**Sample News Release**

*Copy and paste the news release on district letterhead and submit it to the local media. Be sure to add information about special ceremonies or events you are planning for your board members. You may want to include an accompanying “fact sheet” about your district and/or board members. Include photos, if available. After your release appears in your local publication, please send a copy to Kelly Ross at OSSBA, fax 405-528-5695 or email kellyr@ossba.org*

**For Immediate Release**

For Further Information Contact: (Your Name & Title)

(Your School District) (Your Phone Number)

**SCHOOL BOARD LEADERS HONORED IN JANUARY**

January is School Board Recognition Month and an opportunity for local schools and communities to honor Oklahoma’s more than 2,700 elected school board members for their dedication to children and schools.

“Providing our community’s children with a solid education is the most important investment we can make,” said **(name of superintendent), (title).** “We’re proud of our district, and School Board Recognition Month is the time to say thank you and celebrate the accomplishments of our elected board members.”

In **(your district’s name),** school board members must develop policies and make tough decisions on complex educational and social issues impacting the entire community. They bear responsibility for an annual budget of $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ million, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ students, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ employees and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ buildings.

“School board members make critical decisions that affect Oklahoma children and oversee billions in educational expenditures,” notes **(last name of superintendent).** “They preserve the core of our democracy—public education.”

**(Add a paragraph listing the ways you will honor board members in your district during January.)** More information is posted on the **(your district’s name)** web site at **(your district’s web address).**

The men and women serving **(your district’s name)** and their years of service are **(list names of board members and years of service).**

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