

PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOLS



ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19

Jackson School (PK-2)

223 North John St.
PO Box 67
Jackson, NE 68743
(402) 632-4276

Ponca School (3-12)

505 W. 3rd St.
PO Box 568
Ponca, NE 68770
(402) 755-5700

DISTRICT DESCRIPTION

The Ponca Public Schools is an accredited PK-12 public school district located in Northeast Nebraska. With an enrollment of approximately 460 students, the district is large enough to offer outstanding educational opportunities, and small enough to personalize education for each student. The district is comprised of 2 schools: Jackson School, serving students in grades PK-2 and Ponca School, serving students in grades 3-12. Competent and caring teachers provide outstanding learning opportunities and place high expectations on their classes. Curricular offerings include basic skills instruction for all students and specialized courses in the high school. Teachers participate in Professional Learning Communities to focus on individual student outcomes and develop professionally. Technology plays an important part of each teacher's program with computer-assisted reading and math instruction, computer classes, and industrial technology offerings. The district operates a 1:1 initiative with Chromebooks for every student K-12. The majority of students from Ponca attend two or four year colleges upon graduation. Extra-curricular activities begin in grade seven and include instrumental and vocal music, a wide variety of athletics, drama, speech, FBLA and student government. The Ponca Public Schools enjoys positive working relationships with the City of Ponca, Village of Jackson, Village of Waterbury, Village of Martinsburg, Ponca Community Education Foundation, Better Ponca Community Foundation, Ponca State Park, Ponca Athletic Boosters, Ponca Music Boosters, Ponca Area Community Club, Ponca Ministerial Association, Youth Sports Organizations, Ponca Recreation, local businesses, and many individual patrons.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Kenton Book, President

Monte Burki, Vice President

Richard Dohma

Shawn Fethkenher

John Gill

Phil Kramper

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

This report is published to inform the patrons of the Ponca Public Schools and fulfillment of accreditation guidelines of the Nebraska Department of Education. The report will identify key components of the district's demographics, membership, finance, improvement goals, and performance. It is our hope that patrons become aware of the district's accomplishments and areas of improvement.

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

The Ponca Public School District is committed to building a solid educational foundation for ALL individuals by providing a quality learning environment and promoting standards of excellence.

DISTRICT ENROLLMENT

The district has maintained steady enrollment the last 10 years, ranging from 431-468 students (PK-12). Below is a breakdown of total enrollment, by grade, for the last 11 school years.

	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
2008-09	26	29	31	31	40	34	26	35	26	40	29	35	27	31	440
2009-10	22	37	28	30	31	35	33	26	35	28	42	30	33	25	435
2010-11	25	30	35	27	31	32	36	32	27	33	27	40	28	35	438
2011-12	17	33	26	38	27	34	32	36	36	24	32	26	40	30	431
2012-13	31	26	33	25	39	29	35	37	41	36	26	34	29	38	459
2013-14	25	36	28	32	24	43	28	35	37	43	32	28	23	29	452
2014-15	26	39	31	31	32	25	43	28	37	39	44	35	26	31	467
2015-16	34	21	34	31	33	31	24	42	32	37	36	45	36	26	462
2016-17	30	37	20	32	31	34	35	23	40	30	39	34	41	32	458
2017-18	22	33	38	24	35	31	35	36	23	42	32	39	35	43	468
2018-19	27	26	31	38	26	38	31	38	40	24	42	34	36	35	466

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

FREE/REDUCED LUNCH RATES

	Free	Reduced	Total	Dist. %	State %
2009-10	83	25	108	24.83%	41.22%
2010-11	70	47	117	26.71%	42.58%
2011-12	74	44	118	27.38%	43.79%
2012-13	75	38	113	24.62%	44.18%
2013-14	83	57	140	30.97%	44.93%
2014-15	80	57	137	29.34%	44.23%
2015-16	54	45	99	21.43%	44.12%
2016-17	64	35	99	21.62%	44.65%
2017-18	57	39	96	20.51%	45.83%
2018-19	75	41	116	24.89%	45.21%

Special Education

	Jackson	Ponca Elem.	Ponca High	Total
2009-10	14	18	21	53
2010-11	24	21	18	63
2011-12	24	21	19	64
2012-13	20	26	22	68
2013-14	21	27	26	74
2014-15	20	27	27	74
2015-16	21	23	27	71
2016-17	17	25	30	72
2017-18	12	26	37	75
2018-19	10	24	33	67

Option Enrollment

	In	Out	Net Option
2009-10	70	30	+40
2010-11	73	25	+48
2011-12	70	24	+46
2012-13	86	18	+68
2013-14	94	27	+67
2014-15	123	25	+98
2015-16	113	31	+82
2016-17	105	26	+79
2017-18	108	21	+87
2018-19	110	17	+93

STAFF

ADMINISTRATION – 3.0 FTE
TEACHERS – 43.0 FTE
CLASSIFIED – 35 Staff Members
CONTRACTED – 2.0 FTE

TRANSPORTATION

The school district maintains a vehicle fleet consisting of small vehicles and buses, responsible for transporting students to and from school and school-related activities. Below is a breakdown of the vehicle fleet and miles accrued during the 2018-19 school year.

BUSES

4 Route Buses:

- 2003 – Northwest Route
- 2004 – Southwest Route
- 2004 B – Jackson Route & Shuttle Route
- 2010 – Waterbury/Martinsburg & Shuttle Route

3 Activity Buses:

- 2012
- 2012 B
- 2017

SMALL VEHICLES

- 2003 Chevy Venture – Sp.Ed.
- 2005 Chevy Venture – Sp.Ed.
- 2004 Suburban - Activities
- 2008 Ford Van - Activities
- 2012 Ford Van - Activities
- 2014 Ford Van - Activities
- 2006 Cargo Trailer - Activities

TOTAL ROUTE MILES = 60,380
TOTAL ACTIVITY MILES = 34,621

SCHOOL NUTRITION

The Ponca Public Schools operates 2 kitchens (Jackson and Ponca) for the purpose of preparing and serving School Lunch. The Jackson kitchen is comprised of 2 staff members and the Ponca kitchen is staffed with 4 employees. The district participated in the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council's Food Cooperative, which provides for lower food and supply prices through the statewide competitive bidding process. The district averaged 336 meals per day with a total of 57,201 meals served for the 2018-19 school year.

Month	Days Meals Served	Reimbursement	Total Average Attendance	Full Pay Meals Served	Reduced Meals Served	Free Meals Served	Total Meals Served
August	12	\$4,985.66	438	3,103	474	721	4,298
September	19	\$7,685.75	436	4,889	692	1,134	6,715
October	21	\$8,091.13	438	5,557	684	1,188	7,429
November	18	\$6,902.52	431	4,714	601	1,001	6,316
December	15	\$5,767.18	436	3,847	489	858	5,194
January	18	\$6,882.24	420	4,586	567	1,039	6,192
February	16	\$6,318.90	432	4,186	544	938	5,650
March	16	\$6,216.23	432	4,014	515	950	5,479
April	20	\$7,569.21	435	3,870	467	923	5,260
May	15	\$5,183.36	422	3,455	457	756	4,668
Total	170	\$65,602.18	431.90	42,203	5,490	9,508	57,201

FINANCE

Historical Total Assessed Property Valuation

Year	Valuation	Increase/Decrease
2002-03	\$118,068,718	-----
2003-04	\$128,371,706	+8.73%
2004-05	\$130,302,484	+9.53%
2005-06	\$139,256,642	+6.87%
2006-07	\$152,045,383	+9.18%
2007-08	\$151,991,579	-0.04%
2008-09	\$198,235,250	+30.43%
2009-10	\$211,307,874	+6.59%
2010-11	\$217,994,332	+3.16%
2011-12	\$222,992,075	+2.29%
2012-13	\$260,540,833	+16.84%
2013-14	\$301,875,293	+15.86%
2014-15	\$361,676,261	+19.81%
2015-16	\$411,143,777	+13.68%
2016-17	\$419,557,157	+2.05%
2017-18	\$411,647,037	-1.89%
2018-19	\$396,930,241	-3.58%

Historical Total Tax Levy

Year	Levy	Year	Levy
2001-02	\$1.0739	2010-11	\$1.3361
2002-03	\$1.0813	2011-12	\$1.3352
2003-04	\$1.115	2012-13	\$1.2922
2004-05	\$1.0997	2013-14	\$1.2279
2005-06	\$1.1024	2014-15	\$1.2194
2006-07	\$1.134	2015-16	\$1.1526
2007-08	\$1.1614	2016-17	\$1.0715
2008-09	\$1.1495	2017-18	\$1.1256
2009-10	\$1.3393	2018-19	\$1.1874

2018-19 Financial Summary

2018-19 Valuation = \$396,930,241

2018-19 Levies

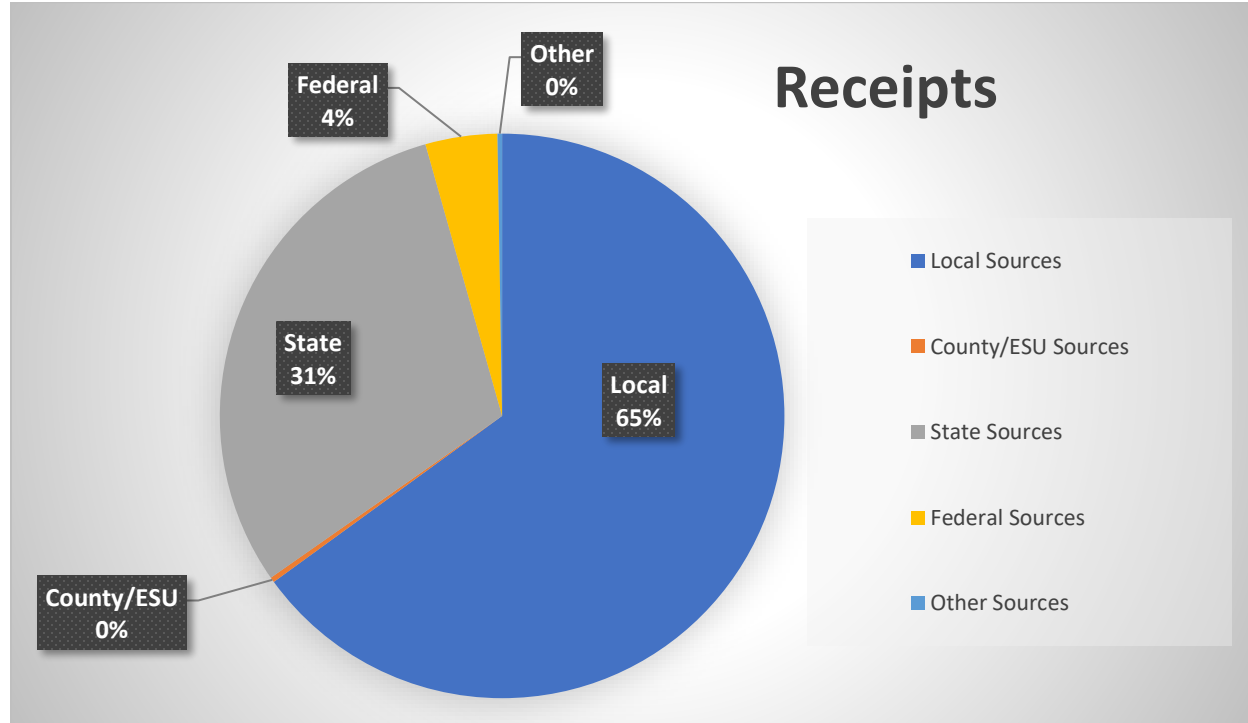
- General = \$1.05
- Special Building = \$0
- Bond = \$.137418
- Total = \$1.187418

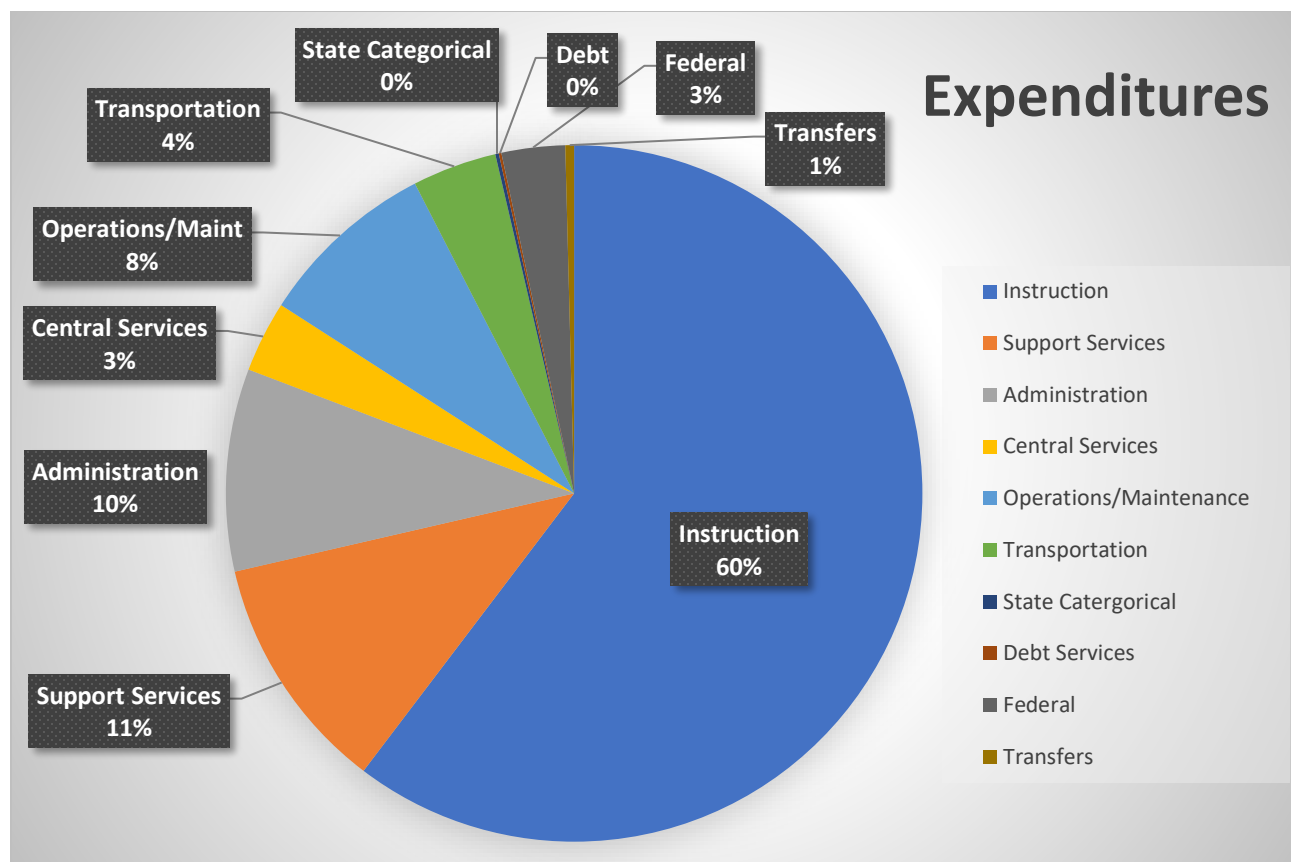
RECEIPTS (General Fund)

Local Resources - \$3,803,416
Motor Vehicle Taxes - \$203,715
Public Power Dist. Sales Tax - \$33,354
Interest - \$3,450
Other Local Resources - \$24,879
County/ESU Sources - \$18,302
State Sources - \$1,898,852
Federal Sources - \$257,832
Other Sources - \$16,505
Total Receipts - \$6,260,305

EXPENDITURES (General Fund)

Instruction - \$3,713,938
Support Services - \$680,826
Administration - \$578,128
Central Services - \$203,645
Operations & Maintenance - \$514,215
Transportation - \$241,232
State Categorical Programs - \$9,996
Debt Services - \$7,464
Federal - \$181,327
Transfers - \$25,000
Total Expenditures - \$6,155,771





IMPROVEMENT GOALS

The Ponca Public School District implements a School Improvement Team who facilitates the direction of teaching and learning in the district. The team meets on a regular basis to review data, explore professional development opportunities, establish goals, and share progress. The School Improvement Team, through a collaborative process established the following goal for the 2018-19 school year:

- Increase literacy across the curriculum
 - Students will improve reading skills in grades K-12
 - Student will improve writing skills in grades K-12

In addition to the above-mentioned goals, the School Improvement Team, in coordination with the AdvancED reviewed developed the following Action Items:

- Develop a plan for technology equipment implementation and rotation in order to improve our practices
- Research, adopt, and implement an instructional model appropriate to our district
- Improve transparency and communication with stakeholders

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Nebraska statute requires the State Board of Education to create a system of accountability combining multiple indicators of school performance. As such, in 2014, the Nebraska Department of Education, after significant input from stakeholders, developed the **Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow, or AQuESTT**. AQuESTT represents both an accountability system and a system of support built around six tenets. The six tenets are: (1) Assessment, (2) College, Career, and Civic Ready (3) Educator Effectiveness, (4) Educational Opportunities, and Access, (5) Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success, (6) Transitions. The Nebraska Department of Education is maintaining the structure and functionality of AQuESTT for classifying schools and districts. All schools and districts are classified as Excellent, Great, Good, or Needs Improvement. While additional indicators may be added at a later time, the metrics used for classification are (1) Status, (2) Growth, Improvement, Non-Proficiency, (3) Progress Towards English Language Proficiency, (4) 4- and 7-Year Cohort Graduation Rate, and (5) Chronic Absenteeism, Science, Evidence-based Analysis. Below are the 2018-19 classifications for the Ponca Public Schools, and each individual school.



PONCA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

District Classification ⓘ

EXCELLENT	GREAT	GOOD	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
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Schools in District **3**

State Board District **3**

Educational Service Unit **1**

Legislative District **17**

JACKSON ELEMENTARY

Elementary School Classification ⓘ

EXCELLENT	GREAT	GOOD	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
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School District

Ponca Public Schools

State Board District **3**

Educational Service Unit **1**

Legislative District **17**

PONCA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Elementary School Classification ⓘ

EXCELLENT	GREAT	GOOD	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
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School District

Ponca Public Schools

State Board District **3**

Educational Service Unit **1**

Legislative District **17**

PONCA HIGH SCHOOL

Middle School Classification ⓘ

EXCELLENT	GREAT	GOOD	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
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High School Classification ⓘ

EXCELLENT	GREAT	GOOD	NEEDS IMPROVEMENT
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School District

Ponca Public Schools

State Board District **3**

Educational Service Unit **1**

Legislative District **17**

**Nebraska Student Centered Assessment System (NSCAS)
Summary (Percent Proficient)
Grades 3-8 and 11th Grade Alternate Assessment**

Academic Year	English/Language Arts	Math	Science
2013-14	-----	84%	82%
2014-15	-----	86%	83%
2015-16	-----	83%	85%
2016-17	54%	88%	94%
2017-18	64%	70%	86%
2018-19	68%	73%	85%

***Note:** The NSCAS assessment began the 2017-18 school year. Prior to 2017-18, the above scores are reflective of the Nebraska State Assessments (NeSA). Because the 2 assessments differ in format, structure, mode of delivery, and rigor, proficiency levels may not be comparable (i.e. 80% proficient in 2016-17 may not be the same as 80% in 2017-18).

Graduation Rates (4 yr. Cohort)

Year	State Average	District Average
2014	89.66%	90%
2015	88.89%	96.67%
2016	89.27%	96.3%
2017	89.11%	96.97%
2018	88.66%	95.56%
2019	88.42%	100%

**ACT
Composite Scores
(11th Grade – State and District Average Scores)**

Year	State	District
2016-17	19.3	21.1
2017-18	19.4	22.2
2018-19	19.3	22.4

**ACT
(11th Grade - % of Students Meeting Expectations)**

School Year	English/Language Arts	Math	Science
2016-17	73%	80%	76%
2017-18	83%	83%	83%
2018-19	86%	86%	83%

**ACT
(11th GRADE SCALE SCORES)**

	English	Reading	Math	Science
Ponca (2016-17)	19.5	20.6	22.3	21.5
Ponca (2017-18)	22.1	21.9	22.3	21.7
Ponca (2018-19)	22.5	22.7	21.8	22.0
State (2018-19)	18.4	19.5	18.9	19.0

2018-2019 Year In Review

The 2018-2019 school year was another fantastic year in the Ponca Public Schools! Once again, the district operated two school buildings, Jackson School (PreK-2) and Ponca School, 3-12. The district enrollment for the year was 466. Jackson School's enrollment was 121 students, Ponca Elementary, grades 3-6, was 133, and the Junior/Senior High School was 212 students.

New faculty members for the 2018-2019 school year were Ms. Dacia Beyke, Family & Consumer Science, and Mrs. Jill Camargo, Spanish. Mrs. Kari Lowe returned to the district serving as a cooperating teacher in Family and Consumer Science.

Some of the experiences of the 2018-2019 school year included the crowning of Homecoming King Joel Anderson and Queen Taylor Lamprecht on Saturday, October 6, 2018, with the dance following the coronation. The Snowball dance was held on Saturday, January 5, 2019, with Gage McGill being crowned King and Hailey Bellows crowned Queen. Ponca High School, along with the majority of Northeast Nebraska experienced flooding on March 13, 2019. Staff and students all contributed to the cleanup and rearranging of classes while the building was repaired for normal use. Six classrooms and the Library were displaced for three weeks during repairs.

The students of the Ponca Public School District continued the tradition of excellence in the areas of academics, fine arts, and athletics. The vocal music department had three All-State musicians including: Colson Watchorn, Claire Hoelsing, and Olivia Hrouda. The instrumental music department qualified a record 23 7th-12th grade students for Class C All-State Band. The art department celebrated many awards and recognitions, including back-to-back Best of Show Awards by Katy Kastning, at the Lewis & Clark Conference Art Show. The Ponca High School Quiz Bowl varsity team earned the Lewis & Clark Conference Championship on November 8, 2018. Cora Jackson, 5th grade, earned first place in the Dixon County Spelling Bee held in Allen on February 13, 2019. With her first place finish, Cora earned a trip to the state Spelling Bee contest held in Omaha. Sophomore Josie Reid was named a World Language Distinguished Scholar in Spanish. Sophomores Brandon Mellick and Caden Schram represented Ponca School at the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership Conference (HOBY) at Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska. Junior Nathan Ruhrer was selected as the 2019 Cornhusker Boys State representative in Lincoln, Nebraska. Daityn Chase was selected to attend Junior Law Cadet Academy at the Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island, Nebraska. Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts served as the guest speaker at this year's Veteran's Day program at Ponca School.

The 2018-2019 school year marked the first year of Unified Bowling at Ponca High School. The Unified Bowling team, offered in association with Unified Sports and the Nebraska State Activities Association, was coached by Mr. John Stroud. The volleyball team won the Lewis & Clark Conference regular season championship. The Girls Basketball team won the Lewis & Clark Conference regular season championship, tournament championship, District championship, and earned a trip to the 2019 state tournament held Thursday, February 28,

2019. The Boys Basketball team won the Lewis & Clark Conference regular season championship, District championship, and earned a trip to the 2019 state tournament held March 7-9, 2019, where they earned 3rd place. The Wrestling team qualified two wrestlers, Dalton Anderson and Andrew Daily, for the state tournament, held February 14-16, 2019 in Omaha. At the Lewis & Clark Conference track meet, Mike Logue and Brooke Lanquis earned conference champions in the shot put and the girls 4x400 relay team (Kaci Day, Kai Seneviratne, Kortney Fethkenher, and Hannah Wahls) were also crowned champions. The track team qualified six athletes for the state track meet held in Omaha. Brooke Languis came home with a 7th place finish in the girls Class C shot put. The boys golf team finished 2nd in the Lewis & Clark Conference tournament held in Plainview. Senior Cole Richards qualified for the state golf tournament, held in Kearney.

On May 10, 2019, Ponca High School graduated 34 seniors at the commencement exercises.