

"Three secrets to success: Be willing to learn new things. Be able to assimilate new information quickly. Be able to get along with and work with other people."

- Sally Ride

Teachers, Administration and Friends-

I want to thank each of you for a wonderful Oklahoma Summit last week! A special shout out to my team and the OkHSE (Oklahoma Health Science Educators) leadership team! I just read this and find it to be true, and hope as your Health Science teams come back together, you find the same:

*"With an aging workforce and a growing reliance on digital intelligence, companies are recognizing the value of "wisdom work" over traditional "knowledge work." Research shows that intergenerational teams outperform single-generation teams by combining the strengths of both young and older workers."* **Harvard Business Review**

I'm excited to start the "Did You Know" again for this school year—I learn so much every time I put one together. I swear someday I'm going on a trivia game show with all my semi-useless knowledge I collect! 😊

1. Each year, approximately 20 million people receive a cancer diagnosis. At that time, a patient usually learns their cancer's stage, which is typically a number ranging from one to four. While staging is designed, in part, to help patients better understand what they're facing, the number can be confusing. So, what do cancer stages actually mean? Hyunsoo Joshua No and Trudy Wu explain "[How do doctors determine what stage of cancer you have?](#)"

## 2. **Lawton hospital, Great Plains Tech work together on simulation center**

Comanche County Memorial Hospital recently unveiled its new Simulation Center of Southwest Oklahoma funded by a grant awarded to CCMH and Great Plains Technology Center.

Students and professionals can practice what they are learning in simulated situations without using real patients, Great Plains PM Coordinator Karen Shirey explained to KSWO-TV. Learn more on the [KSWO-TV website](#).

3. **Alzheimers Drug Approved:** The Food and Drug Administration yesterday [greenlighted a new drug](#) for adult patients with early or mild Alzheimer's, the third drug to be approved in the US for its ability to delay cognitive decline in patients. The drug from Eli Lilly—called donanemab and marketed under the brand name Kisunla—slowed cognitive decline in clinical trial patients by 35% compared to a placebo. Nearly 7 million Americans have Alzheimer's. See more data on the disease [here](#). Watch an overview of how it works [here](#)
4. **Moderna wins \$176M** contract to develop an mRNA vaccine for humans to protect against the bird flu ([More](#)) | **How mRNA vaccines work** ([More](#)) | **Current bird flu outbreak** status ([More](#))
5. Find out about the [power of the Post It note!!!](#)
6. **What to know about buying an interactive whiteboard:** [What to Know About Buying An Interactive Whiteboard | Tech & Learning \(techlearning.com\)](#)
7. **Diffit** is an AI-powered tool that's designed to help teachers create useful resources for students in the classroom and beyond. This takes a simple prompts, or already found resources, and turns these into materials for class. [Diffit: How to Use It to Teach | Tech & Learning \(techlearning.com\)](#)

8. [What To Do When A Link Is Broken? | Tech & Learning \(techlearning.com\)](#)

9. **Oklahoma HOSA students bring home wins from International Leadership Conference**

<https://oklahoma.gov/careertech/media-center/press-releases/2024/oklahoma-hosa-students-bring-home-wins-from-international-leader.html>.

Oklahoma HOSA took more than 250 members to the HOSA International Leadership Conference in Houston, Texas, and brought home 23 medals, along with other awards.

Oklahoma HOSA members received 10 gold medals, eight silver medals and five bronze medals, along with 17 top 10 finishes. More than 12,000 middle school, secondary and postsecondary students attended the conference.

“Our Oklahoma HOSA team demonstrated remarkable dedication and skill, achieving impressive milestones on the international stage,” said Amy Warner, HOSA state adviser with the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education.

The Oklahoma chapters were also recognized for membership increase, and the chapter from Tulsa Technology Center’s Peoria Campus received an award for being the largest postsecondary local chapter.

Amanda Longan, Green Country Technology Center, was named Outstanding Local Adviser, and Oklahoma HOSA President Maira Arshad, Francis Tuttle Technology Center, was named Outstanding HOSA Leader.

Three Oklahomans received scholarships: Victoria Nwankwo, Oklahoma Central Region vice president, Francis Tuttle Technology Center, a \$1,000 HIMSS Foundation Scholarship; Arshad, \$1,000 David McNeese Memorial Scholarship; and Cheyenne Holman, Green Country Technology Center, \$1,000 National Healthcareer Association Scholarship.

Oklahoma HOSA advisers helped facilitate four of the 90-plus student competition events, including the newly introduced respiratory therapy and phlebotomy skills events.

In addition, all Oklahoma students who were recognized at the State Leadership Conference for receiving Barbara James Service awards and National Service Project Awards were also featured and received certificates and pins at ILC.

“Our team represented our state with exceptional professionalism and spirit. I am incredibly proud of each student and their accomplishments,” Warner said.

10. [Free Sites for Back to School | Tech & Learning \(techlearning.com\)](#) To help teachers more easily find the best free and freemium sites they can use in their classrooms and curricula, a curated list that describes the top free/freemium sites for learning.

11. [A Crisis of Our Time: Exploring the Global Rise of Mental Illness Through Economics, Lived Experiences, and Expert Insights](#)

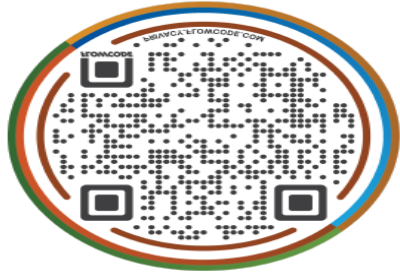
The world is facing a silent yet devastating crisis: the global mental health crisis. The economic toll is equally alarming, with mental health conditions accounting for nearly \$1 trillion in lost productivity each year. But beyond the numbers, the human stories behind these statistics demand attention and action. [www.aspeninstitute.org](http://www.aspeninstitute.org)

12. **Researchers pinpoint gene** capable of slowing the aggressive spread of pancreatic cancer; gene produces the molecule HNF4A, and gets "switched off" in early stages of the disease ([More](#))

13. Mark Your Calendars for the National Health Science Conference in Phoenix-Glendale from October 15-18, the premier national event exclusively focused on your CTE area. The ONLY conference that is FOR Health Science teachers, presented BY Health Science Teachers and with ONLY Health Science vendors. Leave the conference with things to implement in the classroom the very next week! Our very own **Nancy Harris** is presenting a Pre-Conference Session about HOSA Engagement that you won’t want to miss! Discover more about the conference

and secure your spot by registering at [conference website](#). Don't miss this invaluable opportunity to elevate your health science education journey to new heights!

14. **Brain imaging approach** detects the presence of conscious and intentional thoughts in otherwise comatose patients; may be used to diagnose locked-in syndrome, where patients are unable to physically communicate ([More](#))
15. This is a fascinating read!!!! Great content for biomedical debate, DNA discussion, etc. The pigs raised to grow kidneys and [hearts for humans](#)!



16. Didn't get your verification form from Oklahoma Summit? Be sure to check the email you used in your email file, then check your junk file! If you still don't have it, you can recreate by using this QR code or by emailing [Emily Gedra](#) for what was submitted to us.

Later this week you will receive additional emails—one reminding you to sign up for your curriculum meetings—we only had 47 people say they want to participate, and another inviting you to participate in the Health Science Ok Summit Survey.

And finally—I need each of you to complete the [Programmatic Sign In](#) if you did not last Friday. Regardless of your attendance, I need a list for each program area to share with your VP and for customized emails about products, meetings, legislation, etc. THANKS in advance!!!!

Sincerely,  
Lara Morris  
State Program Manager | Health Science Education



1500 West Seventh Avenue  
Stillwater, OK 74074-4398  
405.743.5106  
405.747.9327 cell

[lara.morris@careertech.ok.gov](mailto:lara.morris@careertech.ok.gov)  
[www.okcareertech.org](http://www.okcareertech.org)