

SMS Magazine

# The Chronicle Magazine

Let's  
HAVE A GREAT  
SUMMER

SCHOOL'S  
OUT!



**KEEP  
CALM**  
Schools almost  
**Out for  
Summer**

Celebrating  
the end of the  
School  
Year





# *Mrs. Redding*

(Teacher of the year)

By: Brionna Evans

We all know and love Mrs. Redding and this year she is "Teacher of the Year". She deserves so much the least I could do was write an essay about her to congratulate her on the big win. I have asked her some questions and these are her answers.

## **How did you feel win you won?**

"Mostly just pure shock I never expected to win."

## **Did you expect to win?**

"Not at all." she claimed. "The people in charge of the whole thing actually told me Mrs. Crall won. I had bought everything to decorate her room for a surprise for her after she won. But when they were listing the things that the students liked they didn't match Crall. When my name was said I was a mix of shock and confusion."

## **What was your "I deserve this" moment?**

"I never try and put myself out there as the "best teacher" or anything but I do try to help very one i can teacher and students alike. I do the best with what I have." she told SMS news." It was very humbling when I won." she added."It made me think 'wow they really appreciate me' and that's really sweet

## **What would you tell the next winner?**

" Well there is a paper you have to write and it's like 17 pages. The only thing I can tell them is to start writing that early." She said, "You can never start you early."



# Teacher Interviews

**(The answers are NOT exact word for word quote, just the general idea of what she answered)**

**Q: What do you like about teaching and being a teacher?**

**Ms. Redding: I love being with students and helping them become what they're going to be. Can I also say breaks? Breaks are amazing and so is that lightbulb moment when you see a kid figure something out and it makes sense to them.**

Thank you Ms. Redding for agreeing to this interview!!!



**Fun Fact:**

**A sneeze travels out your mouth at over 100 m.p.h.**





# The Black Wall Street Times

- ACCESS IS THE NEW CIVIL RIGHT -

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019



## LaTeria is one of America's next emerging leaders

[The Black Wall St Times](#) March 22, 2019



LaTeria Stokes, center, at fifth-grade graduation amongst friends.

By Nehemiah Frank, *Founder & Editor-in-Chief*

LaTeria Stokes, a 12-year-old from Sapulpa, Oklahoma, is headed to Washington DC to attend the [Junior National Young Leaders Conference](#) (Jr.NYLC). She's one of the few lucky students from across the US who will have the honor of attending this prestigious conference.

She's a straight A student at Sapulpa Middle School and possesses an academic intelligence that's comparable to a highly focused Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate high school student.



# The Black Wall Street Times

- ACCESS IS THE NEW CIVIL RIGHT -

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019    

On last year's 5th grade Oklahoma State exam, LaTeria placed advance in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science.

Her nickname — at the previous school she attended, Sankofa School of Creative and Performing Arts — was “baby genius,” partly due to her height of being second shortest in class but also because of her [Katherine Johnson](#)-like ability to quickly calculate 5th and 6th grade math practically in her head without the need of having to use scratch paper. Needless to say, she's becoming a hidden figure in her own right, and she's also grown a few inches since 5th grade.

Her mother, LaShawn Stokes credits her daughter's academic success to Deborah Brown Community School (DBCS) and Sankofa School of Creative and Performing Arts — a school also founded by Deborah Brown.

Mrs. Stokes enrolled LaTeria in DBCS's pre-K program when LaTeria was just 4-years-old.

Mrs. Stokes said that she chose DBCS and continued LaTeria's education in the Sankofa extension program because she likes the fact that both schools boast environments of high academic achievement, daily cultural affirmations, and discipline — essential elements needed to make learning possible for children.





# The Black Wall Street Times

- ACCESS IS THE NEW CIVIL RIGHT -

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 2019



**LaShawn Stokes and daughter LaTeria**

*"I just wanted to make sure that my kids weren't around a bunch of people who were going to lead them down the wrong path," she explained.*

Mrs. Stokes said that she believes that most of the public school teachers in Tulsa appeared overwhelmed with too many students and thinks the curriculum isn't challenging enough for the students. And Mrs. Stokes would know, having attended Tulsa Public Schools.

If the school was a movie what movie, do you think it would be?

We went around and interviewed a few people around the school and we chose the top three and made a list so here it is!

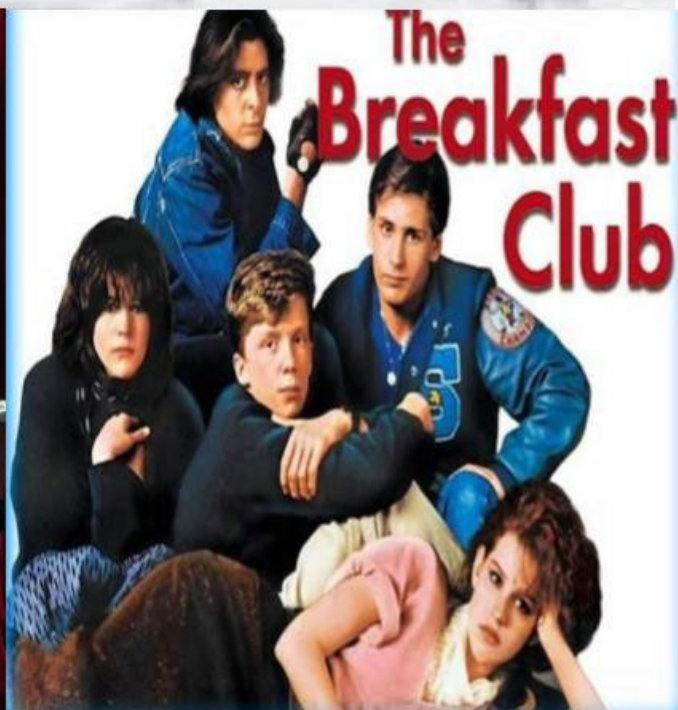
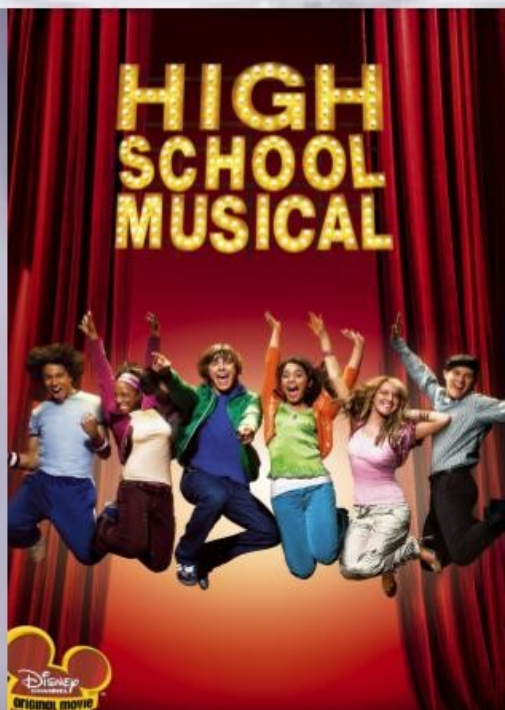
## TOP THREE MOVIES

---

1. Mean Girls

2. High School Musical

3. Breakfast Club





# **If You Had A Magic Wand What Would YOU Change About The School**

**We asked a few of our middle school teachers...**

**Ms. Janitz**

**"A teachers lounge and I want a private bathroom and private parking and a copy room all upstairs."**

**Ms. Bingel**

**"I would add recess to the school day."**

**Mrs. Leonard**

**"Like physically adding anything or moving anything if I had a magic wand I would fix the 92' wing."**

**Ms. Comstock**

**"If I had a magic wand I would have a holding cell for bad children."**





# What is something you or your students do that you think is funny?

By: Brionna Evans

( all stories were submitted by teachers)

We asked some teachers to tell us what they think is their funniest school experiments they have done or that they have had with students. Here are some of the few we think you might enjoy.

## The Dog Did It

There was a boy who couldn't write well, especially in cursive. So one day he turned in a paper written in cursive. The teacher asked who wrote the paper, the boy raised his hand and claimed that his dog was the one who wrote the paper, not him. The teacher just laughed and told him to redo it the paper.

## Beach

If your native tongue isn't English you might have some trouble with pronouncing words right. This was the case for 1 unlucky spanish teacher. She was teaching a unit on vacations for her spanish 1 and 2 class. But when she tried to say BEACH she didn't quite make it. She said she was greatly embarrassed.

## Not So Soft

6th grade Math teacher Ms.Zahir had a little accident last year. She was one of the teachers watching the 1st hour lunch. As she was walking she decided to turn around and then BOOM walked right into a pole. She then went to the office where she discovered she had a black eye. She then left for the day. Many people still joke about it.

# WHAT MAKES A GOOD TEACHER?

*These are opinions provided by you the student body.*

**ANONYMOUS-**

"They have to be fun and exciting!"

**KAIDENCE WYBLE, 6TH GRADE-**

"Personality."

**TYLER MCMURTREY-**

"They have to be able to accept students faults."

**BREANNA EVANS-**

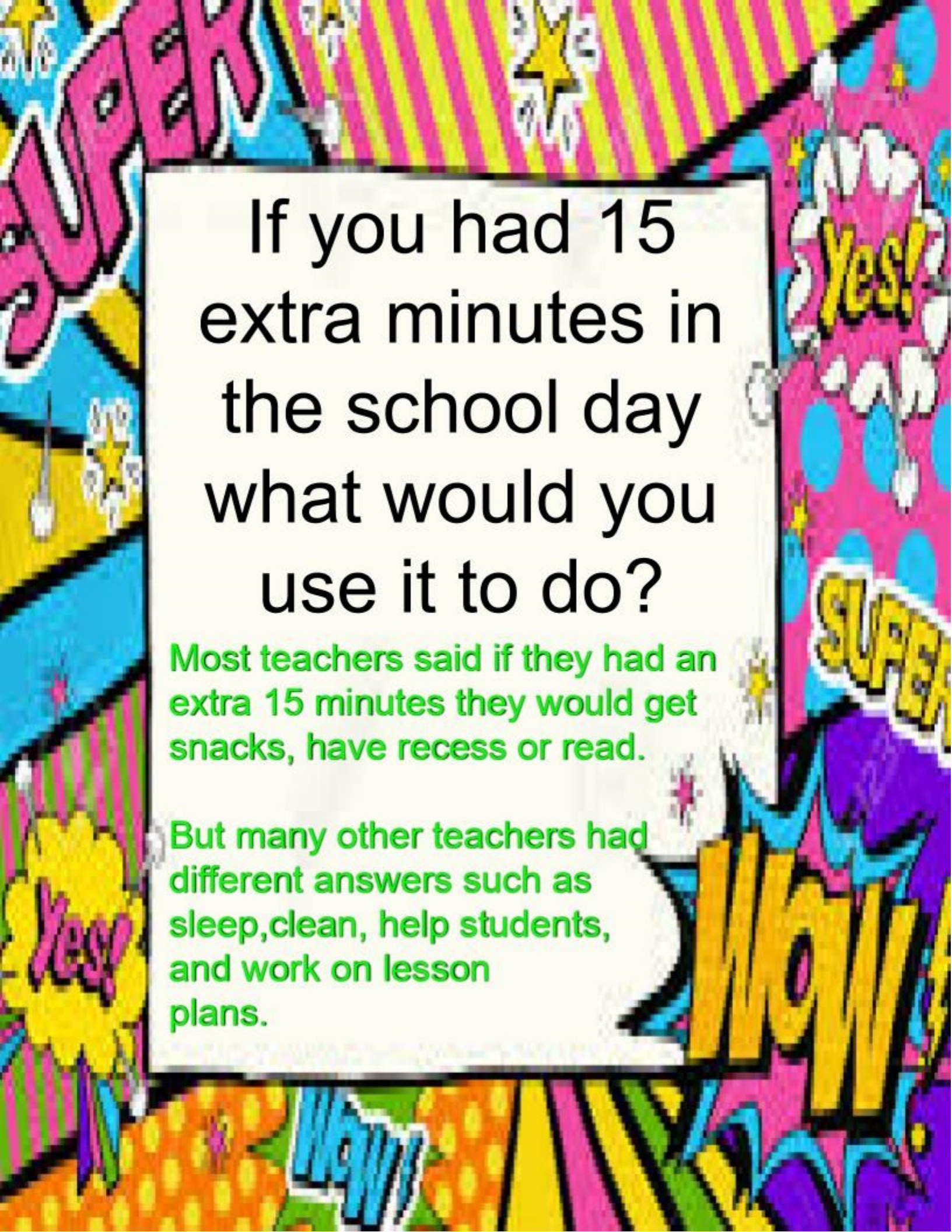
"Patience"

## Featured series

The Waterfire Saga.







If you had 15  
extra minutes in  
the school day  
what would you  
use it to do?

Most teachers said if they had an extra 15 minutes they would get snacks, have recess or read.

But many other teachers had different answers such as sleep, clean, help students, and work on lesson plans.



If the school had recess,  
would you approve of it?  
why or why not.

---

Most of the teachers said yes because we  
needed to go outside and run out all of our  
energy.

The reason some teachers said no was  
because that was an easier way to be involved  
in more fights.

# RECESS

## Peer Pressure, By: Grace Harris

People are affected by peer pressure, but we don't notice it half the time. People can be pressured into doing good things, and doing bad things. People have varying opinions on peer pressure, so let's listen to some.

Mary Marshes- "Well, it's a fact of life, and it happens sometimes. Well, it's a fact of life, and it happens sometimes. I didn't jump in, so to convince me they said, 'It won't hurt you!' So I dared them to jump in if it wouldn't hurt, and they did. Let's just say I wasn't the one walking home with small burns. Peer pressure can be used for good, and bad, things. It's not the peer pressure that's bad exactly, but the people who use it for bad."

Daniel Dragonfly- "Well, I know peer pressure isn't a good thing. I haven't particularly been affected by it. I think peer pressure is a bad thing to do. People have done bad things because of it."

We may not usually notice it, but we should. Peer pressure can help, and it can hurt. If we all work together we can make sure that peer pressure will not be used for bad things. Don't pressure others to do bad things, and if you are pressured to do one, tell someone.