

Olathe Public Schools Annual Report • 2019-20



A Message from our Board of Education

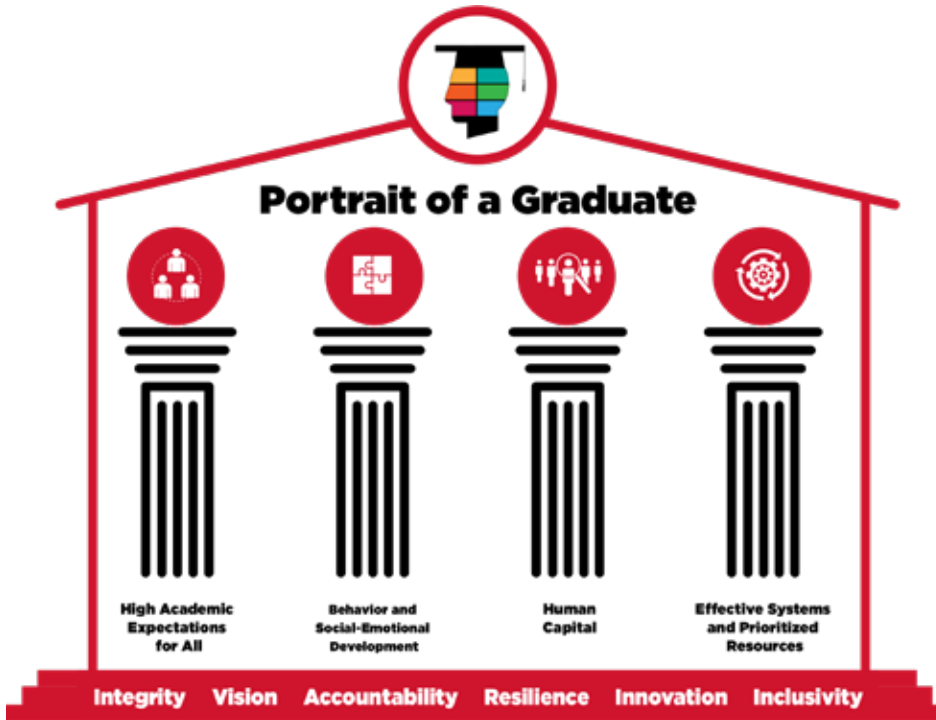


The 2019-20 school year will never be forgotten. In August, the district's 36th elementary school, Canyon Creek, opened its doors and welcomed students and staff. A few months later, the 2019-24 strategic plan was approved. This plan outlines the district's goals and core values in a road map to help students achieve great success.

In March, districts across the state of Kansas were closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In less than 10 days, district administration and staff built a Continuous Learning Plan which allowed for students to access learning material online or on paper. The Olathe Public Schools Continuous Learning Plan was used as a blueprint for many other districts in the state and even across the nation.

Our district is successful because of committed staff members who dedicate themselves to helping and educating the whole student. The work in our district is a responsibility that is viewed as a privilege. As a Board of Education, it is an honor to serve our community and aid our district in being a leader in public education.

As we move toward a new school year, we are eager to earn your trust through honesty and transparency each and every day. We appreciate your support of the Olathe Public Schools and our mission of students prepared for their future.



The Olathe Public Schools Strategic Plan 2019-24 outlines the district’s goals and core values to set the road map to help students achieve great success. The Strategic Plan was approved in October 2019, but began with the development of the Portrait of a Graduate during the 2018-19 school year. District staff and the Board of Education, with much community input, created a Portrait of a Graduate to outline what we want our students to know and be able to do when they graduate from our schools.

The new Strategic Plan provides the path and steps the organization needs to follow to help our students achieve the competencies outlined in the POG: critical thinking and problem solving; resilience and social and emotional well-being; creativity and innovation; communication; initiative and self-direction; and social and cross-cultural skills.

A Caring Community • A District of Excellence

What do we want our students to know and be able to do?

The competencies included in the district's Portrait of a Graduate include: Critical Thinking and Problem Solving; Creativity and Innovation; Initiative and Self Direction; Resilience and Social and Emotional Wellbeing; Communication; and Social and Cross-Cultural Skills.

The competencies set the tone for our strategic plan, which drives our future work as a district and as a community.



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 in the state can match.

Home to more than 30,000 students and 4,500 dedicated staff members, the Johnson County, Kansas district southwest of Kansas City serves students in Olathe and parts of Lenexa and Overland Park.

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 Academies.

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: 30,299

- Second-largest district in Kansas
- Largest school district in Kansas City metro on either side of the Kansas-Missouri state line

Number of Staff: 4,972

- 2,779 – Certified staff
- 2,193 – Classified support staff
- 15 years – Average experience of classroom teachers
- 7 – Kansas Teachers of the Year
- 19 – Presidential Awards for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching
- Olathe Public Schools is the 14th-largest employer and the 4th-largest public employer in the KC metro area.

Schools and Programs:

- 36 – Elementary schools (Grades K-5)
- 10 – Middle schools (Grades 6-8)
- 5 – High schools (Grades 9-12)
- Claire Learning Center
- Harmony and Heartland early childhood centers and Head Start Program
- Mill Creek Campus
- Olathe Advanced Technical Center
- Prairie Learning Center
- West Dennis Learning Center



Strong Foundation of Learning and Student Involvement

Learning Results

- 2019 ACT composite average: 23.3
 - Kansas Average: 21.6
 - National Average: 20.7
- 15 National Merit finalists in 2020
- 2020 U.S. Presidential Scholar

Accreditation

All schools accredited by the state of Kansas

Graduation Rate

4-year Adjusted Cohort: 93.6 percent

Programs

- Elementary weekly 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

- 21st Century Academies
- Two-year Career and Technical Education programs at the Olathe Advanced Technical Center
- 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

- 18 Advanced Placement courses
- 40 College Now courses
- 5 College Board College Level Equivalency Program (CLEP) Assessments offered

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



Outstanding Students

- Anna Hastings, senior at Olathe South High School, was elected to serve as an International Thespian Officer.
- Olathe South High School senior Bryan Johnson was selected to perform in the National Association for Music Education (NAfME) All-National Honor Ensembles Concert Band.
- Olathe East High School placed second in the Burns & McDonnell Battle of the Brains competition. The second-place finish earned Olathe East \$25,000 in STEM-related initiatives for their school.
- The Olathe North High School Northwinds earned \$5,000 for their music department after being named the winner of 99.7 The Point's Christmas Choir Competition.
- The student-led *#ZeroReasonsWhy* suicide prevention campaign received the 2019 Excellence in Community Service Award from the United Community Services of Johnson County.
- Olathe North High School senior Eddie Dai was one of 300 students named as a scholar in the Regeneron Science Talent Search.
- Eric Martin, junior at Olathe Northwest High School, won first place in the 2020 Kansas Music Educators Association Composition Competition.
- Olathe Northwest High School senior Kaela Amundson was selected as the winner for the Western Missouri and Kansas Affiliate Award for Aspirations in Computing from the National Center for Women in Information Technology.



Outstanding Students

- Three Olathe North High School students won 2020 Gold Key Awards from the Missouri Region of Scholastic Art and Writing.
- Ashleigh Strom and Maya Wood, juniors at Olathe West High School, are two of 30 students in the greater Kansas City area selected to participate in the KC Storytellers Project.
- Manu Sripathi, a fifth-grade student from Regency Place Elementary, won the Olathe Spelling Bee.
- The Olathe South High School theatre program earned the Outstanding School Award from Education Theatre Association.
- Students at Mill Creek Campus were awarded the Help My MoKan Schools Grant provided by 99.7The Point, Sheet Metal Workers Local Union No. 2 and SMACNA.
- The Kansas State Department of Education named 12 Olathe high school students as 2020 Kansas Career and Technical Education Scholars.
- At the Greater Kansas City Science and Engineering Fair, Eddie Dai, senior at Olathe North High School, and Khushi Kohli, Olathe North junior, each received one of four Grand Awards which were presented to the top four high school projects that meet the stringent requirements for qualifying and entering the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair.



Perfect ACT Score

- Four students earned a perfect score on the ACT Exam. While the actual number of students earning a composite score of 36 varies from year to year, less than one-tenth of 1 percent of students taking the ACT earn a top score.





Outstanding Staff and Schools

- The Olathe School District ranked fourth in Kansas as part of a national evaluation of public data, report cards and profiles for K-12 districts across the United States. The 2020 Best Schools listing by Niche ranked Olathe second in the largest districts in Kansas and fourth in best school districts in the state.
- Santa Fe Trail Middle School was recognized as a School of Excellence by the Civic Advocacy Network by the Kansas Department of Education.
- Olathe Food Services received two recognitions from the Kansas State Department of Education: the Kansans Can Increase Participation award and Kansans Can Serve It Safe award.
- The Olathe Public Schools Communications Division received four statewide recognitions from the Kansas Association of School Boards and KanSPRA.
- The Kansas City Area Parents as Teachers Consortium, which includes Olathe Parents as Teachers, has earned the highest designation from the Parents as Teachers National Center, Inc., as a Blue Ribbon Affiliate, making it one of the top performing home visiting affiliates within the PATNC's international network.
- Zippia published its 2019 list of Best Companies to Work For in Olathe and Olathe Public Schools received the No. 5 ranking.
- Olathe West High School and the Green Tech Academy were recognized by the Kansas Association for Conservation and Environmental Education and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and named Kansas Green School of the Year.
- The Kansas State Department of Education in partnership with character.org and Smoky Hill Education Service Center, honored Julie Fishburn of Olathe West High School and Tisha Halfert of Green Springs Elementary with Enhanced Spotlight Recognitions as part of the Kansas Schools of Character program.
- The Confidence in Kansas Public Education Task Force has named 92 schools, including Ridgeview and Washington elementary schools, as recipients of the 2019 Challenge Awards.
- The 2019 Santa Fe Trail Middle School yearbook was selected to be featured in Balfour's YearbookYearbook, a showcase of exceptional work in theme development, design and photography from publications across the United States and overseas.

Caring, Quality Educators

- LuAnn Fox, Olathe Northwest High School English teacher, was selected by the Kansas Association of Teachers of English as a national recipient of the 2019 High School Teacher of Excellence Award, sponsored by the Secondary Section of the National Council of Teachers of English.
- Olathe East High School boys and girls soccer coach Terry Hair was selected to coach the boys team in the 2019 High School All-American Game.
- Olathe West High School girls cross country coach Kelsey Carbajo was named the Kansas 6A Girls Cross Country Coach of the Year by the Kansas Track and Field and Cross Country Association.
- Two district teachers were honored for their work as new educators with the Kansas Horizon Award. Bennett Johnson, a music teacher from Heritage Elementary, and Samantha Collins, an English/Language Arts teacher at Chisholm Trail Middle School, each received the prestigious award.
- David Hastings, Olathe South High School theater director, was inducted into the Kansas Thespians Hall of Fame.
- Jessica Sadler, sixth-grade science teacher at Oregon Trail Middle School, was selected to receive the Spirit of Education Award from National Safe Schools Convening.
- Gretchen Harrison, choir teacher at Frontier Trail Middle School, was elected to national chair for Choral Repertoire and Resources on the American Choral Directors Association.
- Tyler Kitson, school psychologist for Fairview and Washington elementary schools, was awarded the 2020 Presidential Award in Recognition of Exceptional Service to Children and School Psychology during the National Association of School Psychologists Annual Convention.
- Olathe Northwest High School biology teacher Andrew Taylor was recognized as the Kansas Outstanding Biology Teacher Award by the National Association of Biology Teachers.



Staff Awards

- Megan Wendleton, art teacher at California Trail Middle School, was selected as the 2019-20 Outstanding Overall Art Educator of the Year by the Kansas Art Education Association.
- Olathe West High School assistant baseball coach Derek Leppert was recognized as one of the Baseball America Assistant Coaches of the Year by the 2019 American Baseball Coaches Association.
- Olathe Public Schools Director of Staffing and Talent Acquisition Cathy Donovan was elected president of the American Association of School Personnel Administrators.
- Chisholm Trail Middle School social studies teacher Ashley Umphrey was selected as the 2019 Kansas Council for History Education Elementary Teacher of the Year.
- Two Olathe educators received Olathe Human Relations Commission Awards for their work in the classroom and community. Olathe North High School history teacher Phillip Simons received the 2019 Educator Award. Olathe Northwest High School English teacher Angie Powers received the 2019 Humanitarian Award.



Ashley Umphrey



Bennett Johnson



Samantha Collins

- Josh Stock, Santa Fe Trail Middle School language arts teacher, was named as one of three Outstanding Recent Graduates from Emporia State University's College of Liberal Arts and Science, The Teachers College and the School of Business.
- Olathe Public Schools Executive Director of Communications and Community Relations Maggie Kolb was honored with the 2019 Distinguished Service award presented by the Kansas School Public Relations Association.
- Dustin Pence, Olathe North High School theater director, was honored at the Kansas Thespian Festival by being named as the Kansas Thespian Region 2 Teacher of the Year.
- Olathe Public Schools K-12 Social Studies Coordinator Tina Ellsworth was elected as a representative at-large for the National Council for the Social Studies.
- Olathe Public Schools Assistant Director of General Administration for Food Services Cindy Jones was elected as the Southwest Regional Director of the School Nutrition Association.
- Pioneer Trail Middle School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director Scott Appell was named the High School Middle School Athletic Director of the Year by the Kansas Interscholastic Administrators Association.

Staff Awards

- The Kansas Association of Secondary School Principals recognized Jay Novacek, Olathe West High School principal, as the 2020 Principal of the Year.
- Heather Schoonover, community development liaison for the Olathe Public Schools, was named a recipient of the 2020 Arts Inspired Network Courageous Creativity Challenge award.



Parents as Teachers



David Hastings



Dustin Pence



Coach Leppert

Outstanding Athletes: CHAMPIONS!



Olathe West
6A Soccer
State Champions



Olathe North
Simone Award
Winner



Olathe East
6A Gymnastics
State Champions

Outstanding Athletes: CHAMPIONS!

- The Olathe East High School gymnastics team earned the 6A Kansas state title in gymnastics.
- Kelsey Meyer, Olathe East senior, earned first place and won an individual state title in the balance beam.
- Brooke Illum, Olathe Northwest High School senior, earned first place and won individual state titles in floor, vault and all-around.
- The Olathe West High School boys soccer team earned the Kansas 6A state title.
- Jony Munoz, Olathe West High School senior, was named MVP of the High School Boys All-American Game, Gatorade Kansas and National Player of the Year.
- Olathe North High School junior Arland Bruce IV was named the 2019 recipient of the Thomas A. Simone Memorial Award, given to the outstanding high school football player in the Kansas City metropolitan area.
- Olathe North wrestler Keegan Slyter earned the Kansas 6A state title in the 126-pound weight class.
- Olathe South High School wrestler Gavin Brown earned the Kansas 6A state title in the 160-pound weight class.
- The Boys 200-Yard Medley Relay swim team from Olathe East earned first place at state with team members Philip Costello, Jack Gabrielson, Micah Leslie and Aidan Walters.
- Harry Tjaden, Olathe East, earned the Kansas 6A state title in the boys 200-Yard and 500-Yard Freestyle events.
- Olathe East boys swim team members Jack Gabrielson, Luke Hagan, Micah Leslie and Harry Tjaden earned first place at state in the boys 200-Freestyle Relay.
- The Olathe East High School bowling team earned the Kansas 6A state title.
- The Olathe Northwest Raven Dance Team attended the National Dance Alliance (NDA) National Competition in Orlando, Florida, where they earned a national championship in Large Varsity Team Performance and Large Varsity Jazz.



*Olathe East
6A Bowling
State
Champions*



Financial Statement

Mill Levy

General Fund	20.000
Supplemental General	16.214
Capital Outlay	8.000
Special Liability	0.124
Extraordinary Growth	7.125
Cost of Living	3.692
Bond & Interest	14.372
Special Assessments	0.351
Total	69.878

Sources Of Revenue (Operating Funds)

Local & County Taxes	51,090,969
State Funds	248,131,953
Federal	7,316,027
Total	\$306,538,949

Assessed Valuation

\$2,491,985,478

Base State Aid Per Pupil

2018-19	\$4,165
2019-20	\$4,436
An increase of 6.11%	

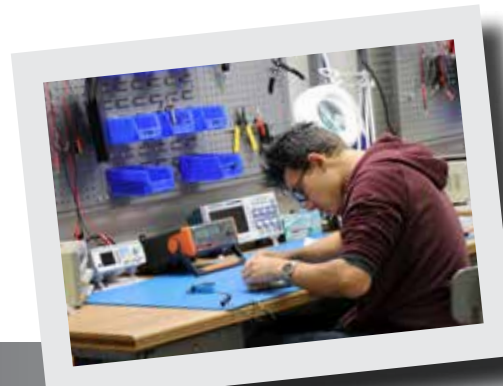
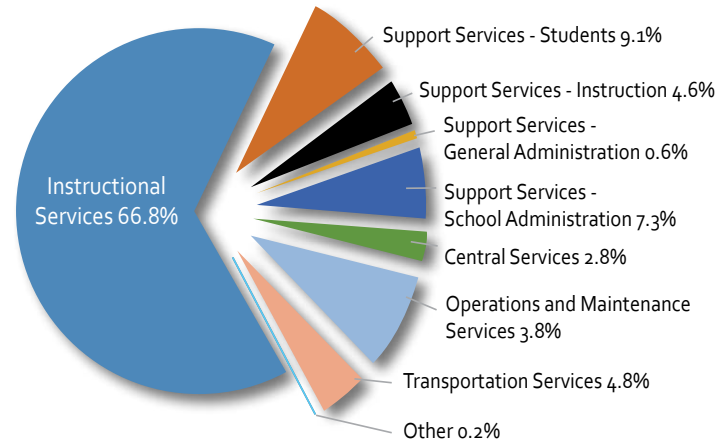
Expenditures By Function Area

Instructional Services	201,304,151
Support Services - Students	27,447,725
Support Services - Instruction	13,777,582
Support Services - General Administration	2,206,968
Support Services - School Administration	22,003,198
Central Services	8,583,879
Operations & Maintenance Services	11,558,216
Transportation Services	14,342,953
Other	201,667
Total	\$301,426,338

Operating Fund Expenditures

Salaries & Benefits	265,076,368
Professional & Technical Services	2,902,988
Purchased Property Services	690,317
Other Purchased Services	5,744,268
Supplies & Materials	5,704,405
Equipment/Property	343,368
Utilities	6,422,294
Transportation	14,342,953
Other	199,378
Total	\$301,426,338

Percent of Budget





Students Prepared for *Their* Future!



14160 S. Black Bob Road
Olathe, KS 66063
913.780.7000
www.olatheschools.org

Notification Statement of Non-discrimination:

The Olathe Public Schools prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity 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, the Equal Access Act of 1984 and other relevant state and federal laws as amended. Inquiries regarding compliance with applicable civil rights statutes related to race, ethnicity, gender, age discrimination, sexual orientation, gender identity or equal access may be directed to Staff Counsel, 14160 S. 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 of Support Services, 14160 S. 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 of Support Services. (03/19)