Compact Formed to Support OKC Public Schools

Five community organizations are forming a new partnership to support improvements of Oklahoma City Public Schools, the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber announced at its annual State of the Schools Luncheon on Thursday, Aug. 20. The new collaboration, which will be called the Oklahoma City Schools Compact, will include the Oklahoma City Public Schools, the City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma City Public Schools Foundation, United Way of Central Oklahoma and the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber.

“Oklahoma City’s future success depends on today’s students,” said Teresa Rose, vice chair of education and workforce development for the Chamber. “We are creating the Compact to ensure educational success in our community for today, for the next decade and for generations to come. This is the smartest investment we can make for the future of Oklahoma City.”

The board will oversee a group of committees that will guide the creation of programs and projects that will improve student performance and support programs that achieve the goals of the district.

“The Chamber provided our district with critical information from a communitywide survey conducted last year that allowed us to benchmark the strengths and weaknesses of our district,” said Robert Neu.

TRDC Raises More Than $3M to Support Chamber Priorities

On August 13, the Chamber concluded its 22nd Total Resource Development Campaign at its victory celebration at Gaillardia Country Club. At the event, campaign volunteers revealed that their efforts raised $3,000,598 to support the work of the Chamber, surpassing the 2015 campaign goal.

TRDC co-chairs John Higginbotham, Bank of Oklahoma, and Michael Laird, Crowe & Dunlevy, led more than 150 active volunteers. During the campaign, volunteers connected Chamber members with membership, sponsorship and advertising opportunities that are available through the Chamber. Through the work of the volunteers, 154 local businesses became Chamber members. Through 22 annual campaigns, TRDC volunteers have raised more than $43 million to support a better future for Oklahoma City.

To learn more about this year’s campaign, read this month’s digital version of The POINT! newsletter.

Continued on page 11
At last month’s State of the Schools luncheon, more than 550 business leaders came together for a discussion on the state of education in Oklahoma. From discussions on aligning education programs to meet the needs of businesses to learning about the progress made in the Oklahoma City Public School District, attendees were able to engage in an important dialogue about the role that our community plays in the success of its education systems.

As the voice of business in Oklahoma City, the Chamber is very aware of the importance that education plays in the health of our society. From producing a qualified workforce for Oklahoma City’s businesses to enhancing Oklahoma City’s appeal as a relocation destination, our schools matter deeply to our businesses – and they have for a long time. We are also aware that cultural change does not happen overnight, and it doesn’t happen in isolation. A community effort is absolutely necessary to continue positive momentum and create lasting change.

For this reason, the Chamber and four other community organizations are forming the Oklahoma City Schools Compact. This Compact will operate under the collective impact model, meaning that we will solve educational challenges under a common agenda and with the same goals and measurements. We represent all aspects of the community: schools, city administration, businesses and nonprofit organizations. And we all share a vested interest in the outcome of our efforts.

As administrations and political climates change, the Compact plans to be a consistent force of progress toward a better future for our students. Collectively, we will be able to address needs and solve problems that can’t be met in the classroom alone.

Sincerely,

Roy H. Williams, CCE
President & CEO

We put people first to build relationships that last.

At Enable Midstream Partners, we define success a little differently. For us, it’s all about relationships. Because when you connect the right people for the right reasons, amazing things happen.

We’re building bonds of trust to achieve unparalleled success – for our customers, employees and the communities where we live and work.

Enable Midstream Partners. A Partner in Your Success.

Leadership Notes

Supporting education, together

Upcoming Chamber Events

Oklahoma CVB Finishes a Successful FY 15

OKCP'15 Launches 2015-2020 Strategic Plan

Oklahoma City Focus: Community Campaigns
OKC Job Growth Comes from Existing Companies

The Greater Oklahoma City Chamber recognizes the critical importance of existing businesses and works to ensure their success in Oklahoma City. One vital component of the Chamber’s efforts is its business retention and expansion program, which is designed to communicate issues impacting existing business to Oklahoma City’s leadership.

“Oklahoma City consistently sees its strongest job growth come from existing businesses, and local business leaders have the primary perspective on the city’s business climate,” said Roy H. Williams, CCE, president and CEO of the Chamber. “The relationships developed with existing companies allow the Chamber to be a stronger voice of business in Oklahoma City. Their feedback directly influences the Chamber’s public policy priorities and advocacy work throughout the year.”

From July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015 (FY15), Chamber employees met with representatives from 338 companies representing 59,623 employees to better understand the challenges and opportunities faced by their businesses. These companies added or announced 3,989 jobs during FY15 and made capital investments totaling more than $467 million. The companies represented more than 20 different industries.

Overall, business leaders interviewed displayed a positive attitude and optimism toward the business climate and economy for the region, with more than 90 percent of companies surveyed reporting they feel the business climate now is better than it was just five years ago. In the past 36 months, 93 percent of companies either increased their employment or reported no change.

In FY15, the Oklahoma City metro continued to enjoy a low unemployment rate averaging 3.7 percent. While this is an indication of a healthy economy, it also signals a future challenge for the region. Many companies expressed a concern shared by most metropolitan cities across the United States: Oklahoma City faces a shortage of qualified workers, and companies are using new, creative ways to recruit employees.

In FY15, Oklahoma City metro companies surveyed reported either increased their employment or reported no change. In the past 36 months, 93 percent of companies either increased their employment or reported no change.

Companies interviewed that had a robust talent pipeline have developed direct partnerships with the area’s colleges, universities and CareerTech training options. Companies were also complimentary of the region’s colleges and universities, with more than 70 percent reporting satisfaction with their collaborative efforts and the rigor of the courses and training offered. More than 75 percent of companies surveyed reported that their experiences with newly-hired graduates have been positive.

A future challenge mentioned by businesses is the age of their workforce. Respondents indicated that 82 percent of key workers were of middle age, so filling the gap to mitigate retirement impacts will be key to the future success of companies. Many business owners responded that the development of neighborhood districts has been a positive draw for the millennial generation as they consider Oklahoma City as a place to start their careers, and several companies indicated that it is easier than ever to recruit talent from other cities.

On the state level, companies are disappointed to see more budget cuts to infrastructure and education. Business leaders, especially those focused on manufacturing/logistics, expressed concern that Oklahoma’s road/bridge network needs considerable improvement and that the poor road conditions add expenses to their bottom lines. They also recognize that the skills gap they are experiencing is a direct reflection of the education system.

BRE Facts in FY15:

- 338 Chamber-assisted companies
- 59,623 employees represented
- 3,989 jobs added
- 93 percent of companies either increased their employment or reported no change in the past 3 years
- 70 percent of companies are satisfied with the region’s colleges and universities
UPCOMING EVENTS

Practical Politics: Oct. 21

Would you or someone you know like to make a difference in your community by running for office? Participation in local government guarantees direct involvement in issues that have an immediate effect on Oklahoma’s business interests.

In order to help those interested, the Chamber is conducting a half-day Practical Politics seminar in Oklahoma City University’s Gardner Conference Center at 2501 N Blackwelder Ave. from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Oct. 21. Speakers including Pat McFerron, founding partner of CMA Strategies; Lee Slazer, executive director of the Oklahoma Ethics Commission; State Rep. Jason Dunnington; State Rep. Randy McDaniel and Oklahoma County Commissioner Ray Vaughn will provide essential information on becoming a candidate, the campaign process and more. Tickets are $35 for Chamber members and $45 for nonmembers. To register, visit www.okcchamber.com/events.

Special thanks to Government Relations Benefactors AT&T Oklahoma, Devon Energy Corporation and OGE Energy Corp.; Government Relations Sponsors Cox Communications and Enable Midstream Partners; and Host Sponsor Oklahoma City University.

Celebrate the Success of OKC’s Metro 50

Each fall 50 central Oklahoma privately-held companies with revenues of at least $1 million receive the prestigious Metro 50 award. Official rankings will be revealed by Mayor Cornett during this year’s dynamic banquet on Tuesday, Sept. 29 at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Attend the Metro 50 Awards dinner and meet local businesses that exemplify the high standards of growth that make Oklahoma City a national leader in economic development. See an alphabetical list of winners and purchase $100 individual tickets and $1,250 corporate tables seating 10 at www.okcchamber.com/metro50.


Rise & Shine: Sept. 30

Come to the Chamber’s Rise and Shine Breakfast to learn about volunteer opportunities while networking with other professionals. The breakfast will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 30, from 8-9:30 a.m. at Gaillardia Country Club, 5300 Gaillardia Blvd. There is no charge to attend, but RSVP is required. Only those registered by Tuesday, Sept. 29, will be allowed gate entrance. Register at www.okcchamber.com/riseshine.

Chamber Golf Tournament Lets You Take Your Business to the Links

Work and play combine when you team up and tee off with clients, prospects and friends at the Oklahoma City Golf & Country Club this October for the Chamber’s annual Golf Tournaments. The half-day tournaments on Oct. 12, 19, and 26 will begin at 9 a.m. with a shotgun start and follow a scramble format. In addition to 18 holes, golfers enjoy a hot breakfast and coffee bar, beverages and snacks on the course, and an award luncheon with goody bags for each golfer, prizes for the winners and the opportunity to wind down with a relaxing massage.

Four-person teams are $1,200, or for $1,600 your company can gain additional recognition as a hole and team sponsor with the opportunity to meet, greet, and network with golfers at your sponsored hole during all three tournaments. To register your team, email register@okcchamber.com. Special thanks to Signature Sponsor Topgolf.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 8</td>
<td>Member Orientation</td>
<td>8:30-10 a.m.</td>
<td>BC Bank, 3817 Northwest Expressway, Suite 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 15</td>
<td>Sunset Reception</td>
<td>4-6 p.m.</td>
<td>Embassy Suites Oklahoma City Downtown/Medical Center, 741 N Phillips Ave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 24</td>
<td>Annual Oklahoma Health Center Breakfast</td>
<td>7:30-9 a.m.</td>
<td>Embassy Suites Oklahoma City Downtown/Medical Center, 741 N Phillips Ave.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sept. 29</td>
<td>Metro 50 Awards</td>
<td>5:30-8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>National Cowboy &amp; Western Heritage Museum, 1700 NE 63rd St.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 30</td>
<td>Rise &amp; Shine</td>
<td>8-9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Gaillardia Country Club, 5300 Gaillardia Blvd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 3</td>
<td>Navy Birthday Ball</td>
<td>6-9 p.m.</td>
<td>National Cowboy &amp; Western Heritage Museum, 1700 NE 63rd St.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Register for Chamber events online at www.okcchamber.com/events.
The Oklahoma City Convention and Visitors Bureau, a division of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber, closed another busy and successful fiscal year for Oklahoma City’s visitor industry on June 30. From NCAA events to horse shows, Oklahoma City welcomed a variety of visitors and groups from across the nation and globe.

Oklahoma City continued to reign as the “Horse Show Capital of the World,” with the Arabian & Half-Arabian Youth National Championship Horse Show announcing a multiyear contract in Oklahoma City. Business in convention sales proves to be just as strong. It was recently announced that LegalShield will be leaving Las Vegas for a multiyear conference in Oklahoma City.

“As Oklahoma City continues to invest in itself, its appeal as a visitor destination continues to grow,” said Natalie Shirley, Oklahoma State University-Oklahoma City, vice chair of convention and visitor development. “I think we can only expect this sector to grow and be a bigger benefit to the Oklahoma City economy in the years to come.”

Below, see the CVB’s final year-end numbers as reported for FY15.
### OKCPS Launches 2015-2020 Strategic Plan

Oklahoma City Public School District recently released its 2015-2020 strategic plan that will guide how its students can achieve success and the strategies that will drive continued improvement of student learning. Titled “The Great Commitment,” the plan defines the goals and measures of student attainment and the capabilities that district staff and the community must develop in order for students to achieve these goals.

“The Great Commitment is our community-wide plan for student progress,” said Robert Neu, superintendent of Oklahoma City Public School District. “With this important plan we will define what is important, and we will measure it. These are our children, and they require a great commitment from all of us to work together as one for all students.”

The following are seven goals and measures of student success that the district and the community will pursue together.

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#### Early Literacy & Numeracy

Every student will meet literacy and numeracy readiness criteria for successful transition from pre-kindergarten to second grade.

**Measures:**
- Percentage of students meeting kindergarten readiness criteria in literacy
- Percentage of students meeting kindergarten readiness criteria in mathematics
- Percentage of students acquiring literacy and numeracy foundational skills by the end of second grade

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#### Student Engagement & Voice

Every student will play a personal and meaningful role in their own learning and in the educational decision making of their school, district and/or community.

**Measures:**
- Student participation and feedback ratings on annual survey
- Percentage of students participating in at least one extracurricular activity
- Number of schools with actively engaged student leadership teams
- Percentage of students engaged in community service, civic action or schoolwide projects

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#### Mastery of Core Subjects

Every student will meet standards of performance in the core subjects at key transitional grade levels.

**Measures:**
- Percentage of students meeting proficiency standards in third-grade reading
- Percentage of students meeting proficiency standards in fifth-grade writing and mathematics
- Increased number of students enrolling in and passing Algebra 1 in eighth grade.
- Increased number of students enrolling and passing biology in 10th grade.

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#### Accelerated Performance for Under-Performing Groups

Low-performing student groups will perform at a level that closes the opportunity, learning and achievement gaps.

**Measures:**
- Achievement rate of African-American students in reading and math
- Achievement rates of English learners and special education students in reading
- Graduation rates of African-American, American-Indian and Hispanic students.

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#### Advanced, Tech-Literate Courses and the Arts

Every student will complete at least one higher-level course of study outside of core subjects.

**Measures:**
- Percentage of eligible students taking at least one higher-level course
- Completion rates for students pursuing at least one course in fine arts, visual and performing arts, advanced placement (AP) or international baccalaureate (IB), high school career academies, dual/concurrent enrollment, technical certification, adaptive technologies or intensive bilingual coursework.

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#### High School Graduation

Every student will graduate from high school, prepared for success in college or in career-technical fields.

**Measures:**
- Transition rates from pre-kindergarten to elementary and middle school to high school
- Percentage of 10th-grade students on track to graduate
- High school graduation rates
- At the districtwide level, new organizational practices will be used to support schools as they pursue these goals and change the culture of the district.

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Five Partners to Form Schools Compact (cont’d from page 1)

superintendent of Oklahoma City Public Schools. “We followed that information with an intense period of learning called the Great Conversation. All of that information has allowed us to create a strategic plan known as ‘The Great Commitment,’ which will not only give us direction, but also the ability to measure our success on each initiative. The clear goals tied to our strategic plan will guide the activities of the Compact.”

“Our community has shown its commitment to education in the past through our MAPS for Kids investment in our schools. Our commitment to the education of our youth is an ongoing one,” said Mayor Mick Cornett, City of Oklahoma City. “As business leaders, parents and members of the community, we must educate ourselves on the issues facing our schools and be part of a solution to create positive change.”

“No school or district can be successful on its own,” Mary Mélon, president and CEO of the Foundation for Oklahoma City Public Schools, added. “It will take a concerted effort and a sense of ownership on the part of the community to create sustainable change and improvements for our students. While there is no silver bullet for success in education, we believe that our combined efforts to ensure success for every student will be far more powerful than each organization working alone.”

“We recognize that Oklahoma City’s kids are facing problems beyond what can be solved in the classroom,” said Debby Hampton, CEO and president of the United Way of Central Oklahoma. “The United Way and its partner agencies have the resources and the knowledge to address those needs and better prepare our children to succeed as students.”

Under the existing framework of its mission, the Compact will finalize the details, formalize its efforts and begin its work in the coming months. Partnering opportunities will be available for additional organizations, businesses and individuals to provide resources as the group works to ensure that students are prepared for the workplace and/or higher education. All of the Compact’s work will be transparent and tied to clearly-defined accountability goals.

“We are seeing real momentum in the Oklahoma City Public School District, and this Compact is designed to support that existing momentum,” said Rose. “We will certainly celebrate the success of the district, but we will not ignore the improvements that need to be made. The Compact and its members are prepared to provide strong and consistent assistance to the school district as it pursues its goals.”

For more information on the Compact, contact Drew Dugan at ddugan@okchamber.com or 297-8940.
Tribal Gaming Helps Fuel Oklahoma’s Economy

Oklahoma’s Indian gaming industry brings more than $6.3 billion to the state’s economy each year in direct and indirect costs, a new economic impact study from the Oklahoma Indian Gaming Association has found.

The OIGA released preliminary findings of this study during its recent conference, one of Oklahoma City’s largest annual conventions, at the Cox Convention Center in late July. The study, which will be finalized this fall, looked at gaming in 2014, 10 years since Oklahoma voters passed State Question 712 to allow full-fledged gaming under tribal compacts in the state.

Sheila Morago, OIGA’s executive director, said the organization commissioned its first-ever tribal gaming impact study to educate its members and the Legislature and plans to do them each year.

“It’s nice to give people some working knowledge of our industry,” she said.

Kyle Dean, associate director and research economist at Oklahoma City University, and consultant Matthew S. Robinson, founder and principal of KlasRobinson Q.E.D., said during a presentation at the OIGA conference that 75 percent of total Indian gaming facilities and 75 percent of gaming positions at casinos participated in the survey. The large sampling size gave them confidence in the numbers, which show how significant Indian gaming is to the state’s economy.

There were 38.2 million visits to Oklahoma Indian casinos in 2014, and 14.6 million were from out of state, making them a tourism draw, the study found.

To run the casinos, the tribes directly employed 23,277 people statewide in gaming operations; about 40 percent of those were tribal members, and 53.6 percent were women. Their direct compensation totaled nearly $1.17 billion, including wages, salaries, benefits and tips and resulted in nearly $265 million paid in taxes.

These wages directly added an additional $4.4 billion to the economy. Indirectly, due to payments made to vendors by the tribes, spending by these employees, etc., the impact spread farther – adding $1.9 million more to the economy and 14,126 more jobs, bringing the tribe’s direct compensation total to $6.31 billion.

Broken out, the tribes paid $1.2 billion for goods and services to these vendors that support the industry, about half of which goes to in-state vendors; in turn, their spending generated an additional $801 million in economic output. Also, casinos indirectly created 5,667 more jobs and generated an additional payroll of $284 million. Extending the ripple effect, spending from those jobs created another 8,459 positions downstream.

“This not a one-time deal,” Dean said, noting that while these numbers looked at 2014, they were representative of the gaming industry of late.

Apart from tribal operation, casino construction costs added a lot to Oklahoma’s bottom line, about $3.1 billion in 2014, the economists said.

Dean also said that the National Indian Gaming Commission recently released its gaming figures, showing a 1.5 percent increase in gaming output nationwide. In Oklahoma City, that increase is closer to 7.5 percent, Dean and Robinson said.

A story in the August 2015 Casino Journal magazine detailed how big Indian gaming in Oklahoma is. In 2001, tribal gaming operations in this state generated almost $300 million in combined gross revenue; by 2012, that number was about $3.8 billion. Oklahoma is the second largest tribal gaming market behind California, the story noted.

Although the numbers for the economic impact gaming study released at the convention were preliminary, the economists thought they were conservative but would be close to the final numbers. The full study should be up on OIGAs website, www.oiga.org, around the end of September.
Forward Oklahoma City: Impact on Community Campaigns

When the Chamber launched its first Forward Oklahoma City campaign, leaders recognized the important role that community campaigns play in supporting initiatives that shape our future, bring jobs and contribute to our economy.

Since then, funding these campaigns has been an integral part of Forward Oklahoma City, including the subsequent three MAPS campaigns – the six-month extension to “Finish MAPS Right” in 1998; the MAPS For Kids in 2001 that funded extensive improvements for schools throughout the metropolitan area; and MAPS 3 in 2010 that added more projects, currently underway.

All together, MAPS projects have led to at least $5 billion in public and private investment in the Oklahoma City region over the last 20 years, creating a true return on investment for both our tax dollars and the funds the Chamber has used in the campaigns to pass the initiatives.

While the projects grouped under MAPS are the most prominent and widespread among all of the campaigns that the Chamber has funded due to Forward Oklahoma City, they aren’t the only campaigns that Forward Oklahoma City has funded and the Chamber has led.

The Chamber-led “Big League City campaign” in 2008 brought the NBA to Oklahoma City when voters approved a proposal to upgrade what is now the OKC Thunder’s home at the Chesapeake Arena. Oklahoma City had no NBA team when voters passed the proposal, but thanks to the Chamber campaign, voters – and the NBA – were able to envision one. It extended the MAPS sales tax for two more years, until 2010.

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Recognizing members who take a special leadership role in financing the Chamber’s operations at significantly higher levels. Each Lead Investor is highlighted with a BLUE BOX and identified as a Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze Lead Investor. Board of Advisor members are identified as well.

Member Upgrades

The following member companies increased their investment during April - June 2015, demonstrating strong support of the Chamber’s efforts to drive the city’s economy and make this the best place to live, work, play and visit.
Congratulations to these Chamber members on their recent Grand Openings!
All Chamber members are welcome to attend Grand Openings.
To view more photos, see the schedule of upcoming Grand Openings or subscribe to the Grand Openings calendar, visit www.okcchamber.com/grandopenings.

**Smoothie King**
5921 SW 3rd St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73128

**Kenny Smith Agency – State Farm**
15001 N. May Ave., Suite B
Oklahoma City, OK 73134

**Energy & Environmental Services**
6300 N. Expressway
Oklahoma City, OK 73132

**Oklahoma Sports & Orthopedics (OSOA)**
13401 N. Western Ave., Suite 301
Oklahoma City, OK 73134

**Domino’s**
300 E. Main St.
Oklahoma City, OK 73104

**Infernos Pizza: Wood Fired Oven & Spirits**
2747 W. Memorial Road
Oklahoma City, OK 73134

**Sundance Airport**
13000 N. Sara Road
Yukon, OK 73099

**Fraternal Order of Police**
1624 S. Agnew Ave.
Oklahoma City, OK 73108

**Slim Chickens**
5841 NW Expressway
Warr Acres, OK 73132

**Energy & Environmental Services**
6300 N. Expressway
Oklahoma City, OK 73132

**Oklahoma Sports & Orthopedics (OSOA)**
13401 N. Western Ave., Suite 301
Oklahoma City, OK 73134

**an investment in Human Capital**
Your organization’s employees are among its greatest assets. Putting the OU Medicine YourHealth program to work for you can help promote better health and increase retention of these valued employees.

Find out how the YourHealth program can help your organization decrease healthcare costs, reduce absenteeism, increase productivity and decrease sick leave through the following programs:

- Physician-guided health screening
- Health risk appraisal
- Health audit
- Wellness navigator
- Executive physicals
- On-site health clinic
- Wellness portal

For more information, call (405) 271-2455 or visit www.oumedicine.com/yourhealth

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**Top Metropolitan Markets for STEM Professionals**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall Rank</th>
<th>Metropolitan Market</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Austin-Round Rock, TX</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Raleigh, NC</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Denver-Aurora-Lakewood, CO</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Omaha-Council Bluffs, NE-IA</td>
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<td>Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>Oklahoma City, OK</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>Salt Lake City, UT</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Columbus, OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Cincinnati-Middletown, OH-KY-IN</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Ranking based upon 11 key metrics including STEM employment and wage growth (2011-2013)
OKC Job Growth Comes from Existing Companies

OKCPS Launches 2015-2020 Strategic Plan

Tribal Gaming Helps Fuel Oklahoma’s Economy

Forward Oklahoma City Focus: Community Campaigns

OKC CVB Finishes a Successful FY 15

Upcoming Chamber Events

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