EDUCATION CONNECTION
NEWS FROM THE KANSAS CITY, KANSAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
WINTER 2018

HIGHLIGHTS OF DIPLOMA+ IN ACTION
PREPARING STUDENTS FOR SUCCESS IN A GLOBAL SOCIETY
BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION RESULTS
CELEBRATING REASONS TO BELIEVE
UPCOMING BOND PROJECTS
Robert Brogden
Buick | GMC
1500 Santa Fe | Olathe, KS | 66061
Sales: (913) 712-9343 | Service: (913) 712-9345
robertbrogden.com

Proud Supporter of Kansas City, KS Public Schools
Trust the Mental Health Experts

We’ve cared for Kansas City’s families for 120 years

As the region’s leader in child and adolescent psychiatric and behavioral health, Saint Luke’s Hospital of Kansas City’s Crittenton Children’s Center experts reach more than 6,000 young lives every year. Drugs. Anger. Depression. Our dedicated team helps children address serious adversity and achieve positive mental health, developing lifelong strategies for resilience and strength.

We are in this together, let us help your family.

> Call us
816-765-6600
crittentonkc.org
KCKPS is leading the way in redesigning schools to prepare our students for their futures.

The Kansas State Board of Education (SBOE) has established a vision that “Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.” The successful Kansas graduate is defined by academic, cognitive preparation, technical skills, employability skills, and civic engagement. To measure the success of schools, the SBOE has determined these outcomes to be most important to prepare our students for their futures:

- Kindergarten Readiness
- Individual Plans of Study focused on career interest
- High School Graduation Rates
- Postsecondary Completion and Attendance
- Social/Emotional Growth

KCKPS is pleased that the SBOE has moved away from a single test score as the sole measurement of quality schools. We understand that tests are an indication of academic preparedness. We also know a score on a state assessment rarely indicates that an individual is prepared for college or the workforce. This is why Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools’ approach to education is different than it was 10 to 15 years ago. Our approach must be different, if our children are going to have the knowledge necessary to compete in our local and global economy. In Kansas, by 2020, 72% of all careers will require more than a high school diploma. That’s why KCKPS has transformed learning from what many of us know as “traditional” school to “Diploma” learning.

Diploma begins in preschool, building a strong foundation in academic and social emotional skills – like stepping stones to the future. Diploma continues into middle school with project-based, hands-on learning experiences, career exploration, and college and industry visits. As high school students, our freshman will soon be selecting an Academy that is based on industry themes (Architecture – Engineering – Construction; Health Sciences; Advanced Manufacturing; Business – Finance; Technology; Human/ Public Services). Once in the Academy, students will learn through real-world experiences tied to their individual career interests. Most importantly, the students will be on their way to graduating with their high school diploma plus one or more critical endorsements that will place them on the pathway to academic and future success.

Today, education means ensuring students have access to a rigorous curriculum that aligns course work and school experiences with each student’s future goals. Diploma emphasizes the need to be prepared at all levels of education. It also emphasizes strong relationships between the staff, students, family and community to ensure we are surrounding students with the skills and support they need to achieve their goals.

We are excited to be part of the State Board of Education’s vision for the future. In KCKPS, the future begins today. Learn more by visiting our website, kckps.org/diplomaplus or by reading this publication.

Check out Dr. Cynthia Lane’s blog, “It’s Up to Us” at blog.kckps.org
In November, Kansas City, Kansas voters elected four new members to the Kansas City, Kansas Board of Education, and re-elected one current member.

The new members:

- **Harold Brown**, a businessman and foster parent, will serve a two-year term.
- **Maxine Drew**, a former teacher in KCKPS for 35 years, will serve a four-year term.
- **Wanda Brownlee Paige**, a former teacher in KCKPS for 30 years, will serve a four-year term.
- **Dr. Stacy Yeager**, a business owner and parent of KCKPS students, will serve a four-year term.
- **Janey Humphries**, a community volunteer and current board member, will serve a two-year term.

The board members will take office in January 2018. Congratulations to them. We look forward to their insight and leadership as we work together to graduate each student Diploma+ and further the mission, vision and values of the school district.

Deep appreciation is extended to outgoing board members Irene Caudillo, Rev. Rick Behrens, Dr. Evelyn Hill and Richard Kaminski for their tireless work, dedication and leadership during the years.

There is a new video showcasing the school district’s outstanding qualities from the technology-integrated instruction in preschool through high school, the dedicated teachers, administrators and staff to the innovative Diploma+ initiative. Learn more about the outstanding attributes of KCKPS by viewing the video, “We are KCKPS,” at kckps.org or on youtube.com/KCKPSTV.

KCKPS is developing a Welcome Center to enroll first-time students to the school district in grades kindergarten to 12th grade. The Welcome Center will be located in the Central Office and Training Center, 2010 N. 59th Street, and will open in March, 2018. The hours of operation will be Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Along with school enrollment, parents and guardians of first-time students to the district will be able to complete lunch applications and special dietary forms, learn about school bus transportation and drop off immunization forms and other documentation at the Welcome Center. There will also be information about the district’s vision and the Diploma+ initiative provided to families.

Staff will be present to assist with translation.

The Welcome Center will not replace online re-enrollment for students returning to the school district.

For more information, contact Kristen.scott@kckps.org.

Visit kckps.org and click School Information and Sumner Admissions for information.

The application deadline is February 9, 2018.

If you have questions, contact Student Services at 913.279.2248.
In order to prepare our students for success in a global society, Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools is implementing a district-wide initiative called Diploma+.

Diploma+ begins in preschool, building a strong foundation in academic and social/emotional skills, like stepping stones to the future. Diploma+ continues into middle school with project-based, hands-on learning experiences, career exploration, and industry visits. As students enter high school, which are organized into college and career academies, they participate in real-world experiences tied to their career interests.

The goal of Diploma+ is for each student to graduate with a high school diploma, plus one of the following seven endorsements:

- Completion of at least one full year of college* (18-30 Credit Hours)
- Completion of an Industry-Recognized Certificate or Credential*
- At Least 21 on the ACT or 1060 on the SAT
- Completion of the IB Diploma Programme or Career-Related Programme
- Acceptance into the Military
- Completion of a Qualified Internship or Industry-Approved Project
- An Approved Plan for Post-Secondary Transition

* At no cost to students of the district.

Learn more at kckps.org/diplomaplus
Wyandotte Students Connect with Community Partners to Further Diploma⁺ Experiences

Students at Wyandotte High School are partnering with community partners to gain new experiences outside of the classroom as part of Diploma⁺. Students from the Human and Public Service Academy, Health Academy, Information Technology – Graphics and Video Academy, Entrepreneurship Academy and Architecture, Construction and Engineering Academy have met with representatives from or visited the following partners:

- Avila University
- Baker University
- Cerner Corporation
- Garmin
- Guadalupe Culinary Institute
- Johnson County Community College
- Kansas City Kansas Community College
- Kansas City Kansas Community College – Technical Education Center
- KCK Fire Department
- KCK Police Department
- Kansas City Royals Marketing Group
- Kansas University Medical Center
- Lansing Correctional Facility
- Metropolitan Community College
- Mosaic
- Nelson-Atkins Museum
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
- Park University
- Pittsburg State University
- Steam Studio
- United States District Courthouse
- University of Central Missouri
- University of Kansas
- University of Missouri Kansas City
- University of Missouri Kansas City – Center for Architecture and Design
- Washburn University
- Wayside Waifs
- Wyandotte County Sheriff’s Department

T.A. Edison Elementary Takes on the Illumination.org Cardboard Challenge

Students at T.A. Edison Elementary took on the task of making unique creations when they joined Imagination.org’s Global Cardboard Challenge.

The Global Cardboard Challenge (GCC) is a project that celebrates the creativity and imagination of each child as they build original creations using cardboard and recycled materials. The students at Edison took this vision and challenge to heart and spent weeks gathering the necessary materials for build day. These materials included cardboard boxes of every shape and kind and other recycled materials.

Before any building could happen, all students participated in “plan day.” This day allowed teachers and students at every grade level to conduct research on how to build things out of cardboard. It also allowed them to get an idea of what kind of things they could create once the build day arrived.

After the students had completed their research, they were divided into small build teams. Each team worked together to decide what they were going to make and create a list of materials they would need for their project. Once these tasks were completed the teams were set to build their cardboard creations.

Now that they were ready, the student teams got together and started building. The designs they chose included castles, a semi-truck, a soccer pitch, Arrowhead Stadium, arcade games, crocodiles, a house, a giant jack-o-lantern and so much more. Their creativity and enthusiasm was endless.

The final projects were displayed throughout the school so that students, staff and visitors could enjoy their inventive creations. This Diploma⁺ opportunity allowed students to experience managing a project from planning to designing and finally implementing.
Students at West Middle Learn About Wetlands

Sixth-grade students at West Middle School learned about all facets of creating a wetland during their visit with officials from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Students took a short field trip from the classroom to the backyard at West Middle. There they learned about the difference between land that is covered in mowed grass versus a wetland ecosystem which helps wildlife thrive. After they learned about the importance of wetland ecosystems, they proceeded to determine if the backyard at West Middle would be a good place to build such an ecosystem.

The first step was for students to measure the size of a manageable wetland ecosystem. Students first figured out the diameter needed for the space and then marked the circumference of the wetland by creating a giant compass with a long tape measure. Each student measured out 30 feet from the center of the circle and placed a flag marker until the circle was complete.

Now that the shape and size of the wetland had been established, students used a soil auger to dig deep into the ground and take multiple soil samples. Their soil samples determined the ratio of top soil to clay in the ground at that location. The students learned that it is easier to build a wetland if the ground is made up of more clay than top soil because clay acts as a natural barrier which holds in water.

This Diploma* opportunity allowed students to have a hands-on learning experience which allowed them to dig deeper into the world of wetland ecosystems, ecosystem design and soil science.

TEACHING FELLOWS PROGRAM PROVIDES OPPORTUNITY TO BECOME A KCKPS TEACHER

Would you like to utilize your corporate skills in the teaching profession?

There is an opportunity for you to join the notable teaching profession tasked with preparing future generations for success in a global society by applying to become part of the new class of the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools Teaching Fellows program.

The Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools is recruiting high-performing individuals from other careers to be a part of this successful program. Since the program’s inception in 2000, more than 200 individuals have graduated and have gone on to teach in the school district.

There are a variety of teacher positions available in disciplines, such as: Science, Math, English (English Language Arts), Engineering, Technology and Information Systems, and Finance/Accounting. Through this program, there are two alternative pathways to becoming a teacher in one of the school district’s classrooms:

• The KCKPS Certificate
• The Master’s of Art in Teaching

Learn all the details and ask questions about the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools Teaching Fellows program by attending one of the informational sessions to be held from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Central Office and Training Center, 2010 N. 59th Street on:

• Thursday, January 25, 2018
• Wednesday, February 2, 2018

For more information about the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools Teaching Fellows program, contact Recruitment Manager Cynthia Fulks at 913.279.2364 or visit kckps.org/index.php/kckps-teaching-fellows.
Congratulations to the 12 alumni honored at the Reasons to Believe Celebration on November 15 in the Central Office and Training Center, 2010 N. 59th Street, Kansas City, Kansas. The honorees’ accomplishments showcase their incredible skills and life stories, highlighting their perseverance, hard work and dedication.

Their qualities exemplify to all of us why they are Reasons to Believe and inspirations to many.

Reasons to Believe was established in 2002 to generate pride and celebrate the progress being made throughout the school district. As part of the program, nominations are sought for the Reasons to Believe Alumni Honor Roll, which spotlights successful alumni to encourage and inspire today’s students. The nominations are reviewed by a panel of judges that includes a member of the Board of Education, Reasons to Believe Steering Committee, a student, a business leader, and a former Alumni Honor Roll recipient.

The 2017 Reasons to Believe Alumni Honor Roll:

- **Mark A. Dupree, Sr.**, Wyandotte County district attorney, Wyandotte High School class of 2000.
- **Dr. Latorua J. Chinn**, principal of Trini-Con, Thel, & Beck, LLC, a government contract compliance company, Wyandotte High School class of 1974.
- **Joanne Collins**, community leader and former Kansas City, Missouri councilmember, Sumner High School class of 1953.
- **Ronald Harland, Sr.**, president and founder of Evolvi Solutions, LLC, Sumner High School class of 1967.
- **John William Hudson, II**, is chief executive officer and president of Focus Driven Enterprises, LLC, Washington High School class of 1996.
More Ways to Enjoy the 2017 Reasons to Believe!

- Read the inspiring stories of this year’s honorees at kckps.org.
- Check out the Reasons to Believe banners outside the Central Office & Training Center
- Watch the 2017 ceremony on the school district’s YouTube page: youtube.com/KCKPSTV.

Nominate a 2018 Reasons to Believe

If you would like to nominate an individual for the 2018 Reasons to Believe honor or have questions about the program, please visit kckps.org to review the criteria and download the nomination form.
Voters overwhelmingly voted in favor of the $235 million no-tax increase bond in 2016 paving the way for work on a variety much-needed projects. The bond will touch each school building within the district and is another step toward graduating each student Diploma+. Thank you, community! Check out the chart below for the schedule of upcoming projects or visit kckps.org.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schools</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Construction Start Date</th>
<th>Construction Completion Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wyandotte High School</td>
<td>Plumbing work · Academy space · New, secure entrance · Remodeled science labs</td>
<td>New plumbing will be added throughout the building in addition to an upgraded entrance adjacent to the office and new, modern science labs.</td>
<td>December, 2017</td>
<td>Fall, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.C. Harmon High School, F.L. Schlagle High School and Washington High School</td>
<td>Academy space built in each building</td>
<td>Academy space will be used to offer robust learning tied to in-demand career opportunities.</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sumner Academy</td>
<td>Plumbing work · New, secure entrance · Remodeled science labs</td>
<td>New plumbing will be added throughout the building in addition to an upgraded entrance adjacent to the office and new, modern science labs.</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene Ware Elementary School</td>
<td>New, secure entrance · Remodeled kitchen</td>
<td>The school will have an upgraded entrance adjacent to the office and an upgraded kitchen.</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Elementary School</td>
<td>New, secure entrance · Kitchen · Classroom additions</td>
<td>The school will have an upgraded entrance adjacent to the office and the addition of a kitchen and new classrooms.</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver City Elementary School</td>
<td>New, secure entrance</td>
<td>The school will have an upgraded entrance adjacent to the office.</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claude Huyck Elementary and Stony Point North Elementary</td>
<td>Classroom additions · New, secure entrance</td>
<td>Schools will have new classrooms and an upgraded entrance adjacent to their office.</td>
<td>First Quarter, 2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gloria Willis Middle School</td>
<td>New middle school</td>
<td>The new school will be located on the existing campus of the current Coronado Middle School, 1735 N. 64th Terrace. The new school will accommodate the population of students from Coronado and West Middle schools.</td>
<td>First Quarter, 2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welborn Elementary School</td>
<td>New school to replace the existing Welborn school buildings</td>
<td>Construction fencing will soon be visible as the preliminary project work commences.</td>
<td>First Quarter, 2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrowhead Middle School</td>
<td>New, secure entrances · Career Exploration space renovations · Roof replacement · New drop ceilings · HVAC upgrades · New carpet · Interior paint</td>
<td>The school will have an upgraded entrance adjacent to the office, new space to enhance each student’s opportunity to explore career options, a new roof, drop ceilings, carpet, interior paint and an upgrade to the heating, cooling and ventilation system (HVAC).</td>
<td>Late Spring, 2018</td>
<td>Summer, 2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosedale Middle School</td>
<td>New kitchen and cafeteria addition</td>
<td>School will have the outdated third-floor kitchen and eating space replaced.</td>
<td>Late 2018</td>
<td>Fall, 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### January
- 1-2: Winter Break continues
- 1: Administrative Offices Closed
- 2: Administrative Offices Reopen
- 3: School Building Staff Report (Teachers Report/.5 inservice only)
- 4: Classes resume for students
- 9: Board of Education Meeting
- 15: Holiday/Administrative Offices Closed
- 23: Board of Education Meeting

### February
- 13: Board of Education Meeting
- 14: Early Release/Family Advocacy
- 16: Family Advocacy Day/No School
- 19: Holiday/Administrative Offices Closed
- 27: Board of Education Meeting

### March
- 8: Last Day of the 3rd Quarter
- 9: .5 Records Prep/.5 Inservice
- 12-16: Spring Break
- 20: Board of Education Meeting

### April
- 10: Board of Education Meeting
- 19: Kindergarten Roundup
- 20: Teacher Non-Duty Day/No School
- 24: Board of Education Meeting

### May
- 8: Board of Education Meeting
- 22: Board of Education Meeting at 9 a.m.
- 23: Last day for students if no emergency closure (make-up) days are used.

The full District calendar is accessible from the homepage of the website by clicking “calendars” at kckps.org.

---

**INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION. AFFORDABLE EDUCATION.**

**+ CUTTING-EDGE HEALTH CARE PROGRAMS**
- Doctor of Physical Therapy, Health Information Management, Nursing, Exercise Science, and more

**+ ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
- A Princeton Review Best Midwestern College*

**+ INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION**
- Expert faculty, small classes

**+ GENEROUS SCHOLARSHIPS**
- Academic, departmental, athletic, and fine arts—awards worth up to $60,000 over four years

*From the Princeton Review’s Best Regional Colleges, 2018.
©2017 TPR Education IP Holdings, LLC.

**SCHEDULE A VISIT TODAY!**

**University of Saint Mary**
smary.edu/KCK

**Morgan Hunter Education (MHED) is currently hiring Substitute Teachers for all schools in the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools. If you enjoy children, value a flexible work schedule and like getting paid weekly, MHED would love to speak with you about becoming a Substitute Teacher.**

**Requirements:**
- 60 college credit hours
- Authorize a criminal background check

**mhedteach.com**
866-923-6433

**Apply Today!**
WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
TOMORROW STARTS TODAY.

Johnson County Community College

www.jccc.edu

$500 scholarships
available for first time graduate and undergraduate degree-seeking students

List of Degree Programs

Undergraduate
Accounting
Business Administration
Elementary Education

Graduate
Library Science
School Counseling

Emporia.edu/ks-asc  913-338-4378
8400 W 110th St Suite 150, Overland Park, KS 66210

Emporia State University
Kansas City

LIST OF DEGREE PROGRAMS

Undergraduate
Accounting
Business Administration
Elementary Education

Graduate
Library Science
School Counseling
KIDS on campus
KCKCC

SUMMER DAY CAMP!

June 4 - July 27
Monday - Friday 9a - 4p
7250 State Ave. Kansas City, KS

Fill those summer days with fun!
Now offering a variety of sports, STEM enrichment, arts, field trips, life skills, and more!

Register now at:
app.campdoc.com/register/kckcc

Non-refundable $25 application fee is required.
Transportation will be offered for District #500 students.
RECOGNIZED AS THE
MOST ETHNICALLY DIVERSE COLLEGE IN THE MIDWEST

VALUE DIVERSITY? CHOOSE DONNELLY.

Donnelly College
608 N. 18th St. Kansas City, KS 66102 | donnelly.edu | 913.621.8700