

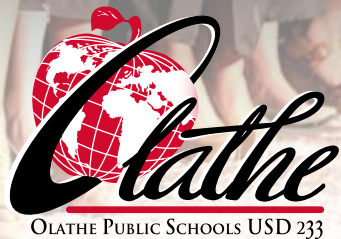
Olathe Public Schools



Students Prepared for *Their* Future



2013-14 Annual Report





A Caring Community: A District of Excellence

Olathe Public Schools is the second-largest district in the state, and the largest in the Kansas City metropolitan area. For more than 40 years, the district has shown an increase in students — a fact no other district can match in the state.

Home to more than 29,000 students and 4,500 dedicated staff members, the Johnson County, Kan., district southwest of Kansas City, serves students in Olathe and parts of Lenexa, Overland Park and Shawnee.

It's a caring district and one that strives for student achievement in all areas. The district is rich in math, science, fine arts and innovative 21st Century programs. It's a district with small-town values in an ever-expanding city. It's a district that looks after its own with an expansive heart.





A Growing School District: At a Glance

Enrollment: 29,171 (September 2013)

- Second-largest district in Kansas
- The Olathe School District is expected to continue to grow for 30 years

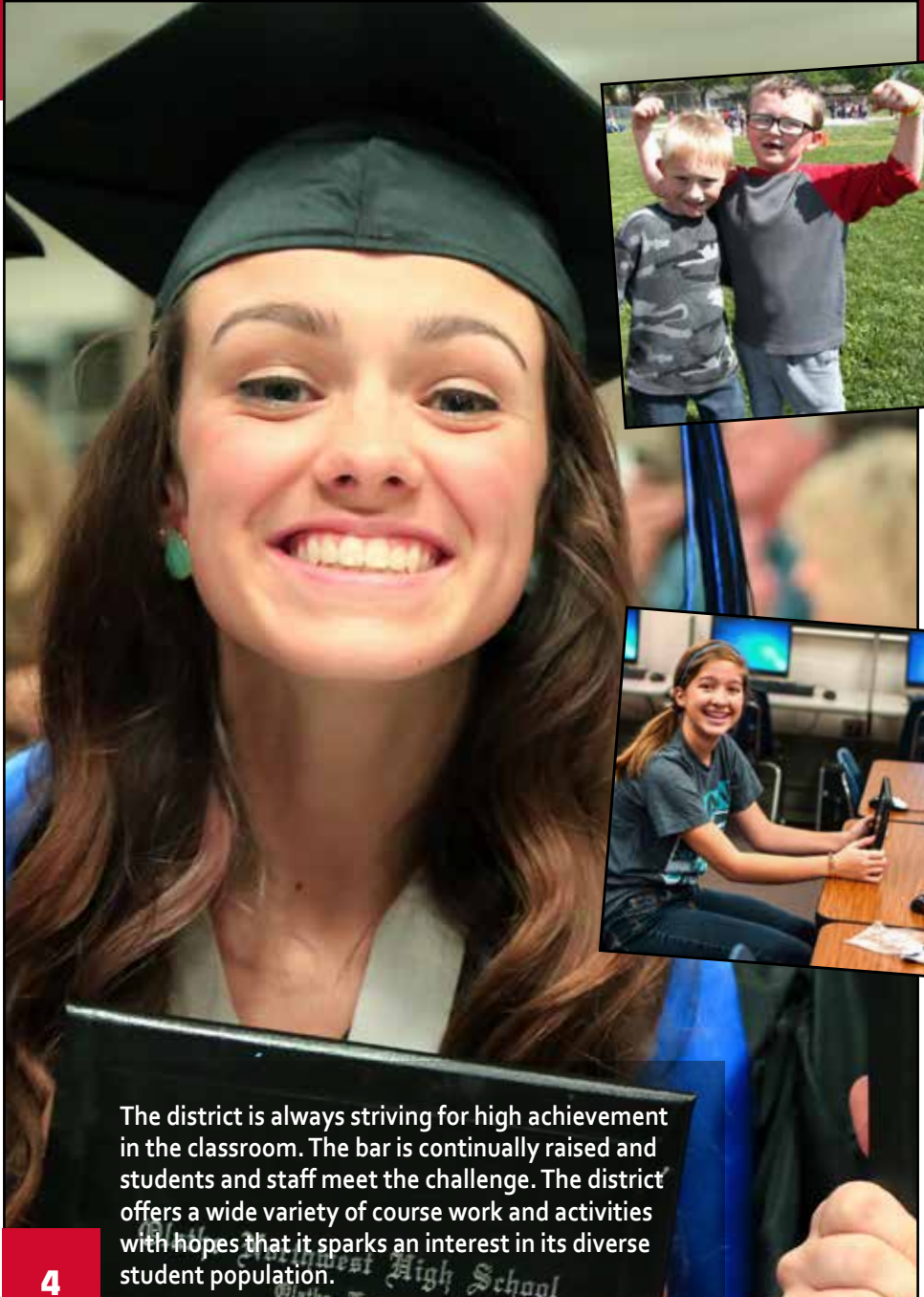
Number of Staff: 4,461

- 2,419—Certified staff
- 2,042—Classified support staff
- 15 years—Average experience of classroom teachers

Schools and Programs:

- 34—Elementary schools (Grades K-5)
- 9—Middle schools (Grades 6-8)
- 4—High schools (Grades 9-12)
- Claire Learning Center
- Harmony and Heartland early childhood centers for students with special needs
- Olathe Advanced Technical Center
- Prairie Learning Center
- West Dennis Learning Center





The district is always striving for high achievement in the classroom. The bar is continually raised and students and staff meet the challenge. The district offers a wide variety of course work and activities with hopes that it sparks an interest in its diverse student population.



Strong Foundation of Learning and Student Involvement

Learning Results

- ACT composite average: 23.9
- 13 National Merit finalists in 2014

Accreditation

All schools accredited by the state of Kansas

Graduation Rate

92.9 percent

Attendance Rate

95.1 percent

Programs

- Elementary International Language Program
- Elementary weekly computer technology instruction
- Tiered math instruction at the middle level, including advanced classes
- Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID) for increasing college readiness at all high schools
- Six international languages offered, including Japanese and Latin
- 21st Century High School Programs in Aerospace and Engineering, Engineering, Life Sciences, Culinary Arts, e-Communication, and more.

- College level classes — Advanced Placement and College Now courses (dual-enrollment for college credit)
- eAcademy online education
- Physical fitness offerings at all levels
- Fine arts offerings at all levels — visual arts, general music, choral, orchestra, band and theatre

College Level Courses

- 17 Advanced Placement courses
- 25 College Now courses

Activities and Athletics

- 80 percent of students in grades 5-12 are involved in one or more activity or athletic opportunity
- Olathe's rich activity and athletic programs create a well-rounded student population





Strengths: What we stand for

Our Mission:

To provide a safe, positive environment where all students acquire knowledge and skills to be productive citizens.

Our Vision:

Students prepared for *their* future.

Our Purpose:

Student learning

Our Beliefs:

- All children can learn
- Together we can achieve more

Our Core Values:

- Data-driven continuous improvement
- Life-long learning

Strengths of the Olathe Public Schools

- Outstanding staff
- Community support
- Parental involvement
- The Olathe Public Schools Foundation
- Civic group support



The Olathe School District is extremely fortunate to have several groups and organizations it knows that it can always count on. The community wraps its arms around the district and gives it encouragement and support in many diverse ways.



2013-14 Board of Education:

Amy Martin, Debora Daniels (President), LeEtta Felter (Vice President)
Brent McCune, Rick Schier, Harlan Parker, Mike Poland

A Message from our Board of Education

Together we achieve more is not just a catch phrase in the Olathe Public Schools. The district is truly stronger with the support of an outstanding community and the community is a fantastic place to live because of the strong schools.

A strong community makes schools better places and we are fortunate in this district to have an encouraging community supporting our students and teachers on a daily basis. From parent volunteers in the classrooms to Seniors Serving Schools to our Adopt-a-School partners assisting with districtwide school needs, our students benefit greatly.

Another important way our community has been a support to the district is through the passing of the June 2013 bond election. This bond election allows our district to build new schools to accommodate growth, make safety and security changes and upgrades, provide our classrooms with additional technology, and make vital aging facility improvements.

Across the district, construction crews have been hard at work constructing new elementary front entrances, designed with pinch points to funnel visitor traffic through the main office. Numerous other schools are receiving aging facility upgrades including new HVAC systems, flooring and more.

We, as a Board of Education, are grateful to the community for the opportunity to make enhancements to our schools to make sure we are providing the best possible learning environment for our kids. Thank you for your support of the Olathe Public Schools.





Outstanding Staff and Schools

- 21st Century e-Communication program, housed at Olathe Northwest High School, named Apple Exemplary Program.
- California Trail Middle School named 2014 Kindest School in the Nation by www.thinkkindness.org.
- Pioneer Trail Middle School named 2014 National Middle School of the Year.
- Olathe Public Schools named to the 4th Annual Advanced Placement District Honor Roll by the College Board.
- Annual Challenge Award by the Confidence in Kansas Public Education Task Force, Certificate of Merit awarded to Central Elementary School, Fairview Elementary School and Oregon Trail Middle School.
- Governor's Achievement Award given to Chisholm Trail and Prairie Trail middle schools.
- Auto Collision program at Olathe Advanced Technical Center received certification from the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation, Inc., the only high school automotive program in the state to receive the certification.
- Pioneer Trail Middle School Principal Michael Wolgast named Anatomy in Clay Learning Systems National Middle School Principal of the Year 2013-2014.
- Kansas Association of Middle School Administrators Exemplary Middle School Assistant Principals of the Year: Elaine Carpenter and J.J. Libal, Pioneer Trail Middle School.
- Jane Jones from Pioneer Trail Middle School named a 2013-2014 Kansas Association of Middle School Administrators Executive Assistant of the Year.
- City of Olathe Human Relations Commission Educators Award given to Erik Erazo, Olathe North High School.
- Kansas Cable Telecommunications Horizon Award given to Lauren Knoepfler, Regency Place Elementary School and Hilary Riggle, Indian Trail Middle School.
- Olathe East High School softball coach Jeff Hulse was named the National Federation of State High School Associations Coaches Association National Coach of the Year.



Caring, Quality Educators

- Sunnyside Elementary School Principal David Kearney was named one of three recipients of the Kansas School Counseling Association Principal Advocate award.
- Olathe North High School Athletic Director Jason Herman named one of four Kansas Interscholastic Athletic Administrator Association District Athletic Directors of the Year.
- Retired Olathe South High School teacher Kathleen Wilhite named a 2014 Kansas Master Teacher.
- Olathe East High School teacher Michael Ralph awarded the National Association of Biology Teachers Outstanding Biology Teacher Award.



Teaching Awards

Olathe Public Schools has an abundance of high quality teachers. This year, one in a middle school and another in an elementary school took home the top award for first-year teachers.

Kansas Cable Telecommunications Horizon Award - Hilary Riggle and Lauren Knoepfler

Indian Trail Middle School seventh-grade math teacher Hilary Riggle and Regency Place Elementary School second-grade teacher Lauren Knoepfler both won the Kansas Cable Telecommunications Horizon Award for the superior job they did as first-year teachers. The 2013-14 year was the second year in the classroom for both teachers.

They were two of only 32 teachers across the state to receive the coveted award.

"I feel so blessed to be in this district," Riggle said after attending the award ceremony. "It also showed me that there are some really exemplary Kansas teachers who go above and beyond in kids' lives."

Knoepfler, coming into teaching after initially following another career path, said that she's found her passion with teaching children.

"Teaching has been so rewarding," she said. "I think my path to becoming a teacher has made me a better teacher."

Both teachers' principals could not be more proud of the awardees.

"Lauren creates a magical second-grade classroom environment where respect and learning are always a priority," Greg Oborny, Regency Place principal, said.

Becky Vrbas, principal at Indian Trail Middle School, said she could see early on that Riggle had a gift with students.

"She believes passionately in building relationships with her students, parents and the staff is key to not only her teaching success but for her students and their success in her classroom."



Award-Winning Staff Members

National Association of Biology Teachers - Outstanding Biology Teacher Michael Ralph



A national organization has deemed an Olathe East High School teacher top in his field.

In the spring of 2014, Michael Ralph, a Biology and AP Biology teacher at the school, was awarded the Outstanding Biology Teacher award sponsored by the National Association of Biology Teachers. It's an award that goes to just more than 50 teachers each year.

Ralph, who has taught at Olathe East since 2011, founded the Biotechnology Club at the school. He was presented the award based on his teaching ability, cooperativeness in the school and community, inventiveness, initiative, and student-teacher relationships.

"Michael is a truly gifted and motivated teacher who is dedicated to challenging himself and his students every day," Olathe East Science Chair Paula Donham said. "He has made tremendous contributions to biology teaching here at East and to the profession more broadly and yet I know he has just begun to shine."

Kansas Master Teacher Kathleen Wilhite



Kathleen Wilhite, a math teacher for more than 30 years, came out of retirement to receive a coveted award.

Wilhite, who retired in 2013, was named a Kansas Master Teacher by Emporia State University. The award is given to fewer than 10 top teachers each year.

"Kathleen was one of those staff members who was outstanding in her classroom, always focused on student advancement and rigor, but also a teacher leader in the district," Deputy Superintendent Alison Banikowski said. "We are so proud of the recognition for Kathleen."

Retiring as a math teacher at Olathe South High School, Wilhite also was one of the first members of the Olathe District Assistance Panel, a peer review process to help struggling teachers. She was a member of the leadership team for the transition from a 10-12 to 9-12 high school in addition to being involved with curriculum development, professional development and project work in mathematics for the district.

"Kathleen Wilhite, Master Teacher: this is something we've known for many years," Olathe South Principal Phil Clark said. "Kathleen is worthy of this distinction, without a doubt, this honor is symbolic of something truly special."



In the Spotlight: Perfect ACT Score

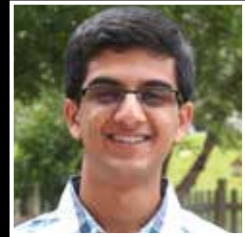
Students in the district high schools this past year continued to set the mark high by scoring a perfect 36 on the ACT assessment. Nine students in the district have earned this top honor in the past two years. Students scoring a perfect ACT most recently are: Saurabh Harohalli, Olathe East High School; Greg Bixler, Olathe North High School; Erik Flom, Olathe Northwest High School; Selina Liu, Olathe East High School.



Greg Bixler
Olathe North High School



Erik Flom
Olathe Northwest High School



Saurabh Harohalli
Olathe East High School



Selina Liu
Olathe East High School



Outstanding Students

- 2014 National Merit Scholarship Finalists: Matthew Gleason, Snigdha Sharma and Dane Stapleton from Olathe East High School; Victoria Bergman, Ryan Dahl, Emmett Fitzgerald, Christoph Kinzel and Elizabeth Tucker from Olathe North High School; Erik Flom from Olathe Northwest High School; Andrea Beene, Tanner Delaney, Evan Eschliman and Brock Webb from Olathe South High School.
- Olathe East High School's Allison Stewart named the 2014 Gatorade Kansas Softball Player of the Year.
- Olathe North High School's Ryan Dahl named U.S. Presidential Scholar.
- Olathe North High School's Megan Keil named to the 2014 U.S. Army All-American Marching Band.
- Olathe East High School's Natalie Alton named to the Macy's Great American Marching Band.
- Christopher Chavez and Veronica Wood, from Olathe South High School, performed with the High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall.
- Olathe North High School won the Battle of the Brains Burns & McDonnell competition at Science City.
- Olathe Northwest High School's Alaina Walberg named the 2014 Policy Debate

Top Speaker in National Speech and Debate Tournament.

- Chinmay Patil, from California Trail Middle School, won the Kansas Geography Bee.
- Olathe Northwest High School FIRST Robotics Team 1710 won the Chairman's Award — the most prestigious award — at the regional competition for third straight year.
- Olathe Advanced Technical student Rebekah Volner, Olathe North High School, received a gold medal in carpentry at the state SkillsUSA Tournament.





Olathe Advanced Technical Center

The Olathe Advanced Technical Center, housing the Auto Collision, Auto Technology and Welding programs, opened in August 2013 just to the east of Olathe North High School.

Moving from the Millcreek Center, the programs are provided to about 200 juniors and seniors who attend Olathe, Blue Valley, Wellsville, Spring Hill and DeSoto school districts, as well as students from Kansas School for the Deaf.

The 32,000-square foot building offers the latest technology for students pursuing trade skills. The classrooms are built in pairs with dividing walls, folding back to allow for collaborative teaching between classes, and a wall of windows

separates classrooms from the work area so instructors can monitor activity in both spaces.

"Our staff is extremely excited about more space for more students to be able to learn using the latest technology," Administrator Kathy Musgrave said at the beginning of the school year. "The building is amazing!"





ALICE

In its ongoing effort to provide a safe and secure learning environment for students, the district trained staff in spring 2014 on a new safety protocol program called ALICE. Students and parents will be trained during the 2014-15 school year.

The protocol, recommended by the U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Homeland Security, enhances current lockdown procedures. Standing for Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter and Evacuate, ALICE empowers

staff to exercise options in the event of such a critical incident based on real-time information gathered during the incident.

"As a school district we are continuously in a mode of improvement," Assistant Superintendent Erin Dugan said. "This is true in the area of safety and security as well. ALICE is an improvement to our current lockdown protocol as current best practice supports a lockdown protocol that provides options to staff."





Outstanding Athletes: *Champions!*

6A State Championship Teams

- Girls Bowling Champion – Olathe North High School
- Boys Track and Field Champions – Olathe East High School
- Volleyball Champion – Olathe East High School



Individual 6A State Championships

- Audrey Judd, Olathe Northwest High School, Golf
- Jessie Payne, Olathe Northwest High School, Gymnastics All Around, Uneven Parallel Bars, Vault
- Austin Stephens, Olathe East High School, Track and Field: 100m Hurdles
- Tanner Green, Olathe South High School, Track and Field: 400m Dash
- Kyle Evans, Nathan Matters, Braxton Love, Tyler Brennecke, Da-Juane Washington-Box, Parker Evans, Olathe East High School, Track and Field: 1600m Relay
- Isaiah Simmons, Olathe North High School, Track and Field: Long Jump
- Caelan Neal, Olathe East High School, Track and Field: Triple Jump
- Braden Smith, Olathe South High School, Track and Field: Shot Put and Discus
- Jasmine Thomas, Olathe East High School, Track and Field: 100m
- Jacquelyn Darby, Olathe South High School, Track and Field: 200m
- Kelsey Lathrop, Olathe East High School, Track and Field: 400m and 800m
- Kayla Davis, Allison Vermillion, Natalie Kopplin, Kelsey Lathrop, Olathe East High School, 3200m Relay.

Bond 2013 Updates

New School Construction

- High School #5
- Elementary #36
- Additional school sites

School Additions

- Arbor Creek Elementary School
- Manchester Park Elementary School

School Renovations

- Safe and Secured Entrances – 31 schools
- Additional Security Features – 56 schools
- Lockers – 22 schools

Technology Upgrades

- Districtwide

Aging Facilities

- Districtwide

2007 and 2008 Bond Updates ✓ Completed

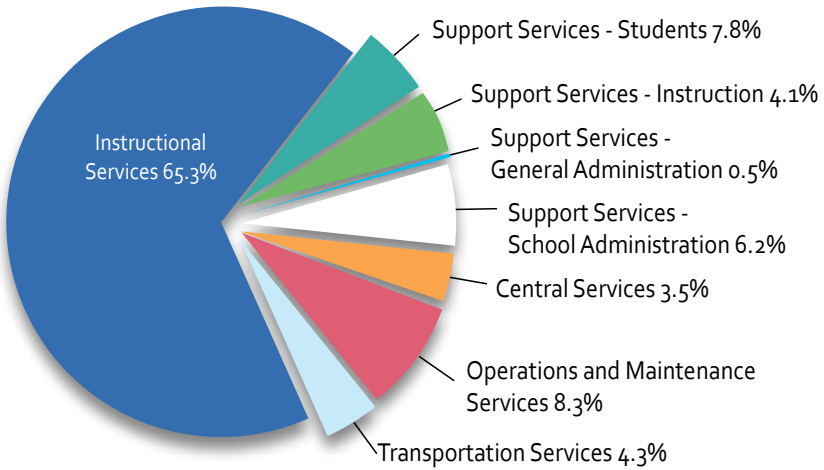
NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION	SCHOOL ADDITIONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Forest View Elementary School ✓ Mission Trail Middle School ✓ Olathe Advanced Technical Center ✓ Elementary #35 ✓ Design of High School #5 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Countryside Elementary School ✓ Indian Creek Elementary School ✓ Manchester Park Elementary School ✓ Olathe East High School ✓ Olathe North High School ✓ Olathe Northwest High School ✓ Olathe South High School ✓ Havencroft Elementary School ✓ California Trail Middle School ✓ Two elementary schools to be determined
SCHOOL RENOVATIONS	AGING FACILITIES — IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Central Elementary School ✓ Ridgeview Elementary School ✓ Heartland Early Childhood Center ✓ Olathe North High School entry ✓ Washington Elementary School 	<p>Windows, Heating/Air Conditioning, Roofing, Asphalt/Concrete, Flooring, Ceilings/Lighting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 104 projects
SUPPORT FACILITIES	SITE PURCHASES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Technology Support Building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Elementary Site #1 ✓ Elementary Sites #2, #3, #4
DIGITAL CLASSROOMS	INCREASED ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ All regular classrooms digital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Foundation standards met at all schools, all levels
TECHNOLOGY FOR NEW SCHOOLS	ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Forest View Elementary School ✓ Mission Trail Middle School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Full wireless coverage (all schools and designated support buildings) ✓ Infrastructure enhancements, including network security ✓ Removal and reinstallation of technology for additions/remodels at Indian Creek, Countryside, Manchester Park, Ridgeview and Central elementary schools ✓ Technology for four high school additions ✓ Technology for future new construction





Financial Statement

Percent of Budget



Mill Levy

General Fund	20.000
Supplemental General	20.927
Capital Outlay	3.153
Special Liability	0.215
Extraordinary Growth	5.077
Cost of Living	2.725
Bond & Interest	16.904
Special Assessments	0.485
Total	69.486

Assessed Valuation

\$1,701,680,394

Base State Aid Per Pupil

2012-13	\$3,838
2013-14	\$3,838
An increase of	0.00%

Expenditures

By Object Area

Salaries & Benefits	207,323,594
Professional & Technical Services	4,281,606
Other Purchased Services	4,041,291
Supplies, Materials, Utilities	5,252,843
Equipment	2,566,441
Utilities	6,271,392
Transportation	10,264,176
Other	177,988
Total	\$240,179,331

Sources Of Revenue

Operating Funds

Local & County Taxes	79,346,108
State Funds	153,603,302
Federal	9,043,504
Total	\$ 241,992,914

Expenditures

By Function Area

Instructional Services	156,911,766
Support Services - Students	18,798,853
Support Services - Instruction	9,856,061
Support Services - General Administration	1,157,916
Support Services - School Administration	14,803,813
Central Services	8,435,940
Operations & Maintenance Services	19,901,591
Transportation Services	10,313,391
Total	\$240,179,331





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for *Their* Future**

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A Message from the Superintendent

The best word to describe the 2013-14 school year was engaged.

On a daily basis, our students are engaged in learning and our teaching staff is engaged in providing opportunities for student success. Our parents are engaged in our schools and helping their children be prepared for a school day full of learning.

We have been engaged in the construction of new elementary front entrances and various aging facility projects across the district, while managing the day-to-day of running a district with nearly 30,000 students and 4,500 staff members. Our safety and security staff have been researching best practices and protocols, our technology staff has been implementing new technology and devices to support student learning. Other staff are involved in planning for our fifth high school, maintaining innovative programs districtwide, and much more. People in the Olathe Public Schools are working hard to sustain the excellence of the school district.

That commitment shows in the awards won by students and staff during the school year.

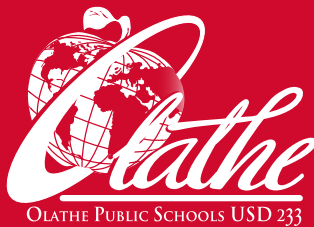
Here are some of the key accolades that have occurred recently.

- Nine students have earned perfect ACT scores in the last two school years combined.
- 2014 Olathe North High School graduate Ryan Dahl was named a U.S. Presidential Scholar, one of the highest honors bestowed upon a graduating senior.

- Olathe Northwest High School student Alaina Walberg was named the Top Policy Debate Speaker in the National Speech and Debate National Tournament.
- Two teachers, Hilary Riggle from Indian Trail Middle School and Lauren Knoepfler from Regency Place Elementary School, were named Horizon Award winners.
- Kathleen Wilhite, retired Olathe South High School teacher, was named a Kansas Master Teacher.
- Pioneer Trail named the 2014 Middle School of the Year by the National Association of Middle School Principals.
- California Trail Middle School named Kindest Middle School in the nation by thinkkindness.org.
- Olathe East High School teacher Michael Ralph was named Outstanding Biology Teacher Award by the National Association of Biology Teachers.

We are proud of our students, our staff and the successes of the 2013-14 school year.

Dr. Marlin Berry



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www.olatheschools.com

Notification Statement of Non-discrimination:

The Olathe Public Schools prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability in its programs, activities or employment, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups to its facilities as required by: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Title VI and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other relevant state and federal laws. Inquiries regarding compliance with applicable civil rights statutes related to ethnicity, gender, age discrimination or equal access may be directed to Staff Counsel, 14160 Black Bob Road, Olathe, KS 66063-2000, phone 913-780-7000. All inquiries regarding compliance with applicable statutes regarding Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act may be directed to the Assistant Superintendent General Administration, 14160 Black Bob Rd. Olathe, KS 66063-2000, phone (913) 780-7000. Interested persons including those with impaired vision or hearing, can also obtain information as to the existence and location of services, activities and facilities that are accessible to and usable by disabled persons by calling the Assistant Superintendent General Administration. (04/13)