

2017 Annual Report

OKLAHOMA EDUCATIONAL
TECHNOLOGY TRUST

OETT

OKLAHOMA
EDUCATIONAL
TECHNOLOGY
TRUST



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OETT CONNECTS LESSONS WITH LIFE FOR AUTHENTIC LEARNING

When the Oklahoma Educational Technology Trust began, computer labs with their rows of desktop machines were all the rage in education. But just like the technologies its grants employ, OETT has evolved into a **force for inventive and authentic learning**, meshing classroom instruction with real-world educational scenarios.

With initial funding of \$30 million from AT&T, OETT was created in 2001 through the leadership of Oklahoma's attorney general, Drew Edmondson. Now, as it was then, OETT's goal is to equip Oklahoma common school and Career Tech students with the technology and technological skills necessary to **compete in the global marketplace**. OETT's grants provide schools with computer and telecommunications equipment as well as leadership and professional development training to integrate the latest technology into the classroom setting and provide an authentic learning environment.

This annual report provides a glimpse into classrooms across our state highlighting how grantee schools are putting OETT technology and training to use with **creative learning opportunities**. This report also provides a look at the trust's financial health, as well as an accounting of the stewardship of OETT's dedicated board of directors. Because of this thoughtful leadership, the trust holds an asset value of more than **\$38 million**. At a time of extreme anxiety about the future of public education in Oklahoma, OETT is a shining example of innovative instruction and responsible fiscal management.

This annual report is also an opportunity to commemorate almost two decades of **meaningful investment** in Oklahoma teachers and students. Since OETT began making grants, the trust has granted **\$20,500,000** to schools statewide. OETT grants have trained more than **10,000 educators** and enhanced the educational offerings for more than **109,000 students in 269 Oklahoma schools**.

OETT is **changing the way students learn** in classrooms across Oklahoma. By equipping our educators with the tools they need to prepare students for the ever-changing global economy OETT is building a **brighter future** for our students and our state.



2017 GRANT RECIPIENTS

Ada Early Childhood Center
 Arnett Elementary
 Checotah's Marshall Elementary
 Cordell Elementary
 Deer Creek Intermediate
 Dewey Middle School
 Elk City Elementary
 Grove Upper Elementary
 Haworth High School
 Macomb Elementary

Moore's Highland West Jr. High
 Moore's Northmoor Elementary
 Newcastle Early Childhood Center
 North Rock Creek Middle School
 Perkins-Tryon Elementary
 Putnam City's James L. Dennis Elementary
 Putnam City's Western Oaks Elementary
 Quapaw Middle School
 Stuart Elementary
 Valliant Middle School



VEGETABLES AND TECHNOLOGY GROW AUTHENTIC LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN NORMAN

The journey to becoming a “green” and healthy school led Norman’s Lincoln Elementary School to build 15 raised-bed garden planters on its property. Since 2014, its 290 students have planted, harvested and consumed 36 varieties of vegetables from their garden.

Along the way, the vegetable garden has sown the seeds of numerous authentic learning opportunities for Lincoln Elementary students.

An important milestone in making the garden a continuing and successful authentic learning experience came in 2016 with a grant from the Oklahoma Educational Technology Trust (OETT). Lincoln Elementary principal Olivia Dean said the school used grant funds to purchase technology, including more than 77 iPads and MacBooks, to enhance instruction around garden lessons and related topics.

“We utilized our MacBooks and a Web 2.0 tool to design pamphlets to reinforce the benefits of pollinators in our environment,” Dean said. “Also, the professional development we received helped us better understand how to continue to utilize the garden as a catalyst for project-based learning.”

The OETT grant benefited the school and its garden in many other ways:

- Students use an app called Garden Tracker where they list what they are planting and put the crops on a watering cycle;
- Students use cameras purchased through the grant to take photos for science projects and other assignments;
- Faculty and students used MacBooks to make videos and other projects for the school’s Recycled Book Sale; proceeds went back to the garden where the school created a free library for community books;
- Lincoln Elementary is installing blue bird nesting boxes this spring for which students are programming cameras to allow for a live feed; and

- Second grade is designing signage for the pollinator garden to educate the community using 3D printing technology and QR codes.

Inspiration from teacher Diane Wood was the genesis of the garden as she looked to create learning opportunities that take students beyond the traditional classroom.

The garden Wood envisioned tied perfectly into what the K20 Center, OETT’s training and professional development partner, calls authentic teaching.

As K20 describes on its website, “Authentic teaching refers to learning that is genuine and connected rather than something that is fake and fragmented. Teachers who practice authentically help students connect learning to life. Authentic teaching actively engages students in developing new understandings and knowledge. It connects teaching



and learning to tasks and products that students see as having a value beyond the classroom.”

Lincoln Elementary’s Dean says the garden accomplishes a myriad of goals. “We want our kids to make healthier eating choices and learn how to be environmental stewards,” said Dean. “We also want them to have authentic, real-life learning experiences.”

The garden is a year-round project-based learning opportunity. Students prepare and plant in the spring, harvest early ripening vegetables in the late spring before the school-year ends, then harvest later ripening vegetables when school resumes in late summer. Volunteers ensure the garden is maintained over the summer months.

“Students plant and help water and maintain their beds, and harvest produce,” Dean said. “Students like that they get to taste what they grow, and enjoy being outside.”

The vegetable garden has become a welcome place to discover nature, pursue art projects and even learn math.

“The garden is used as a quiet place to read, observe nature and write,” Dean said. “Students utilize the garden for math concepts, as well. It is also utilized as a place for our community to meet and socialize during events.”

It’s not just students who enjoy the fruits of their garden labors. Parents have supported the garden from the beginning, providing labor and even financial support through the PTA. Lincoln Elementary teachers have embraced the garden and the broad scope of teaching opportunities and curriculum connections it provides.

So, what has been planted in the Lincoln Elementary garden since 2014?

Start with “A” for arugula and travel the alphabet to “W” for watermelon. In between there was basil, beets, bell peppers, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cilantro, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, green beans, green chilies, ground cherries, jalapeño, kale, leek, lettuce, mint, okra, onions, parsley, pepino melons, pumpkins, radishes, red potatoes, rhubarb, sage, spinach, strawberries, sugar snap peas, summer squash, Swiss chard, tomatoes and turnips.

Bottom line: Being a “green” school helps children grow into well-rounded adults who have experienced far more than assignments in a classroom.

“Gardens are a wonderful asset to a school and can open many opportunities to extend and strengthen learning in all areas,” Dean said. “We hope this experiences will help our students grow as learners, but also become contributing members of our community, helping to create healthy communities where we get outdoors and get our hands dirty.”





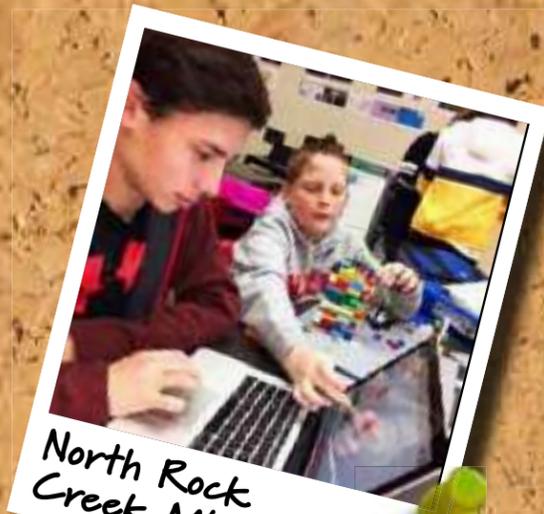
Checotah's Marshall Elementary



Moore's Highland West Junior High



Cordell Elementary



North Rock Creek Middle School



Moore's Northmoor Elementary

OETT YEAR IN PICTURES



Macomb Elementary



Ada Early Childhood Center



Putnam City's Western Oaks Elementary



Arnett Elementary



Deer Creek Intermediate



Elk City Elementary



Grove Upper Elementary



Valliant Middle School



Dewey Middle School



Perkins-Tryon Elementary



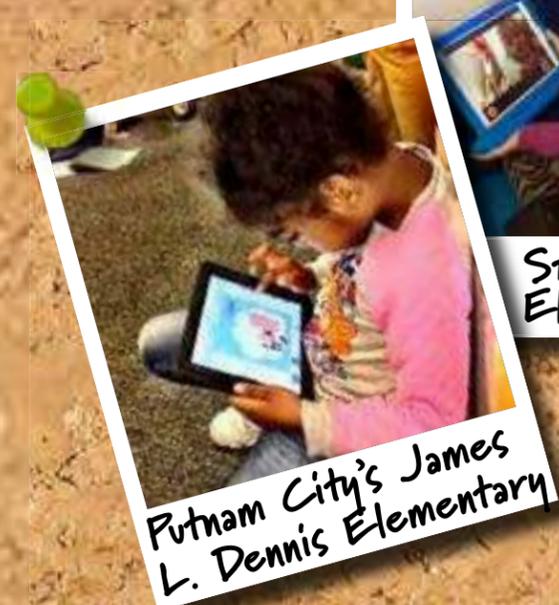
Haworth High School



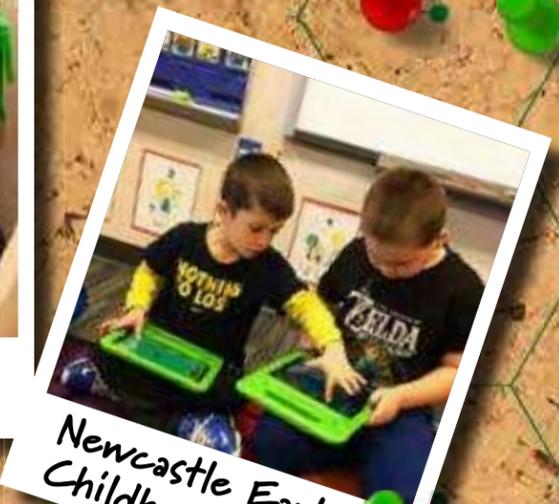
Stuart Elementary



Quapaw Middle School



Putnam City's James L. Dennis Elementary



Newcastle Early Childhood Center

A TIME-TESTED APPROACH

Phase 1 Leadership Training

To help administrators better understand what is necessary for school and students' success, OETT contracts with the K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal at the University of Oklahoma to provide leadership training to school superintendents and building principals. Phase I participants spend two days learning about IDEALS for Student Achievement and how to integrate technology into the classroom for improved student achievement through authentic instruction. The Back to Leadership training program is also available for administrators who want to dig deeper and sharpen their skills.

Phase 2 Granting Process

Schools and districts whose superintendents and/or administrators have completed Phase 1 are eligible to apply for OETT grants. Phase II grants provide new technology equipment, staff release time and professional development throughout the grant year. Schools are selected through a blind evaluation process by grant review teams representing the fields of education, technology and community leadership.

Phase 3 Evaluation

Every school that receives an OETT grant is evaluated on its grant implementation and the sustainability of its program. Schools are evaluated not only on their progress toward grant goals but also on their commitment to technology integration, professional learning communities, leadership and other factors that signify OETT technology and training is enhancing students' educational experience.

The technology OETT provides grantee schools is of little value if students and teachers can't put these resources to work in ways that strengthen the educational experience. To maximize the benefits of OETT technology, the trust collaborates with the K20 Center for Educational and Community Renewal at the University of Oklahoma. K20 utilizes OETT funding to train teachers and administrators using the research-based IDEALS (Inquiry, Discourse, Equity, Authenticity, Leadership and Service) framework, giving educators the knowledge and skills they need to integrate OETT technology into the classroom setting.



OETT GRANTS SERVED:

7,501
STUDENTS

510
TEACHERS

ELEMENTARY: 12
HIGH SCHOOL: 1

MIDDLE/JH: 5
DISTRICTS: 2

2017 GRANTS BY THE NUMBERS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUES	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED	5,000	-	-	-	-
INVESTMENT EARNINGS	744,564	668,712	745,108	711,231	592,869
REALIZED GAINS/ LOSS ON INVESTMENT	674,396	(285,130)	3,484,454	2,124,664	1,576,518
UNREALIZED GAINS/ LOSS ON INVESTMENT	3,310,609	2,355,810	(4,597,383)	(817,138)	3,614,588
TOTAL REVENUES	4,734,568	2,739,419	(375,394)	2,018,757	5,783,975
EXPENSES					
AUDIT	6,500	5,600	5,600	5,200	5,200
BANK CHARGES	325	375	259	-	-
INSURANCE	5,073	5,174	5,174	5,139	4,702
GRANT EXPENSE	1,365,000	1,365,000	1,466,204	1,325,000	1,270,000
MANAGEMENT FEES	220,155	205,607	213,806	216,590	201,426
MEETING EXPENSES	3,625	2,694	2,799	4,103	3,282
MISC EXPENSES	-	-	50	25	15
PORTFOLIO FEES	101,823	95,193	101,493	104,706	99,753
PROFESSIONAL FEES	-	500	1,000	500	4,000
PRINTING & PUBLICATION	4,400	4,814	1,847	310	-
WEBSITE	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,706,902	1,684,957	1,799,170	1,661,573	1,588,378
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES	3,027,667	1,054,462	(2,174,564)	357,184	4,195,597

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
CASH	77,893	229,490	226,806	160,851	62,686
INVESTMENT	38,308,228	35,131,464	34,807,287	36,044,597	35,751,757
ACCRUED INTEREST	9,317	13,573	6,000	34,912	54,255
TOTAL ASSETS	38,395,439	35,374,528	34,320,093	36,240,360	35,868,698
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS					
GRANTS PAYABLE	282,500	285,000	293,102	40,000	5,000
ACCRUED FEES	7,319	7,102	7,492	7,591	6,695
TOTAL LIABILITIES	289,819	292,102	300,594	47,591	11,695
UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	38,105,620	35,082,426	34,019,499	36,192,769	35,857,003
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	38,395,439	35,374,528	34,320,093	36,240,360	35,868,698

OETT ASSETS

2017	38,395,439
2016	35,374,528
2015	34,328,168
2014	36,240,360
2013	35,849,354
2012	31,620,386
2011	29,560,350
2010	31,261,104
2009	29,179,777
2008	25,365,642

OETT LEADERSHIP

Board of Trustees & Appointing Entities

Bob Stafford, Chair - AT&T Appointee
Dr. Shawn Hime, Vice-Chair - OSSBA Appointee
John A. Wright, Secretary - House of Representatives Appointee
Dr. Phil Berkenbile - Career Tech Appointee
Dr. Pam Deering - CCOSA Appointee
David DuVall - OEA Appointee
Robert Franklin - State Senate Appointee
Scott Parks - State Department of Education Appointee
Dr. Sandy Scaffetta Johnson - Attorney General Appointee

Management Team

Communities Foundation of Oklahoma (CFO) & Foundation Management, Inc. (FMI)
Frank W. Merrick, FMI President
Will Merrick, FMI Executive Vice President
Teresa Rose Crook, CFO Executive Director
Dr. Randy Macon, COO
Susan R. Graves, OETT Executive Director
Sherrie Schroeder, Vice President of Accounting
Kari Blakley, Grants Manager
Jane Trench, Administrative Coordinator

Investment Team

BancFirst Trust & Investment Management
Jon Bowers
Brad Zerger

Professional Development Team Leads

K20 Center at the University of Oklahoma
Dr. Gregg Garn, Dean of OU College of Education
Dr. Leslie Williams, K20 Director
Dr. Linda Atkinson, K20 Associate Director
Dr. Sharon Wilbur, K20 Associate Director/OETT Phase I
Dr. Nicki Watkins, K20 OETT Director Phase II



For more information visit www.oett.org.

Information available includes:

- Audit
- Bylaws
- Investment Policy
- IRS Form 990
- Phase II Application
- Trust Agreement
- 2017 Grant Summaries with Equipment
- Board of Trustee Meeting Agendas and Minutes

The logo is a large green hexagon with a white border. Inside, the text 'OETT' is written in a gold, serif font. Below it, the words 'OKLAHOMA', 'EDUCATIONAL', 'TECHNOLOGY', and 'TRUST' are stacked in a white, sans-serif font, each on a separate horizontal bar. The background of the entire page is a light gray hexagonal grid with small teal dots at the intersections. Several other hexagons in various shades of green and gray are scattered across the page, some overlapping the main logo.

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