Town & Country
SCHOOL

WHERE DIFFERENCES ARE OUR STRENGTH

Town & Country Insider
Spring 2026

Welcome to the Town & Country Insider

As the days grow longer and the first signs of green return to campus, so do new moments of growth for our students. Spring is a season of renewal, a time when confidence blooms, friendships deepen, and hard work begins to shine in new and exciting ways. Our students continue to discover more about who they are and what they can accomplish. In classrooms and across campus, they are building skills, finding their voices, and stepping forward with courage. It is a joy to watch their progress unfold in ways both big and small. For more than 60 years, our school has remained rooted in the belief that students with learning differences deserve more than support. They deserve to be understood, celebrated, and empowered. That mission comes to life each day as we create an environment where every student feels seen, valued, and capable of success.

In this issue, we are excited to share a glimpse of the energy and momentum that spring brings to our community, from classroom discoveries and creative projects to student achievements, staff highlights, and the many moments in between that make our campus feel like home.

Thank you for being part of the Town and Country School community.
We are so glad you are here.

Town & Country
SCHOOL

A Message from Our Administrative Team

Shevaun Etier, Executive Director

Dear Town & Country School Community,

As we move into spring, it feels like a meaningful time to pause and reflect on both the challenges and the growth we've experienced together this winter. Despite recent winter weather and the unexpected slab leak that required us to close campus for a day this winter, our community responded with patience, flexibility, and understanding—and for that, I am deeply grateful. Moments like these remind us how strong and supportive the Town & Country School community truly is. Your cooperation allowed us to prioritize the safety and well-being of our students and staff while quickly addressing these issues and returning to campus as smoothly as possible.

Every day, we continue to witness progress that goes far beyond academics: growing confidence, resilience, self-advocacy, and a belief in what each student can achieve. None of this happens without the dedication of our exceptional teachers and staff, and the trust and partnership of our families. Thank you for standing with us, supporting our mission, and believing in our students. Together, we are not only educating children—we are empowering them for life.

With gratitude,
Shevaun Etier

Anne Scalet, Lower - Middle School Administrator

Over the last few months, our school has been filled with not only academic growth but also with energy, laughter, and meaningful experiences through a wide range of fun activities. I firmly believe that learning extends beyond the classroom, and it has been wonderful to see our students thrive in so many different ways.

Our kids have participated in many different activities. To round up the first semester in December, several of our kids took part in the Winter Recital sharing their gifts and talents with the rest of the student body. Many of our middle school kids played basketball and were part of the cheerleading team. Clubs and after school events continued with bowling being one of the highlights for our kids. We brought in specialists from the Tulsa Police Department to talk with our kids about internet safety. Skate nights continue to happen for the whole school and we are looking forward to our annual Bingo/Dessert Auction night coming up in March.

All of these activities have done more than simply entertain - they have built confidence, encouraged teamwork and have created a sense of belonging within our school community. We are incredibly proud of the culture that we build together. The enthusiasm and participation of our students show the positive environment of our school where every child finds a way to shine.

Thank you for your kindness and support.
Anne Scalet

Devin Cross, High School Administrator

This is an incredibly busy and exciting time of year at the high school. We have many activities that have either just concluded or are currently in the works. We recently completed a fantastic week of Positive Peer Prevention classes with all of our 9th through 12th graders. It was a meaningful experience for our students and an important opportunity to reinforce positive decision-making and leadership skills. We have also wrapped up a fun and successful basketball and cheer season. It was wonderful to see the growth and development of all the athletes who participated. Their hard work, dedication, and teamwork were evident throughout the season.

We are now preparing for one of the most anticipated events of the year—our high school prom. This year's theme is *Golden Hour*. Prom is one of my favorite events because it is amazing to see our students dressed up, enjoying themselves, dancing, and truly being in their element.

In addition, we are preparing for high school graduation. The Class of 2026 is a special and unique group of students. They will be greatly missed, but we are excited to see and hear about the incredible ways they will go on to conquer the world.

Warm regards,
Devin Cross

Denise Jurbala, Director of Admissions

Dear Town and Country Families,

I am excited to share some wonderful news as we begin planning for the 2026–2027 school year.
The enrollment response from our current families has been outstanding. At this time, all but two of our students will be returning next year. This level of commitment speaks volumes about the strength of our community and the trust you place in our program each day. We are deeply grateful.
In addition, we have been actively touring prospective families across all grade levels and have begun inviting potential students to spend time visiting in classrooms.

The interest in Town & Country continues to grow, and it is clear that our school's reputation for academic excellence, nurturing relationships, and strong community spirit is resonating with new families. With strong retention and increasing new-student interest, we are well positioned for an exceptional 2026–2027 school year. Your partnership, support, and enthusiasm make this momentum possible.

Thank you for being such an important part of our school family. We look forward to finishing this year strong and preparing for another outstanding year ahead.

With appreciation,
Denise Jurbala

Why I Teach by Christian Schmidt

I grew up as a skinny and shy child that frequently moved around the country. I attended elementary, middle, and high school in different states. Consequently, I was bullied mercilessly throughout my school career by both students and teachers. The stories I can tell would shock most people, so I will spare the details. Having said that, anyone who has been bullied will tell you that the scars are deep and never fully heal. Bullying can impact your self-worth and adult relationships as well as lead to PTSD.

By becoming an educator, I had hoped to play some small part in stopping the pattern of bullying in schools. I was fortunate enough to teach in many different school environments, both traditional and non-traditional, throughout my career. One factor remained consistent everywhere I taught. Bullying was rampant and there was little I could do to stop it. I saw children face similar bullying episodes to my own and it broke my heart. Despite my interventions, the status quo remained. I felt powerless and found myself becoming disillusioned with education.

In 2011, I stumbled across an employment ad for Town & Country School in the newspaper. I applied and accepted the job as offered. I was initially skeptical of the school due to my previous experiences. Throughout my first year, however, I came to realize that Town & Country was unlike any school I had taught in. It was not just a school. It was a community. The students treated each other and their teachers with kindness and respect, social skills were emphasized, and everyone in the school cared for one another. Consequently, students felt safe enough to be themselves.

I have been at Town & Country ever since. I can attest to its role as a school community where students feel safe and empowered to learn, grow, and make long lasting relationships. Town & Country is special and I feel fortunate to be a part of it.

Every family has a story. Welcome to ours.

Town & Country School
Town & Country School

Every family has a story. Welcome to ours.

Finding Your Future with Nancy Kimery

Nancy Kimery, Career Counselor

As a career counselor working with high school students, I see my role as both guide and advocate — someone who listens closely, helps young people discover what matters to them, and then connects those passions to real pathways after graduation. My work centers on helping each student — especially seniors — move confidently from high school to the next stage, whether that's college, a trade school, workforce training, or another postsecondary option.

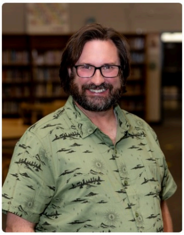
Seniors are my priority. The senior year is often the most important single year in a student's high school journey: deadlines, decisions to be made, and the path after graduation starts to take shape. Because of that, I prioritize the senior class each year to ensure no student slips through the cracks during this very important time of transitioning from high school to the next stage in life. I work with students and families by sending information about FASFA completion, ACT testing, scholarship searches, and application deadlines. I connect students to resources and support to help level the playing field.

Each student is unique. I meet with students one-on-one to identify strengths, interests, and barriers, then work with their families and teachers to come up with a plan that best fits each student. To me, success is a student finding a program that fits their interests, graduating on time, securing funding to attend without undue debt, or starting a trade apprenticeship that leads to a fulfilling career.

Staff Spotlight

Our Staff Spotlight highlights the dedicated educators and team members who make Town & Country School such a special place to learn and grow. Get to know the faces behind the work, what inspires them, how they support our students, and the unique passions they bring to our community.

Meet Jason Maraviglia (aka Mr. M)



Originally from Patchogue, NY, Jason Maraviglia holds a BA in English from Oklahoma State University, an MA in Literature from NSU, and an ME in School Counseling from SWOSU. He taught British Literature for nearly 20 years before becoming a school counselor at Town & Country.

What he enjoys most about Town & Country is the culture of inclusion and acceptance that helps create a safe space for students to thrive. He offers general counseling services to all students on an as-needed basis and teaches weekly social skills lessons to Middle and High School students. These lessons are designed to teach skills that are critically important in navigating complex social situations, both at school and in the wider world.

We are thrilled to have you at Town & Country, Mr. M!

What's New

Read Bowl 2026

This past month, our lower school participated in what is called the Reading Bowl Challenge which is a nationally recognized event. Kids were challenged to read as much as they could and keep track of their hours in hopes of winning an award for the most time spent reading. The kids enjoyed it immensely and at the end of the four week competition, they participated in a Reading Bowl assembly where all the kids were recognized for their reading talents.

Sterling Shines on Screen

Sterling, our Therapy Dog, was honored in February by being on TV. Both Channel 6 and Channel 2 came out and spent some time with her, watching her at work, spending quality time with our kids.

Hands on learning with Mrs. Brown in the Rainforest class

Building strength, teamwork, and confidence in PE

Ms. DeShong and Ms. Grant leading by example in music class

Middle School Moments

The middle school years are full of growth and discovery

Student Life

Skate Night Fun!

Teamwork on and off the lanes, our bowling team shines!

A little silly, a lot of talent at our student run coffee shop Brews and Bites

brews & bites
CRAFTING SUCCESS WITH EVERY CUP

NHS

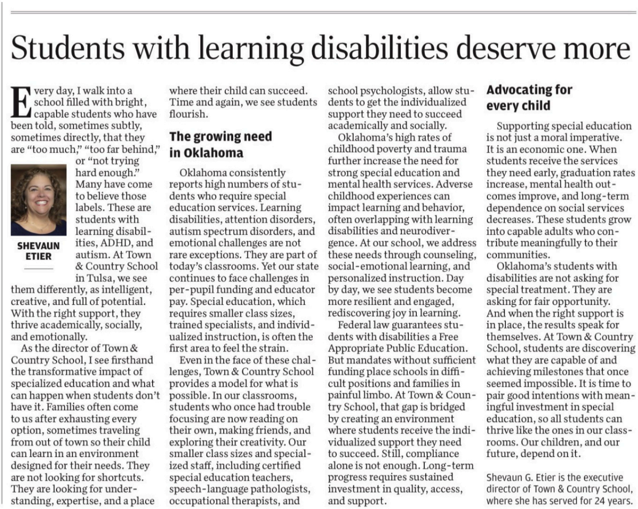
NHS has gone on two field trips so far this year to volunteer at the Food Bank of Eastern Oklahoma. On the first day, they helped assemble 1,728 bags of food items for kids. On the second day, they helped process 1,440 pounds of oatmeal to be distributed to local food pantries. They also had the opportunity to work alongside volunteers from Pathways Adult Learning Center.

FOOD BANK
FIGHTING HUNGER. FEEDING HOPE.
FOOD BANK OF EASTERN OKLAHOMA
FIGHTING HUNGER. FEEDING HOPE.
-Compass Homeschool
-Town & Country NHS
3,628 lbs / 1,728 bags for kids
POUNDS PACKED
FOR OKLAHOMANS IN NEED
LEARN HOW YOU CAN HELP AT OKFOODBANK.ORG
11/11/2025

Greetings From EA
OKLAHO

In the Spotlight

For 24 years, Shevaun Etier has worked alongside students with autism, ADHD, and learning differences at Town & Country School. **Click the link below to read Ms. Etier's full reflection:**



Students with learning disabilities deserve more

SHEVAUN ETIER

Every day, I walk into a school filled with bright, capable students who have been told, sometimes subtly, sometimes directly, that they are “too much,” “too far behind,” or “not trying hard enough.” Many have come to believe those labels. These are students with learning disabilities, ADHD, and autism. At Town & Country School in Tulsa, we see them differently, as intelligent, creative, and full of potential. With the right support, they thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

As the director of Town & Country School, I see firsthand the transformative impact of specialized education and what can happen when students don’t have it. Families often come to us after exhausting every option, sometimes traveling from out of town so their child can learn in an environment designed for their needs. They are not looking for shortcuts. They are looking for understanding, expertise, and a place where their child can succeed. Time and again, we see students flourish.

The growing need in Oklahoma

Oklahoma consistently reports high numbers of students who require special education services. Learning disabilities, attention disorders, autism spectrum disorders, and emotional challenges are not rare exceptions. They are part of today’s classrooms. Yet our state continues to face challenges in per-pupil funding and educator pay. Special education, which requires smaller class sizes, trained specialists, and individualized instruction, is often the first area to feel the strain.

Even in the face of these challenges, Town & Country School provides a model for what is possible. In our classrooms, students who once had trouble focusing are now reading on their own, making friends, and exploring their creativity. Our smaller class sizes and specialized staff, including certified special education teachers, speech-language pathologists, occupational therapists, and school psychologists, allow students to get the individualized support they need to succeed academically and socially.

Oklahoma’s high rates of childhood poverty and trauma further increase the need for strong special education and mental health services. Adverse childhood experiences can impact learning and behavior, often overlapping with learning disabilities and neurodivergence. At our school, we address these needs through counseling, social-emotional learning, and personalized instruction. Day by day, we see students become more resilient and engaged, rediscovering joy in learning.

Federal law guarantees students with disabilities a Free Appropriate Public Education. But mandates without sufficient funding place schools in difficult positions and families in painful limbo. At Town & Country School, that gap is bridged by creating an environment where students receive the individualized support they need to succeed. Still, compliance alone is not enough. Long-term progress requires sustained investment in quality, access, and support.

Advocating for every child

Supporting special education is not just a moral imperative. It is an economic one. When students receive the services they need early, graduation rates increase, mental health outcomes improve, and long-term dependence on social services decreases. These students grow into capable adults who contribute meaningfully to their communities.

Oklahoma’s students with disabilities are not asking for special treatment. They are asking for fair opportunity. And when the right support is in place, the results speak for themselves. At Town & Country School, students are discovering what they are capable of and achieving milestones that once seemed impossible. It is time to pair good intentions with meaningful investment in special education, so all students can thrive like the ones in our classrooms. Our children, and our future, depend on it.

Shevaun G. Etier is the executive director of Town & Country School, where she has served for 24 years.

Shevaun Etier: Oklahoma’s students with learning disabilities deserve more than good Intentions

Oklahoma’s students with disabilities are not asking for special treatment. They are asking for fair opportunity. And when the right support is in place, the results speak for themselves.

tulsaworld.com

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Sterling’s Impact: Comfort, Care, Connection

Tulsa therapy dog turns painful past into purpose for students

From her past as a breeding dog to now becoming a therapy companion, Sterling helps students overcome challenges at Town and Country School.

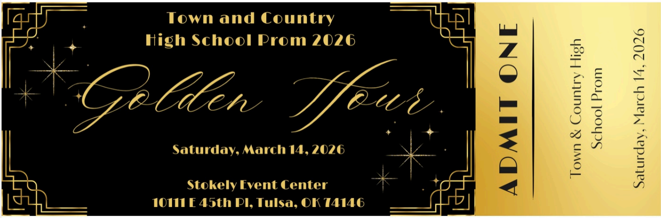
newson6.com

Students of the Month

Honoring excellence: Congratulations to our Students of the Month for demonstrating integrity, leadership, and academic success.

Upcoming

Prom: Saturday, March 14th



Town and Country
High School Prom 2026

Golden Hour

Saturday, March 14, 2026

Stokely Event Center
10111 E 45th Pl, Tulsa, OK 74146

ADMIT ONE

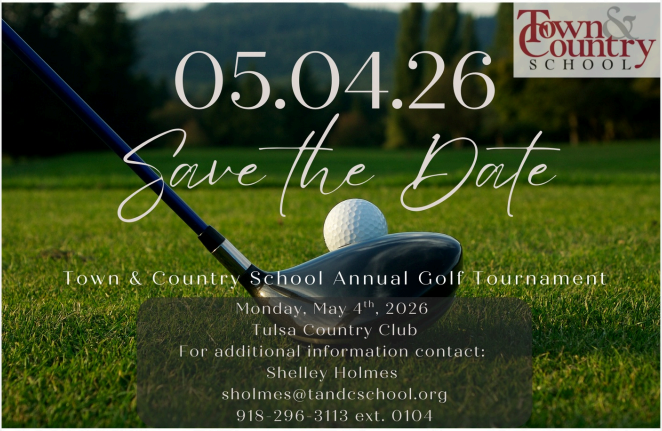
Town & Country High
School Prom

Saturday, March 14, 2026

Spring Break: March 16th -20th

Spring Break
March 16th -20th

Golf Tournament: Monday, May 4th



Town & Country School

05.04.26

Save the Date

Town & Country School Annual Golf Tournament

Monday, May 4th, 2026
Tulsa Country Club
For additional information contact:
Shelley Holmes
sholmes@tandcschool.org
918-296-3113 ext. 0104

School Merch Store

Rep your school spirit! Check out our merch store for the latest gear.

School Spirit
The Schooleys.com
Since 1982
Town & Country School
Knights
NEW
KNIGHTS

Visit our school store

https://theschooleys.com/collections/tandcschool

Mission

Town & Country School's mission is to improve the lives of students with learning differences by providing a nurturing environment for academic, social, and personal growth.

Vision

We believe that every child with learning disabilities, ADHD, and autism spectrum disorder is entitled to an individualized education that promotes social and academic achievements while developing responsibility, values, and respect for self and others. We honor and encourage the unique talents of each child by providing interactive instruction that stimulates curiosity, discovery, and a love for learning.

TOWN & COUNTRY
EST 1961

Board of Directors

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Board Vice President: Michael Bacon
Board Secretary: Kathy Murphy
Board Treasure: Peterson Wilson
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Robert Hibbert
Damon Roberts, M.B.A
Austin Wright
Christine Shasteen
Executive Director: Shevaun Etier

Town & Country SCHOOL

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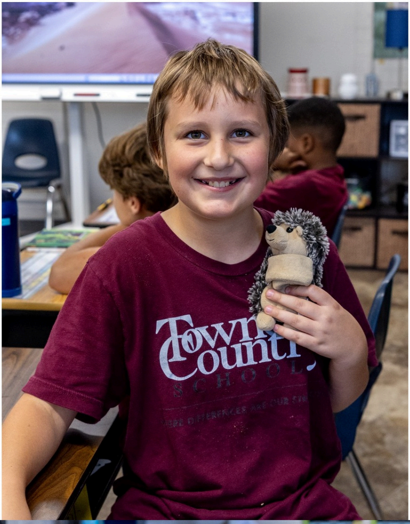
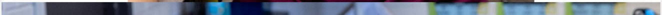
Town & Country SCHOOL





Links

Visit our website

Town & Country School in Tulsa, Ok

Town & Country School is a private school in Tulsa, OK for students with ADHD, Learning Disabilities, or Autism Spectrum Disorder. We are accredited by the Oklahoma State Department of Education.

tandcschool.org

Follow us social media

No preview yet

Town & Country School

Town & Country School. 423 likes · 298 talking about this · 59 were here. Improve the lives of students with learning differences by providing a nurturing environment

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Town & Country School (@townandcountryschooloklahoma)

Instagram photos and videos

instagram.com

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wl.donorperfect.net

Town & Country School