

Week of: December 12, 2022



A publication of Great Plains AMBUCS Lawton, OK Edited by Monte Brown greatplainsambucs@gmail.com

THIS WEEK

The December 12, 2022 club meeting was called to order by Jenny Clement-Shaw. Jeff Sadler led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.



Kevin Hime

Kevin Hime, superintendent for Lawton Public Schools, was the guest speaker. He's celebrating three years since he was chosen to lead the district.

Hime said the biggest accomplishment since his arrival is free college education for LPS students. He said every student who qualifies academically can take advantage of free tuition, fees and books. LPS has expanded the offer to sophomores. Hime said the ultimate goal is to have 100 students or more achieve an associate degree upon their high school graduation. The majority of students taking advantage of the program attend classes offered by Cameron University at the Life Ready Center. For students who do not want or plan to attend college, Hime said LPS is focused on connecting them with skilled labor, career technology and military



Following the December 19 meeting, Great Plains AMBUCS will not meet again until Monday, January 9, 2023

readiness programs.

Campus and building security has been another top focus for Hime's administration. Upon his arrival to LPS, he took note of the ability to drive onto almost every playground in the district. He said new fencing has been, or will soon be, installed at every school. The goal was to limit access to facilities to a single point of entry. Hime said most schools now also have vestibules, where visitors are screened before being allowed inside with students, teachers and staff. LPS officers are tasked with walking the perimeter of each school daily to ensure all exterior doors are locked.

Hime said LPS is looking forward to forming partnerships with new technology companies moving into the FISTA. He said the goal is to have employees from the companies' team up with instructors at the Life Ready Center to help shape the curriculum for students. "Everybody loves this idea of bringing in all these new jobs that pay good money. My job is not to bring people in, my job is to create graduates to take those jobs," Hime said.

LPS is also experiencing growth

in its student population. Hime said more than 700 students have joined the district during his tenure, bringing the total to over 14,000. This year, LPS has the most Pre-K students in its history. The growth has prompted the district to look into additional space at buildings not currently in use or restructuring current facilities.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Fresh off a very fun night of holiday cheer and celebration, Hannah Muirhead said the social committee has already chosen the theme for next year's chapter Christmas party. It will be "Footloose!"
- David Denham presented Kathleen Martin with a \$100 gift card to Cache Road Liquor for winning the Fall Branding Membership Drive.
- Great Plains AMBUCS members completed another act of generosity by donating toys to the Lawton Salvation Army Angel Tree program. Jenny said members collectively were able to provide Christmas presents to over 17 angels, with a mission to make sure every child has a gift to open on Christmas morning.

50/50

Chuck Morgan drew the Eight of Clubs. The pot stood at \$194.

NEWSLETTER

Chuck Morgan had the winning ticket and his copy of AMBUNK.