



## USD 497 News Release

Julie Boyle, Executive Director of Communications  
110 McDonald Drive Lawrence, Kansas 66044  
785-330-1662 / [jboyle@usd497.org](mailto:jboyle@usd497.org)

July 8, 2024

### Administrative Announcement



Superintendent Dr. Anthony Lewis announces the selection of Dr. Jana Craig-Hare, director of data and assessment, to serve as executive director of curriculum and instruction, effective immediately, pending school board approval. Dr. Craig-Hare joined the district in 2022 after serving four years as director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment for Baldwin City USD 348, where she also acted as interim assistant principal of Baldwin High School.

“Dr. Craig-Hare demonstrates a strong commitment to educational equity and excellence. Her passion and dedication to supporting educators in using high quality instruction, technology integration, and data-informed decisions to improve student outcomes make her a great fit to lead our Teaching and Learning Team,” said Dr. Lewis.

Prior to joining the Baldwin City schools, Dr. Craig-Hare served 13 years as an assistant research professor and associate director of ALTEC at the University of Kansas Center for Research on Learning. She previously served two years as the director of statewide educational technology programs for the Kansas State Department of Education, seven-and-a-half years as an educational technology coordinator and integration specialist in the Olathe Public Schools, and three years as a business education/computer studies instructor in Prairie View USD 362. Dr. Craig-Hare earned a bachelor’s degree at Emporia State University and her master’s and doctorate at KU.

“I’m excited for this opportunity to continue to support our educators, students, and families. Seeing our amazing schools in action is a favorite part of my job. I look forward to continuing our district’s tradition of excellence as we work together to serve the needs of all students,” she said.

Following Chief Academic Officer Patrick Kelly’s retirement in June, the administrative team evaluated district needs, reviewed the open position as part of the budget planning process, and decided to return the position to an executive director role.

###