



Superintendent of Schools Report to the Board

May 26, 2026

Jessica Kerr Swift

A vibrant blue background featuring a collage of various graduation-related images. Several black graduation caps with tassels are scattered across the scene. The collage includes photos of students in blue gowns, groups of friends, and individuals celebrating. The central text is prominently displayed in white and yellow.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2026



Excellence in Teaching Award 2026



EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING WINNER

Mallory Johnson

*STC Teacher,
Community Connections at Pinckney*

- Includes \$10,000 prize from LEAP partner Truity Credit Union.
- 30th anniversary of **Lawrence School Foundation's** Excellence in Teaching Award (AKA: the Bobs Award).



LAWRENCE
Public Schools

Lawrence Teachers of the Year 2026



- District's nominees for KSDE Kansas Teacher of the Year award this fall.



SECONDARY TEACHER FINALIST

Deborah Woodall Routledge

*Band Director,
Southwest Middle School*



ELEMENTARY TEACHER FINALIST

Jacey Yanek

*Kindergarten Teacher,
Quail Run Elementary School*

Lawrence Master Teacher 2026



MASTER TEACHER FINALIST

Angelia Perkins

*Photography & Art Teacher,
Lawrence High School*

- District's nominee for Emporia State University's Kansas Master Teacher award.
- **30+ years** of teaching at Lawrence High School, inspiring students of all backgrounds through expression, creativity, & confidence.

Author & Illustrator Visits Kennedy Early Childhood Center

Author & illustrator Lindsey Yankey visited **Kennedy Early Childhood Center**, leading a preschool class through her printmaking process.

- Shared her book *The Dinosaur Seed* & collaborated with students on an illustration & collage.



Lawrence Athletics: 6A State Competitions



- Ella Marsh (pictured left) from **Free State High School** won the State Championship in the Girls 200 Yard Individual Medley.



- In singles competition, **Micah Ward** (FSHS) captured the 6A State Championship for Boys Tennis
- Free State will compete in the Boys Baseball State Quarterfinals vs. Olathe Northwest late this afternoon; and Boys Golf is May 26-27.



Miss & Jr. Miss Indian Youth of Lawrence

Coronation ceremony: Thursday, May 28, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

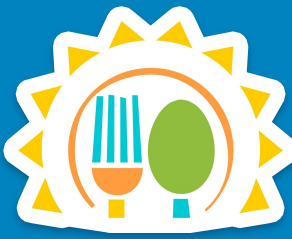
- Located at the **Native American Student Services** (NASS) building, 2704 Louisiana St.



Pictured: 2025 Miss & Jr. Miss Indian Youth of Lawrence, NaFehna Farve (left) & Riley Alva (right)



Summer Meals Program



PUBLIC MEAL SITE

- No registration/ID required
- Meals must be eaten on-site
- Free for ages 1–18; Adults \$5

Sunset Hill Elementary School

Monday–Friday, June 1–July 24*
12:00–2:45 p.m.

***No meals: June 19 or July 3**

WEEKLY SUMMER MEAL KITS

- Registration REQUIRED
- 5 days of breakfasts & lunches to be prepared at home
- Free for ages 1–18; No adult meals

Pick-up: Douglas County Fairgrounds Open Pavilion

Tuesdays, 7:00–9:00 a.m.
(June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 & July 7, 14, 21)

Register for meal kits (required):
www.usd497.org/SMKR2026