



USD 497 News Release

Jake Potter, Executive Director of Communications
110 McDonald Dr. Lawrence, KS 66044
(785) 832-5000x1662 / jake.potter@usd497.org

October 27, 2025

Board of Education Accepts Member Resignation and Authorizes Posting of the Vacancy

As part of the consent agenda of the meeting of the Lawrence Board of Education on Monday, October 27, the board voted 5-0 to accept the resignation of member Anne Costello. Costello's term began January 2024 and was scheduled to end in January 2028.

Costello's personal letter of resignation was read by Bob Byers, board vice-president. The full text of the letter is as follows:

It is with sincere regret that I submit my resignation from my position as a member of the Lawrence Public Schools Board of Education, effective immediately.

This decision was not made lightly. Due to personal circumstances, I find it necessary to step down at this time. Serving on the Board has been an honor and a privilege, and I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to contribute to the important work of supporting our students, staff, and community.

I am proud of the progress we have made together to strengthen our schools and advance the district's mission. The dedication and collaboration demonstrated by this Board, our administrators, teachers, and staff are a true reflection of our community's commitment to education.

Please know that my decision comes with the utmost respect for the work that continues ahead. I remain a strong supporter of the district and confident in the Board's continued leadership and focus on student success.

Thank you for your understanding and for the opportunity to serve.

With respect and gratitude,

Anne Costello

State statute (K.S.A. 25-2022) directs that if a board vacancy occurs after May 1 of the second year of the board member's term, the board will fill the vacancy by appointment to serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

The board will consider and approve the process for filling this vacancy at its next regularly scheduled board meeting on Monday, November 10th.

A vacancy notice will be published in the Lawrence Journal-World soon after Monday, October 27, 2025, and the application form and process will be made available on the USD 497 website (www.usd497.org) following the Monday, November 10, 2025 meeting of the Board.

###