time and are excited to have former Social Science Instructor and current Blackwell Mayor Pat Hullet joining the

strong group of leaders who make up the NOC Foundation Board."

Regents approved a contract with Great Western Dining Services for the 2025-26 academic year. The past year was the first year for Great Western Dining Services at NOC. Regents also approved rental property, facility rental fees, and facility usage fees for all college communities.

Room and Board rates were also approved for the 2025-26 academic year with a slight increase for students depending on their choice of dining options. The highest increase would be \$195 per semester per student.

Regents approved the financial report, presented by Vice President for Financial Affairs Anita Simpson. Regents also approved the following purchases of \$25,000 or more. Approved were Annual Microsoft Volume Licensing Renewal, \$37,227.50; Residential Houses (roofs), \$25,620.00; Nursing Testing Software, \$54,352.00; Print Shop Equipment, \$176,591.52.

In administrative updates, Vice President for Academic Affairs Dr. Shelly Mencacci reported that graduation went very well and the academic office is currently performing assessments of the 2024-25 academic year.

Sheri Snyder, Vice President for Development & Community Relations, reported that the school's new website project is moving forward with an expected launch on Aug. 18.

Vice President for Enid Jeremy Hise said that three Enid High School students will receive a Dual Credit Degree from NOC at their graduation this weekend. He said there continue to be more Enid High students taking advantage of the Dual Credit Program.

Dr. Rick Edgington, Vice President for Enrollment Management said that Fall 2025 enrollment is going well with a number of the athletic

(See **Regents** on Page 4)

## NEED MONEY FOR COLLEGE?

*If so, complete the following steps below*





### IMPORTANT DATES:

- AUGUST 25**  
Deadline for all Fall scholarships, except PLC Scholarship.
- OCTOBER**  
FAFSA application is now open.  
2026-2027 FAFSA Opens on October 1, 2025
- JANUARY 25**  
Deadline to apply for scholarships for the Spring semester for new or transfer students.
- FEBRUARY 20**  
PLC Scholarship deadline and priority date (early acceptance) for all other scholarships for Fall.

Contact the Scholarship Office  
580.628.6760

Email: [scholarships@noc.edu](mailto:scholarships@noc.edu)

Need help or have questions?



SCAN TO VISIT OUR SCHOLARSHIP WEBPAGE



[www.noc.edu/scholarships](http://www.noc.edu/scholarships)

- 1

**Apply to NOC**  
[www.noc.edu/future-students](http://www.noc.edu/future-students)
- 2

**Complete FAFSA**  
studentaid.gov  
NOC School Code: 003162
- 3

**Complete Scholarship Form**  
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# Regents

(Continued from Page 3)

participation groups beginning to enroll in the next few weeks. The next NOC Targeted Enrollment dates are May 20-22.

Vice President Simpson said that work on the 2025-26 budget is going well with the budget set for approval at the June 18 meeting. She said that worker's compensation insurance costs have stabilized but health insurance costs continue to rise. She added that NOC expects a flat budget from the Oklahoma Legislature for the 2025-26 year. She said that 60 employees received service pins at the end of the year in-service on May 9.

Dr. Marsh Howard, Vice President for Stillwater, said that his staff continues to implement cost cutting measures at NOC Stillwater with expected savings in HVAC.

Vice President for Student Affairs Jason John-

son reported that new security cameras have been installed at NOC Enid and NOC Tonkawa with Oklahoma State Legislature deferred maintenance funds. He said that NOC now has a total of 241 cameras on the two campuses.

President Watkins said that work on NOC's Strategic Plan is underway with recommendations from the four target areas including Staff/Faculty Engagement, External Stakeholders, Student Engagement, and Facilities. She said the implementation of plans will start this summer.

Regents also approved the 2025-26 regular meeting dates.

The June regent's meeting will be held in the NOC Tonkawa President's Large Conference Room at 2 p.m. on Wednesday, June 18.

## Athletic teams end season in NJCAA Regional Tournaments

NOC Tonkawa and Enid athletic teams ended their seasons in their respective region tournaments in Piedmont and Hot Springs, Arkansas.

The NOC Enid Jets (43-18) reached the championship round of the NJCAA Region 2 Tournament losing South Arkansas in the finals. The NOC Tonkawa Mavs (50-9) reached the semi-finals of the Region Tournament finishing in 3rd place.

Both teams were ranked in the Top 25 throughout the season.

NOC Mavs Softball (24-31) reached the third day of the Region 2/South Central District Tournament losing to NEO.

NOC Enid Softball (11-38) lost in the second round of the NJCAA Region 2 Tournament losing to Baton Rouge (LA).

Baseball All-Region honors were presented to Mavs' catcher Blade Carver (MVP and Gold Glove winner), and infielder Joseph Canzoni (Gold Glove). Coach Michael Keeran was named West Coach of the Year.

For the Jets, first baseman Cooper Smith and outfielder Wyatt Rutledge were named Gold Glove winners.

For Mavs' Softball, outfielder Jadison Ackerman and infielder Faith Williams were named 1st Team All-Region while outfielder Maggie Glasgow was a 2nd Team selection.

For the Jets, Lakelynn Thompson was named First Team All-Region pitcher while infielder Brylee Davis and catcher Hayden Haulcomb were 2nd Team.



NOC Wrestlers at USA Beach Nationals in North Carolina

## NOC Wrestlers compete at USA Beach Nationals in North Carolina

Northern Oklahoma College wrestler participated in the USA Wrestling Beach Nationals in Carolina Beach, North Carolina, May 9-10.

"USA Beach Nationals proved to be an invaluable experience," said NOC women's coach Jayden Miller. I am overwhelmed with pride for our athletes. Their accomplishments are a testament to their hard work and dedication."

"This is huge for our program," said men's coach Bryan Kenney. "Coaching is all about giving athletes the tools and opportunities they didn't know existed."

A number of NOC athletes qualified for the U20 Beach World Wrestling Championships in Katrina, Greece, Sept. 25-26 and the

The following athletes competed at the competition.

### U20 Division (Men)

Waleed Khariri – U20 80kg, Champion  
Lane Gorley – U20 90kg, Runner Up  
Sam Nam – U20 90k, Runner Up

Absalon Valencia – U20 70kg, 3rd Place  
Bo St. Clair – U20 70kg, 4th Place (Alternate)

**U20 Division (Women)**  
Mia Cabrera – U20 50kg, 3rd Place

**Senior Division (Women)**  
Leila Rosas – 50kg, Runner Up

**Masters Division**  
Bryan Kenney – 100kg, 2nd Masters B  
Jayden Miller – 88kg, 3rd Place Masters A

Rosas will attend the U22 Beach World Championships in Alexandria, Egypt on Oct. 18-19. These NOC Athletes also train at the Power Training Center in Tonkawa.



Life changing.

# NOC recognizes award winners, retirees, and service pin recipients at in-service meeting

Northern Oklahoma College faculty and staff received service pins Friday, May 9, at the In-Service at the Renfro Center in Tonkawa.

Outstanding Faculty, Professional Staff, and Support Staff were honored and six retirees were recognized.

The following NOC employees earned a 1-Year Service Pin:

Aron Bassoff, Men's Head and Women's Assistant Soccer Coach; Breanna Beaty, Language Arts Instructor; Trystan Berry, HS/College Relations; Stacy Burns, Director of Physical Plant; Melisa Cottle, Administrative Assistant for Development & Community Relations; Lindsey Copley, Assistant Bookstore Manager; Michael Dominguez, Head's Women's Basketball Coach in Enid; Lema Deyirmencian, Nursing Instructor Enid; Britani Faulk, Athletic Trainer Enid; Jamilyn Glidewell, IT Coordinator Stillwater; Mathew Gray, Financial Aid Counselor; Louis Griffith, Residence Life Director Boehme; Hatim Hegab, Physics/Astronomy Instructor Enid; Michael Keeran, Head Baseball Coach Tonkawa; Bryan Kenney, Men's Wrestling and Assistant Women's Coach; Ciera Kirby, Gift Processor for NOC Foundation; Ashley Kruse, Child Development Instructor Stillwater; Samantha Lee, Scholarship Specialist; Ya (June) Lin, Business Instructor Stillwater; Heather Lott, Staff Assistant Physical Plant; Jayden Miller, Head Women's Wrestling and Assistant Men's Wrestling Coach; Nathan Oesterle, Theatre Manager; Malik Owdtallah, Network System Assistant; Jeff Ray, Head Softball Coach Tonkawa; Teresa Reich, Staff Assistant for Financial Aid; Brodie Saylor, Maintenance Technician; Eric Taylor,

Coordinator of Resident Life Enid; Sarah Taylor, Custodian; Sarah Vitale, Student Support Specialist Stillwater; Meredith Willis, Nursing Instructor Stillwater.

The following NOC employees earned a 5-Year Service Pin:

Jennifer Bedwell, Assistant Sheep Center Manager/Livestock Judging Coach; Leeanna Bowling; Student Success Specialist; Lachelle Bryant, Retention Specialist/Enrollment Counselor; Alan Foster, Athletic Director; Nikole Hicks, Division Chair Nursing; Adrian Ibarra, IT Coordinator Enid.

The following NOC employees earned a 10-Year Service Pin:

Denise Bay, Executive Assistant to the President; Renna Bowers, Coordinator Resident Student Life Tonkawa/Student Accessibility Coordinator; Lynn DeMuth, Math Instructor; Lori Erasmus, Staff Assistant IT/Help Desk; Janet Jarvis, Administrative Assistant for Stillwater Campus; Dina Kleinmann, Director of Printing Services; Rachel Love/Foundation Accountant; Summer McClure, Athletic Trainer Tonkawa; Mary Moody, Residence Life Director Threlkeld; Charmaine Munro, Science Instructor Enid; Kayla Wooderson, Director for Alumni & Community Relations;

The following NOC employees earned a 20-Year Service Pin:

Bart Allen, Economics and Computer Application Instructor; Tamera Davis, Division Chair for Language Arts/Social Science; Cassie Firth/Division Chair for Mathematics; Todd Ging, Business/Computer Application Instructor Enid; Brad Gordon, Associate Registrar/

Veteran's Affairs; Sherrie Martin, Science Instructor Stillwater; Steve McLaren, Psychology/Sociology Instructor Enid; Terri Percy, Bookstore Assistant; Jeff Tate, English Literature Instructor Enid.

The following NOC employees earned a 25-Year Service Pin:

Shannon Cranford, Director of Human Resources; Jimilea Jansson, Bookstore Manager; Allan Paul Lester, Security Officer.

The following NOC employees earned a 30-Year Service Pin: Anita Simpson, Vice President for Financial Affairs.

President Watkins reviewed the year starting with the NOC Enid 25 Year Celebration and all the events that occurred during the year including the Cherokee Strip Festival Parade, 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of David Allen Memorial Ballpark with Jets Alumni Baseball Game; Cookout at NOC Enid and NOC Alumni Gathering and Jet's Soccer at the Advance Soccer Complex. Also, the Fine Arts Department held a holiday concert at the Bivins Chapel in the Marshall Building.

The NOC Foundation celebrated their 60th year with a celebration at the annual Donor Recognition Banquet in March.

Oklahoma Association of Community College (OACC) Awards winners were also recognized including Dean of Students Ryan Paul (Professional Staff) and Director of Alumni & Community Relations Kayla Wooderson (Outstanding Support Staff).

The Outstanding Instructor was presented to Dr. Mary Ann McCoy, Agricultural & Life Science Instructor at Enid.

Vice President for Development & Community Relations Sheri Snyder recognized six NOC retirees. They include Dr. Paul Bowers, Tammy Davis, Lynn DeMuth, Jerry Hawkins, Janet Hartz, and Steve McLaren. These retirees have over 120 years of experience at NOC. Each received a framed photo of their respective campus.

President Watkins also provided a state of the college address to faculty and staff. The program is available for viewing at <https://www.noc.edu/athletics/streaming/noc-events-streaming/>.



**Anita Simpson was recognized for 30 years of service to NOC on May 9.**





Retiring NOC Math Instructor Lynn DeMuth was honored at the NOC In-Service Meetings on May 9.



Retiring Division Chair for Language Arts/Social Science Tammy Davis was honored at the NOC In-Service Meetings on May 9.



Kayla Wooderson was named NOC OACC Outstanding Support Staff at the faculty/staff in-service meetings on May 9.



Dr. Mary Ann McCoy was named NOC OACC Outstanding Teacher of the Year at the faculty/staff in-service meetings on May 9.



NOC 25-Year Service Award Winners







**NOC 1-Year Service Award Winners**



**NOC 5-Year Service Award Winners**



**NOC 10-Year Service Award Winners**



**NOC 20-Year Service Award Winners**