

# PINE BLUFF

## SCHOOL DISTRICT



## ZEBRA HIGHLIGHTS

### Superintendent's Message



Special points of interest:

- Superintendent's Message
- Washer and Dryer Donations
- Graduate Spotlight

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PBSD Team,

I hope that this edition of our District newsletter finds you well and in high spirits. We have many things to be proud of throughout our District. I would like to first commend all of our schools for the academic growth that is highlighted in the recent ESSA School Report cards. We may not have accomplished all that we needed and wanted to accomplish but ALL of our schools had student growth. And for that, you and our scholars should be CELEBRATED. You can find the new school ratings at [myschoolinfo.com](http://myschoolinfo.com).

Student achievement and growth are very important to me, and I know that our educators and staff have a direct impact on ensuring that our students have every opportunity to grow academically, behaviorally, socially, and emotionally. I know that our success rests upon our scholars and our educators/ staff who work with our young people every day. So it is imperative that I do whatever I can to SUPPORT you and our scholars. We will continue to review our District Support Plan to ensure that it provides the Academic and Behavior Supports, but we will also continue to have conversations on how we can positively impact/address our scholars' socially and emotionally needs. We are proud to have community partners who also believe in this effort. The new laundry facilities are part of this initiative .

October is National Principals Month. So if you have not taken the time to recognize your principals, please do so. An effective principal plays an important role in a school system, and we have leaders who give their all to ensure that our scholars, staff members, families, and community have the support that they need to be successful. Thank you, Principals!

It is a privilege to serve as your Superintendent, and I do not take the opportunity or responsibility lightly. We will continue to move our District towards Academic Achievement for ALL Scholars!

- Dr. O



# Community Partners



Dr. Lelan Stice, Pharmacist and owner of Doctor's Orders Pharmacy, donated a washer and dryer to the District for our scholars and families. This unit is housed at our Belair Campus.

Pictured receiving the donation from Dr. Lelan Stice are Shun Jackson, Pine Bluff School District social worker, and Lowe's employees.



Pictured with a state of the art washer and dryer are Dr. Lelan Stice, Freddie Jolivette and Shun Jackson.

# Community Partners

*School Laundry Facilities boast **PRIDE** and **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE!***



Pictured Dr. Owoh, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. John Smykla, owner/operator of the Little Brown Jug, and Principal Kimberley West received the washer and dryer donation.



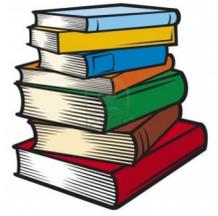
Pictured Lowe's employee, Mr. John Smykla, Principal Kimberley West, Mrs. Deborah Thomas, and a parent.

*"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."*

— Winston Churchill



## Books in the Barbershop Initiative



**Books in the Barbershop** is a Pine Bluff School District literacy initiative modeled on the Reading Holiday Project that creates child-friendly reading spaces in barbershops for boys ages 4-8. It leverages the cultural significance of barbershops as cornerstones in the Black communities to help black boys identify as readers. This initiative connects black men and families to black boys' early reading experiences. It also improves boys' access to culturally relevant, age appropriate, and gender responsive children's books, while increasing the amount of time boys read for fun. By building small libraries in shops across the city, the aim is to promote reading as an activity that can be done beyond the classroom, and to develop barbers as literacy ambassadors.



Pictured is James Smith, owner of Smith Barber Institute (SBI) receiving books for his barbershop.

# Broadmoor's Grandparent Luncheon



Broadmoor's Grandparent luncheon was well attended.

# JACK ROBEY'S OCTOBER STUDENTS AND TEACHER OF THE MONTH



October Students of the Month: (Left to Right) Mahlayshia Jenkins (6th), Naja Husley (7th), Jasmine Lever (7th), John Thompson (8th), Caneise West (8th), and Taryn Rice (6th).



October Teacher of the Month: Benjamin Davis (6th Grade Math Teacher).

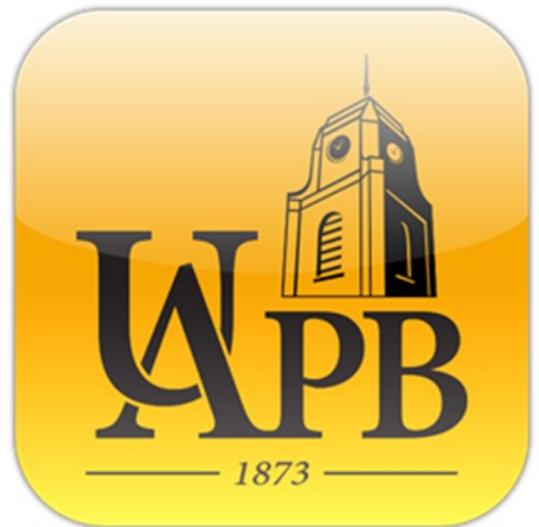
# The Social Work Department Welcomes...

## Tiana Glover, UAPB Intern



Tianna Glover is currently interning in the social work department along side district social worker, Mrs. Shun Jackson. She is a senior at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, majoring in Social Work.

On campus, she is a part of the social work club, Essence of a woman, member and mentor of TRiO, 4H, the Pine Bluff chapter of NAACP and a member of the lovely Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated., Alpha Rho Chapter. She also serves with her church in the social service and women's ministry.



# RENOVATION PROJECT

## PBHS' FACS ROOM

An entire community in Pine Bluff came together to re-open the Family and Consumer Science (FACS) building at Pine Bluff High. Approximately 25 Local businesses and churches united to complete the FACS Living Room Project at Pine Bluff High School. Over \$50,000 was given from community partners to completely restore this area of Pine Bluff High School. These types of opportunities allow us to continue our rich tradition of excellence by preserving the original FACS Living Room and to add a state-of-the-art addition that will continue to serve students for many years to come.

The grand re-opening took place Thursday, September 26, 2019 at 12 noon in the Arts Building. The newly renovated addition includes a multi-use commons space for a number of subject areas, an expanded band area to foster growth in career technical education programs, certifications, and interviewing spaces for students to perform mock interviews for the workforce; scholarship meetings, classroom instruction, labs, group projects, and meetings. The new addition offers easy accessibility, multi-use areas, and new updated furniture to support the number of innovative programs at Pine Bluff

High School.

Hats off to our community leaders, business members and alumni from walks of life for coming together on such an awesome project for our scholars. The renovations consisted of new floors, ceiling, LED lights, paint jobs, renovated cabinets, dining table, china cabinet, bathroom, furniture, custom designed shutters and counter tops.

The following community members contributed to the project and were recognized for their partnerships during the Grand Re-Opening Ceremony: Surplus Warehouse of Pine Bluff, Showcase of Floors (The Rice Family), Pine Bluff Lowes, Jones Contracting, Lee's Woodwork, C Jones Electric LLC, Brenda Neely (Light House Store), Dr. Martha Flowers, Poindexter Furniture, Nesco Electric of Pine Bluff, AR, John Pope Furniture Inc., Diane Crowder Designs, Interior Designer, First Trinity Church of God in Christ, Pine Hill Missionary Baptist Church, Prayer Garden Church of God in Christ, Mt. Harmony Missionary Baptist Church, Central District Baptist Association, Relyance Bank, Kingdom Builders Outreach Church of God in Christ, New St. Hurricane Baptist Church, Earl Bentley Construction, Mr. Samuel

Thompson and the 2019 Construction Class.

“A lot of hard work and sacrifices have taken place behind the scenes to make this renovation project at Pine Bluff High School a reality,” said Dedric Jones, Project Coordinator. “The team of partners has worked tirelessly with the interior designers, contractors, electricians, and other professionals to create a solution that will meet the needs of our student body at Pine Bluff High School. These types of opportunities allow us to continue our rich tradition of excellence by preserving the original FACS Living Room and to add a state-of-the-art addition that will continue to serve students for many years to come.



# PINE BLUFF HIGH GRADUATES

## ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT



Danyelle Walker has practiced consumer bankruptcy for approximately 17 years. She was a law clerk for former Arkansas Supreme Court Justice Andree Layton Roaf, who she credits for instilling in her the desire to help individuals with their financial hardships.



Walker serves on the UALR Board of Visitors, VOCALS board, Our House board, the American Heart Association board and the Arkansas Access to Justice Commission. Her desire to help others has led to numerous awards. She was the 2008 Arkansas Pro Bono Partnership Attorney of the Year and received the Arkansas Bar Association's Equal Justice Distinguished Service Award in 2008. Having accepted over 200 pro bono cases, she was VOCALS 2012 Attorney of the Year. She was honored at UALR William H. Bowen School of Law's Alumni Scholarship Luncheon 2014 for her public service.

Walker graduated with a B.S. degree in accounting, Summa Cum Laude, from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff in 1992 and a Juris Doctorate from the UALR William H. Bowen School of Law in 1995. She is married to Assistant U.S. Attorney Edward Walker and they have two children, Victoria and Ethan.

# PINE BLUFF HIGH GRADUATES

## ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT

William McShane Bridgforth is a partner in the law firm of Ramsay, Bridgforth, Robinson and Raley LLP and joined the law firm in 1990. For more than 21 years, Shane has represented clients in personal



injury litigation, commercial litigation, products liability litigation, agricultural litigation and other areas of complex litigation including cases involving wrongful death, condemnation, real property and insurance disputes. Shane's litigation experience includes numerous jury trials in counties across the State of Arkansas and in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Arkansas. Shane has experience handling appeals in cases before the Arkansas Court of Appeals, Arkansas Supreme Court and the United States Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit. His clients range from individuals, farmers, small businesses and national companies who desire their cases to be effectively handled and who want the experience of a trial lawyer who can try their cases in court when necessary.

After graduating from Pine Bluff High School in 1983, Shane obtained a B.S. degree in business from Louisiana Tech University in 1987. Shane graduated from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law where he received his Juris Doctorate in 1990. While in law school he served as an officer in Phi Delta Phi and received the American Jurisprudence Award for having earned the highest marks of all third year law students in Trial Advocacy. Shane was selected to serve on the U.A.L.R. School of Law moot court team and was successful in competitions against students from other states' law schools.

Shane has been active in the Arkansas Bar Association and his community. He is a member of the Jefferson County Bar Association, Arkansas Bar Association and American Bar Association. Shane served on the House of Delegates of the Arkansas Bar Association from 1994 - 1996 and on the Executive Council of the Arkansas Bar Association in 1997. Shane served on the Board of Directors of the Center for Arkansas Legal Services from 1992 - 2000. In 2011, Shane was appointed to the Board of the Arkansas Access to Justice Foundation, and currently serves as Vice-President. In 2012, Shane was appointed by the Arkansas Supreme Court to serve on the Arkansas Supreme Court Committee on Model Jury Instructions - Civil. He has also been active in serving his local community having frequently served on organization boards and committees, including the Arts & Science Center for Southeast Arkansas, the Pine Bluff Child Center, Inc., the Economic Development Alliance of Jefferson County, and the Greater Pine Bluff Chamber of Commerce. Shane was recently honored to receive the VOCALS of Jefferson County 2011 Attorney of the Year Award.

Shane is licensed to practice in all of the courts in Arkansas, including the United States District Courts for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas. Shane is also licensed to practice in the United States Court of Appeals for the 8th Circuit and the United States Supreme Court.

# PINE BLUFF HIGH GRADUATES

## ATTORNEY SPOTLIGHT

Chaloea M. Williams from Pine Bluff received a Juris Doctor in Law from Boston University in May, 2014.



Williams also delivered the Student Commencement address at the School of Law on May 18, 2014.

She is a 2011 graduate of Vanderbilt University and 2007 graduate of Pine Bluff High School. She is the daughter of Grant and Carolyn Williams.

Chaloea Williams currently serves as a law clerk in federal district court in Massachusetts. Previously, Chaloea was a senior associate in the Boston office of WilmerHale LLP. While there, Chaloea maintained a robust pro bono practice, including appearing on behalf of a family facing eviction from subsidized housing, representing asylum seekers, and motion practice on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union in support of the Boston Police Department's body-worn camera pilot program. Chaloea received her B.A. from Vanderbilt University and her J.D. from Boston University School of Law, where she served as President of the Black Law Students Association, defended adults and children in Boston Municipal Court, and delivered the 2014 J.D. commencement speech. Chaloea is passionate about mentoring young people from traditionally marginalized communities and dismantling institutional barriers to access and opportunity.



# Pine Bluff High School Band voted Best of the Best!!!





## **OCTOBER EVENTS**

- October Anti-Bullying Month
- National Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Breast Cancer Awareness
- National Principal Appreciation Month
- October 19: Coupon Classes @ Belair
- October 22: Superintendent's Report to the Public
- October 23-31: Red Ribbon Week
- October 24: Parent/Teacher Conference
- October 25: Staff Development (No School)