School board tackles broad range of issues

BY JO-ANN JENNINGS

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Among other good news at the recent meeting of the Broken Arrow school board, Dr. Jarod Mendenhall, superintendent, commented on time well spent at an OSBBA conference attended by Menden-Kelly, Steve Majors, and Jerry Denton.

Kelly, school board president, said she appreciates the opportunities to learn mentioned the teacher shortage in the and grow by attending conferences.

Both Mendenhall and Kelly were impressed by the comments of Dr. John Draper, a national speaker and supporter of schools. Draper said it's time for educators to start talking about what's right for the schools. Kelly said he encouraged his listeners to think every day about what positive things are really going on with the schools and to express those to others.

Mendenhall said he thought Draper would be a good speaker for the BA district. Other districts are also interested in his coming to the area, so perhaps expenses could be shared. His message, Mendenhall said, was "infectious." Kelly said she looks forward to having some "terrific" conversations this year.

In not so positive news, Mendenhall said this could be a very difficult year. Oklahoma economy is run by the oil industry, and gas prices have been down for several months.

The state budget is down. He also buildings.

AAThat shows the impact of the crisis across the state. There is a task force

state, continuing that he had never worried about having enough teacher when a new year started, but this year began with some classrooms short of teachers.

"That shows the impact of the crisis across the state. There is a task force working on the challenges."

Mendenhall presented his plan for the next Board Showcase Special Meeting which will begin at 8:30 a.m. outside the Performance Arts Center with a historical wall dedication.

Participants would then board a bus and take a look at renovations and special programs going on at Vandever school; visit the Freshman Academy to see the progress with the Google Chrome Books; go to the high school varsity club and tour the indoor facility and see a presentation by JMROTC: visit the Introduction to Manufacturing, a new BA High School/ Tulsa Tech class; and end with a look at the maintenance and transportation

working on the challenges." Dr. Jarod Mendenhall Superintendent of BAPS

Tutoring available at Library

FROM STAFF REPORTS

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