



# Superintendent of Schools Report to the Board

June 22, 2026

*Jernice Kerr Swift*

# Lawrence Juneteenth Parade



USD 497 Board members participated in the 2026 Lawrence Juneteenth parade.

# Lawrence Juneteenth Parade



# National Speech & Debate Tournament

Three **Free State High School** students competed at the National Speech & Debate Tournament in Richmond, VA:

- **Lena Hasiuk & Carter Fite** finished 42nd in Policy Debate out of 200 nationals teams.
- **Breahna Randall** advanced to Octofinals, placing 114th in Poetry out of 400 nationals entries.



# Julie Boyle Heart & Spirit Award



## Chuck Law

*Teacher & Coach, Free State High School*

- Retiring after teaching & coaching at FSHS for the past 26 years
- **Heart & Spirit Award:** created in honor of the district's former communications director, Julie Boyle; recognizes an individual who exemplifies big heart, dedication, & passionate commitment to children, schools, & community



# Welcome, Algeria National Team!

To help welcome **Team Algeria**, we added some additional signage outside our district office...



# New Educator Orientation

Preparing for 2026-27

USD 497 Human Resources hosted **New Educator Orientation**, welcoming staff joining our schools for the 2026-27 school year.



Hear **Allison Day**, a teacher at **Lawrence High School** and LHS Class of 2018, share why she chose to teach in Lawrence Public Schools!



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# Lawrence Leads



# Save the Date: July 8th

Annual Student Enrollment Opens



Annual Student Enrollment will open  
for all LPS families on July 8.

→ [www.usd497.org/enroll](http://www.usd497.org/enroll)

# Save the Date: August 8th

Kids Expo 2026



Lawrence Schools Foundation will host their 3rd Annual Kids Expo on Saturday, August 8

- Time: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Location: Lawrence Public Schools Educational Support Center (110 McDonald Drive, Lawrence, KS)



