

# OSSM's Omar Khan competing for spot on U.S. Chemistry Olympiad Team

WASHINGTON — Twenty of the nation's top high school chemistry students have been chosen to compete for one of four spots on the team representing the U.S. at the 50th International Chemistry Olympiad in Bratislava, Slovakia, and Prague, Czech Republic, on July 19-29.

Edmond's Omar Khan, who attends the Oklahoma School of

Science and Mathematics in Oklahoma City is one of the 20 including 16 boys and four girls, representing 13 ACS local sections and 10 states.

These students emerged from a series of exams that involved nearly 17,000 students across the U.S. Their next stop in qualifying for the U.S.

team will be the Chemistry Olympiad Study Camp at the U.S.

Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., June 10-25.

During the camp, the students will receive college-level training, with an emphasis on organic chemistry, through a series of lectures, problem-solving exercises, lab work and testing. At the conclusion of the camp, the top four students will be named as members of the team.

The American Chemical Society (ACS) has sponsored the American team annually since the U.S. joined the Olympiad in 1984. Principal funding is through the ACS Donald F. and Mildred Topp Othmer Olympiad Endowment, with additional support from the U.S. Air Force Academy, Department of Chemistry, Carolina Biological Supply

Company; National Geographic Learning/Cengage Learning, Fisher Science Education, Flinn Scientific Inc.; Pearson, Texas Instruments Inc., University Science Books, Sigma-Aldrich Inc. and Wiley & Sons Publishers.

The American Chemical Society, the world's largest scientific society, is a not-for-profit organization chartered by the

U.S. Congress. ACS is a global leader in providing access to chemistry-related information and research through its multiple databases, peer-reviewed journals and scientific conferences. ACS does not conduct research, but publishes and publicizes peer-reviewed scientific studies. Its main offices are in Washington, D.C., and Columbus, Ohio.



*Champion a 10 year service award at the May City Council meeting.*

*Fairlawn Cemetery.*

# Comanche School Board Accepts Resignations At May Meeting

The Comanche School Board met May 8 for their regular monthly meeting with members accepting resignations as part of the consent agenda. Resignations accepted included: Micah Foraker, Misty Copeland, Dana McQuinn, Armida Garcia and Paula Williams.

Following an executive session and a return to public session, the Comanche School Board approved (4-0) of Charlie Gay, Cheryl Pannell, Chuck Dunlap and Amy Shelby to rehire certified faculty members for the school year 2018-2019 as recommended by Superintendent Davidson.

The Board also voted (4-0) to hire Jana Gardner as a middle school language arts teacher and Brenda Darling as a middle school science teacher for the 2018-2019 school year as recommended by Supt. Davidson.

In Superintendent Davidson’s report to the School Board at the meeting, Davidson gave a legislative report saying there was very little money in the budget for operating costs and support salary increases. Davidson also stated that the salary increase approved for teachers is substantial, but could be in jeopardy because of efforts by a group called “Oklahoma Taxpayers Unite”, led by former U.S. Senator Tom Coburn.

Davidson shared that if the group is able to secure the required signatures and the effort survives challenges, the collection of taxes approved by the legislature will be suspended until voters either approve or disapprove the measure in November. Davidson said the school district had several options if the group is successful in getting

the petition on the ballot.

Davidson also reported progress in preparing to move forward with the projects funded by approval of voters in the April 3, 2018 bond election. He shared that he expected the technology team will have the final specs completed by the end of the week for security improvements so that the school district can advertise for bids.

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## Area Roundup

### Vaccinations

#### Clinic This Saturday

Dr. Carolyn McLemore will have their annual Comanche Vaccination Clinic this Saturday, June 2 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. at Jackson Park. Rabies shots will be \$10 and other vaccinations available upon request. A free city tag, limited to one per family, will be available that day. For more information you may call Countryside Vet at 580-537-2324.

### Musical Concert

#### This Sunday Evening

A musical concert will be held this Sunday, June 3, 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church of Comanche featuring Jackie Sharp Payne. The public is cordially invited to attend.



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# School Board From P. 1

He also reported that employees in the transportation departments had been test driving various buses and that the decision on which vehicles to purchase is very close. He shared that he would like to have as many of the new buses available as possible for the beginning of the school year.

Davidson stated in relation to instructional technology, final decision making was taking place with input from teachers. Davidson said he hoped to be able to start ordering equipment by the first week in June.

Relating to the instructional technology improvements, Davidson announced that extensive professional development activities are being planned for the summer months as well as for in-service days just before the beginning of the new school year.

Davidson also acknowledged the many accomplishments of Comanche students, state track meet qualifiers, CHS girls golf team qualifying for state tourney, CHS baseball winning district championship. He also announced that Gabriel Shultz and Emily Tackel would be graduating from the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics. Both students attended elementary and middle school at Comanche. *(Special meeting of the Comanche School Board was held Friday, May 11, at noon, with American Nation Bank having the winning bid for the sale of bonds to fund voter approved improvements with a winning interest rate bid of 2.65%.)*