LAWRENCE
Public Schools

Superintendent Statement

Friday, September 19, 2025

We have continued our work during this past year to hear from our Lawrence Public Schools community, to assess and study needs across the district, and to align school programming and facilities to better serve our students, schools and community.

In that endeavor, we will take the next steps forward with two key capital outlay projects in preparation for the 2026-27 school year.

Choice Campus at Centennial - Small High School Program

Planning is underway to reopen the Centennial Campus as a small high school program campus. This program will address the need to provide the option of a flexible learning environment, non-traditional high school student choice program, created in support of students who prefer a smaller, self-paced learning environment.

The Choice Campus at Centennial program will feature both day and evening opportunities to achieve accelerated and credit recovery learning, serving students who desire a different approach to high school, for both full and part-time enrollment.

Centennial Campus is located at 2145 Louisiana Street, Lawrence KS 66046.

Expansion of Langston Hughes Elementary Campus

Over-capacity student enrollment has continued at the Langston Hughes Elementary campus for several years. To accommodate current and future enrollment, we will expand the building with the addition of classrooms, and provide more space in common areas.

We look forward to engaging with our Lawrence Public Schools students, staff, parents and community over the coming months as we refine these plans for both campuses, and we will continue to share regular updates through the coming months.

Both the High School Choice Campus at Centennial, and the additional classrooms at Langston Hughes will be scheduled to open August, 2026.

These improvements will be funded through the capital outlay, and within the limits of the approved 25-26 USD 497 budget.

Note that other previously planned capital outlay projects that are already in progress, including high school tracks, etc., will also continue to move forward during this coming year.