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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Edmond Public Schools Foundation Announces Hall of Fame Inductees!

EDMOND, OK, September 1, 2021 -- The Edmond Public Schools Foundation will be inducting the newest honorees to the Edmond Public Schools Hall of Fame on October 21, 2021. This year's class includes: retired Edmond Superintendent, Bret Towne; retired Edmond North Athletic Director, Tom Snider; and Edmond Memorial alumnus and philanthropist, Linda Slawson.

Established in 2014, the Edmond Public Schools Foundation Hall of Fame honors outstanding alumni and educators who have contributed to the success of Edmond Public Schools and the community in which they live. Proceeds from the Hall of Fame support the needs of Edmond Public Schools.

Mrs. Linda Slawson is a community volunteer, philanthropist, retired model and beauty queen. She is a proud graduate of the Edmond Memorial High School class of 1975.

Crowned Mrs. Oklahoma 1990, she represented our state at the Mrs. America pageant held in Moscow, Russia where she was selected as "Most Photogenic." During her reign, Linda entertained at the Edmond and Oklahoma City public schools with the Kids on the Block puppet show, a troupe composed of puppets, both with and without disabilities. The show offered students the opportunity to learn about specific disabilities as well as broader themes of friendship, community building and celebrating differences.

Linda is a sustaining member of the Junior League of Oklahoma City and Edmond Women's Club where she served as president and was a Panhellenic Woman of the Year recipient. She served on the board of directors of Infant Crisis Services and March of Dimes and continues to support the Alzheimer's Association, Impact Oklahoma, Juliette Low Leadership Society, American Heart Association Circle of Red and the United Way of Central Oklahoma Women's Leadership Society.

Married for over 41 years to Steve, they share in the same guiding principle: give generously of your time, talent and resources to the community. Some of their philanthropic endeavors

include “Slawson Hall” Earth, Energy and Environment Center at the University of Kansas, the Slawson Family Tiger Trek at the Sedgwick County Zoo, City Care Night Shelter, Arcadia Trails Integris Center, Girls Scouts Camp Trivera, Carver Mark Twain Head Start School, Peppers Ranch Foster Care Community, and the Red Run Day in Edmond.

Mr. Bret Towne began serving as Superintendent of Edmond Public Schools in June 2015. He served as the Associate Superintendent of General Administration/Operations for the district since 1999. The Oklahoma Association of School Administrators named him the Assistant Superintendent of the Year in 2015, Region No. 7 finalist for Assistant Superintendent of the Year in 2014 and Region No. 7 Superintendent of the Year for 2018.

During his career, Towne has directed the design and construction of 1.2 million square feet of new construction and 1.1 million square feet of renovations, consisting of six new schools, three new freshman academies and major additions including gyms, offices, media centers, cafeterias, computer labs and 422 classrooms.

He and his wife Nancy, a retired second-grade teacher, have two sons who graduated from Edmond schools. He is an active member of Crossings Community Church. He enjoys reading, theater, Edmond Public Schools activities, athletics, and fine arts.

Mr. Tom Snider is a well-known, retired secondary teacher, coach, and athletic director within the Edmond community. After 41 years of service to Edmond Public Schools - the majority of those years as the athletic director at Edmond North High School - Mr. Snider retired in May of 2021.

In 1980, Mr. Snider began his teaching career at Sequoyah Middle School in Edmond, Oklahoma. During the fall of 1997, Mr. Snider accepted the position as the first site athletic director for Edmond North and continued his coaching duties until 2004. As the site athletic director, Snider oversaw and enjoyed supporting North athletic teams.

Mr. Snider’s awards and accomplishments during his tenure are impressive: 2006-2007 OCA Region 8 Athletic Director of the Year; 2018 Oklahoma Track Coaches Hall of Fame; 2019 Tom Westbrook Distinguished Service Award (Athletic Director); 2021 Region 8 Athletic Director of the Year; 2021 Oklahoma Coaches Association Athletic Director of the Year; 2021 UCO Endeavor Games Hall of Fame. He was fortunate enough to see Edmond North teams win over 100 conference and regional championships. Also, to date, North has won 68 state championships in 16 different sports.

Mr. Snider and his wife, Rita, remain active in their church and have raised four children - all of whom are graduates of Edmond North.

For information on how to sponsor this event, or other Edmond Public Schools Foundation programs, go to www.edmondpsf.org or contact the Edmond Public Schools Foundation at (405) 340-2819.

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ABOUT EDMOND PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Edmond Public Schools Foundation is recognized 501(c) 3 non-profit organization that connects the community to advance excellence and enrich student opportunities through Edmond Public Schools.

Originally founded as the Edmond Educational Endowment, the organization was created in the early 1980's as one of the first education foundations in the state of Oklahoma. In 1999, the organization formally changed its name to the Edmond Public Schools Foundation.

Since inception, the EPS Foundation has provided millions of dollars in direct support to the Edmond Public Schools district. Over the next five year, the foundation is working to invest $2.6 million into Edmond Public Schools, leverage an additional $1.7 million in support, and find creative ways to collaborate as a partner in public education.

For more information follow our social media @edmondpsf or contact Deanna Boston at deanna.boston@edmondschools.net or (405) 340-2906.