



Superintendent of Schools Report to the Board

April 13, 2026

Jessica Kerr Swift

Supreme Court Justice Visit

- U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor visited **Cordley Elementary**
- Read her book “Just Shine!” to the entire school
- Spoke to students about perseverance



USDA & KSDE Breakfast Visit

Patrick Penn (USDA), Josh McDaniel (USDA), Kelly Chanay (KSDE), & LPS Director of Nutrition & Wellness Julie Henry visited **Community Connections at Pinckney & Hillcrest Elementary**.

- Toured CCAP Bakery
- Enjoyed breakfast with students



Paraprofessional Appreciation

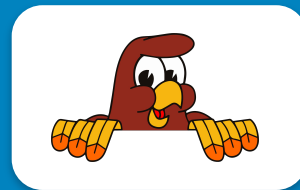


2026 ACE Awards



Nathan Perkins Rock

*Paraprofessional,
Hillcrest Elementary*



James Jarvis

*IT Support Specialist,
Lawrence Public Schools*



Scholastic Art Awards Nationals



Leila Albaugh
Lawrence High School
Gold Medal



Wren Jay
Lawrence High School
Gold Medal



Rilo Scholz
Lawrence High School
Gold Medal



Lynorah Roberts
Lawrence High School
Gold Medal

FSHS CTE Project

Free State High School Geometry in Construction class installed new, grant-funded greenhouse for **Juvenile Detention Center**.

- **JDC** will use year-round for agricultural programming & growing plant starts for school gardens



CCAP Job Olympics Champs

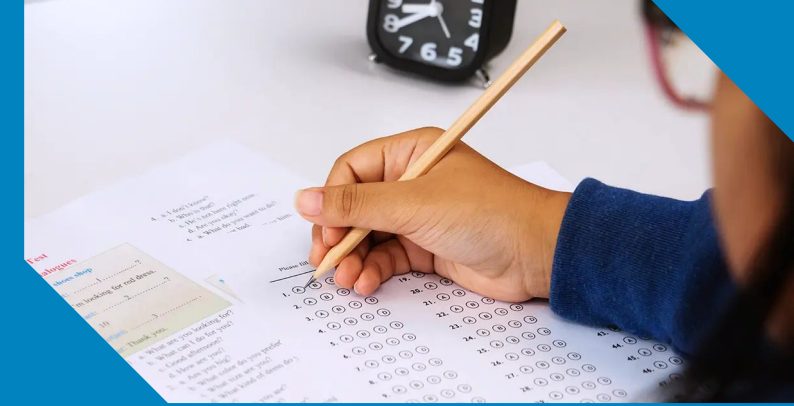


Community Connections at Pinckney students took home 1st place at the Johnson County Community College 2026 Job Olympics.

- Earned 10 first-place finishes & 48 medals



LVS State Assessments



Lawrence Virtual School staff will proctor state assessments for students enrolled throughout Kansas:

- 2 days in Wichita
- 2 days in Topeka
- 4 days in Lawrence
- 4 days in Overland Park

Remote testing option, proctored by MonitorEDU, takes place in late April/early May.



Centennial Renovations

Renovation work has begun onsite at **Choice Campus at Centennial**.

- Roof replacement is scheduled to begin this month
- Demolition phase is nearing completion

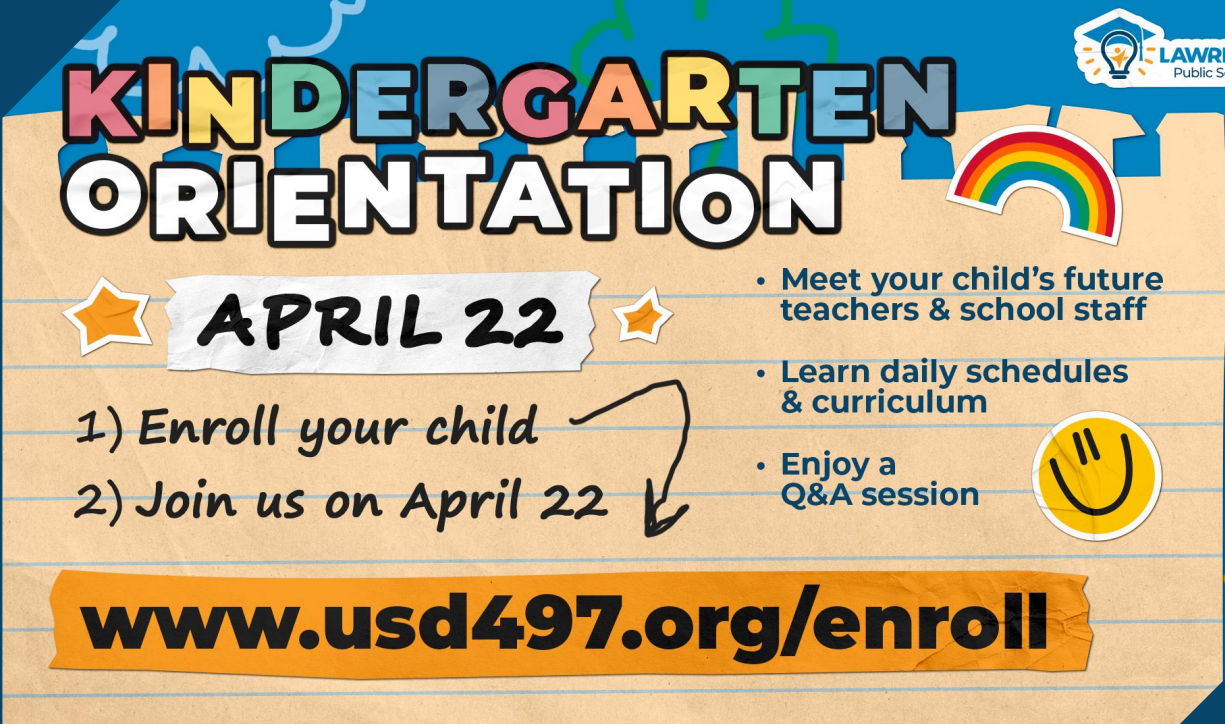


Kindergarten Orientation

Wednesday, April 22

- Future Kindergarten families, please enroll before April 22
- **NO SCHOOL** for CURRENT Kindergartners

See orientation schedule at:
www.usd497.org/kindergarten

A graphic designed to look like a piece of brown paper with a blue border. At the top right is the Lawrence Public Schools logo. The main title 'KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION' is written in large, colorful, block letters. Below the title, the date 'APRIL 22' is written on a white torn paper strip, flanked by two yellow stars. To the right of the date are three bullet points: 'Meet your child's future teachers & school staff', 'Learn daily schedules & curriculum', and 'Enjoy a Q&A session'. A yellow smiley face icon is next to the last bullet point. Below the date and bullet points is a list of two steps: '1) Enroll your child' and '2) Join us on April 22', with a hand-drawn arrow pointing from the first step to the second. At the bottom, the website 'www.usd497.org/enroll' is written in bold black text on a white torn paper strip. The background of the graphic includes a rainbow, a sun, and various colorful lines.

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

APRIL 22

- Meet your child's future teachers & school staff
- Learn daily schedules & curriculum
- Enjoy a Q&A session

1) Enroll your child
2) Join us on April 22

www.usd497.org/enroll

Middle School Transition

To help 5th graders prepare for middle school:

- Middle school counselors will visit elementary schools to connect
- 5th grade students will visit middle schools
- Families should **return completed course selection forms** to their student's 5th grade teacher **by Monday, April 20**



Important Dates



- **Friday, Apr. 17**
EC-HS No School
- **Wednesday, Apr. 22**
New Kindergarten Orientation Day
Current Kindergartners No School
- **Monday, Apr. 27 (6:00 PM)**
Board of Education Meeting @ ESC

