

Board of Education Superintendent Report

September 14, 2026

Jernice Kerr Swift

State and Local Education Leaders Visit Deerfield & Hillcrest Classrooms

- Elementary curricula and instruction **in action**
- **Intentional** use of technology and technology-free learning
- **Alignment** of curriculum and instructional practices across campuses



College and Career Day

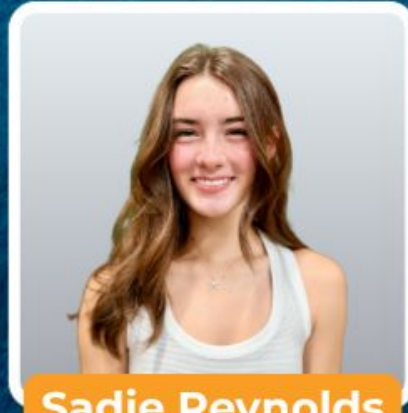
Kansas Association of Collegiate Representatives and Admissions Officers (KACRAO)

- **40+ colleges, universities, and programs**
- Seniors across the district explored postsecondary pathways
- Opportunities for direct conversations with college and program representatives





Connor Coons



Sadie Reynolds



Ben Jackson



Rhett Sullivan



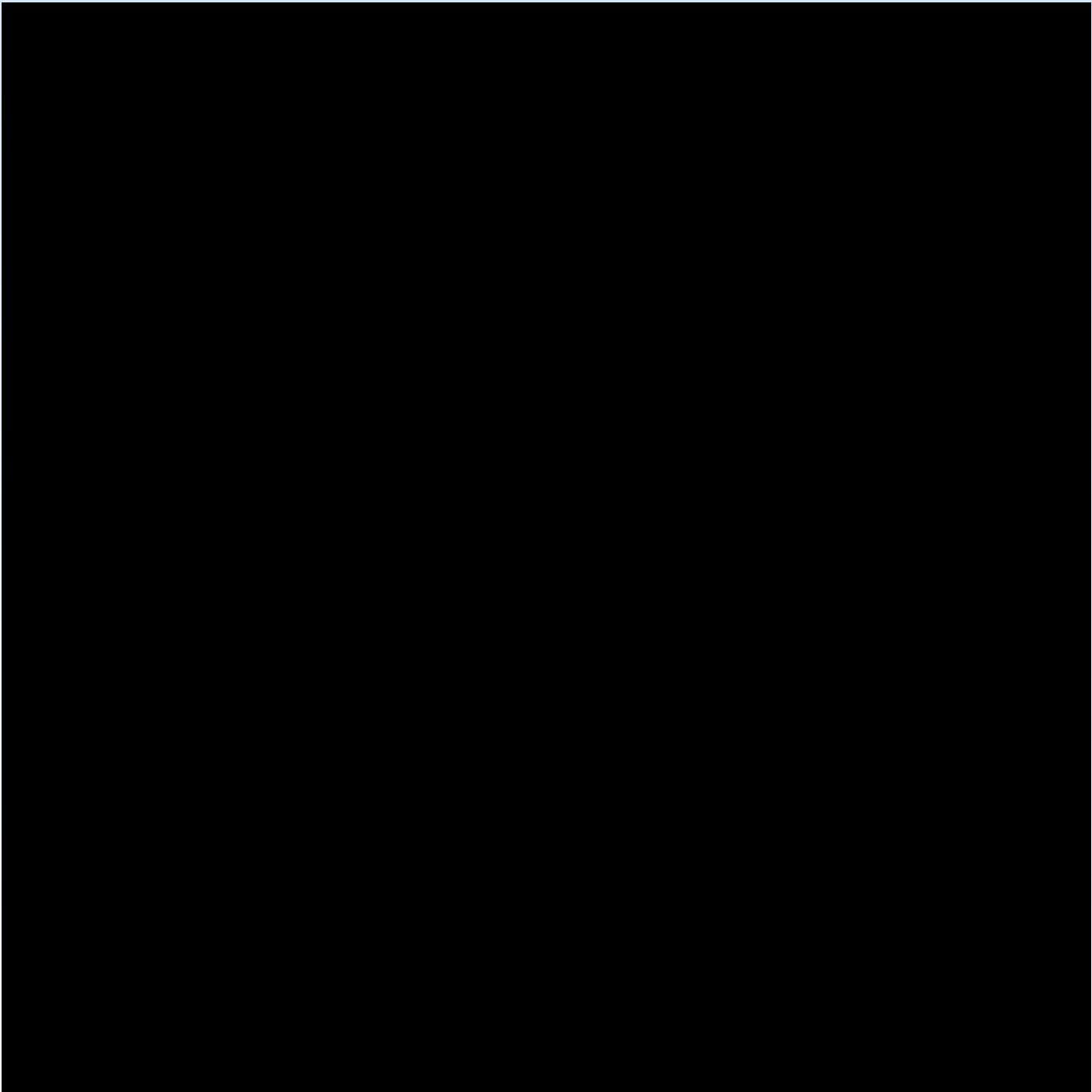
Davian Copeland



Sejun Yun

Congratulations
2027 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists





Kansas Female Athlete of the week

Zoey Barber, Lawrence High School Junior



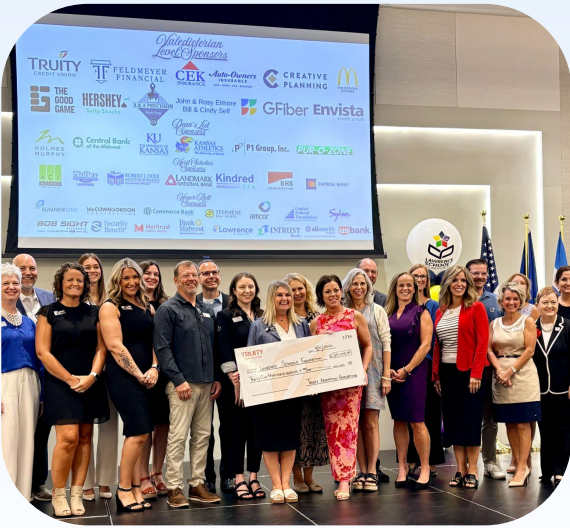
Photo announcement courtesy of KSHSAA

- Selected by **Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA)**
- Announced following an outstanding performance in the Lions' 44-7 win over Olathe Northwest.
- **First KSHSAA-sanctioned girls flag football season in Kansas**

Lawrence Schools Foundation

Annual Community Breakfast

- **\$124,000+ raised | 70 sponsors**
- New Skilled Trades Fund launched with **\$30,000**
- Guest speaker: **Dr. Alex Hyler, LHS Class of 2009**



2026 Student Champions

Leadership • Service • Positive impact

- **Free State:**
 - **Emery Lacle and Ben Lyles**
- **Lawrence High:**
 - **Baden Masenthin and Aaden Chee**



Fiesta de Hillcrest

Hillcrest Elementary School

- **Strengthening connections** with Spanish-speaking families
- **Family engagement** centered on relationships and belonging
- Bringing **school and community resources** directly to families



Welcome PK Students! 5 Additional Preschool Classrooms Open Thursday, September 17!

- Teachers recommended for all five classrooms
- Furniture, materials, and learning spaces ready
- Screening completed
- Excited to welcome our newest students and families!



Transportation Update



- ~1,600 students routed for transportation, increased from ~1,400 on Aug. 24
- Refinements continue with the **My Ride K-12 app** with technical teams working around the clock to resolve issues.
- Family Engagement Center remains available for direct family support and translation services. **Families can call (785) 330-1900.**
- **Physical property improvements to support colocation of Transportation services and Facilities & Operations on one campus**

Looking Ahead

Lawrence Public Schools

Portfolio Day | September 18

- Hosted by Lawrence High School, student artists will connect directly with leading art & design programs

2026 AVID Day | September 18

- Hosted across the district, students at all levels will celebrate the impact of Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)

NO SCHOOL | September 25

- Teachers attend professional Development. **Note:** Early Childhood – Grade 12 - no classes on this day.

