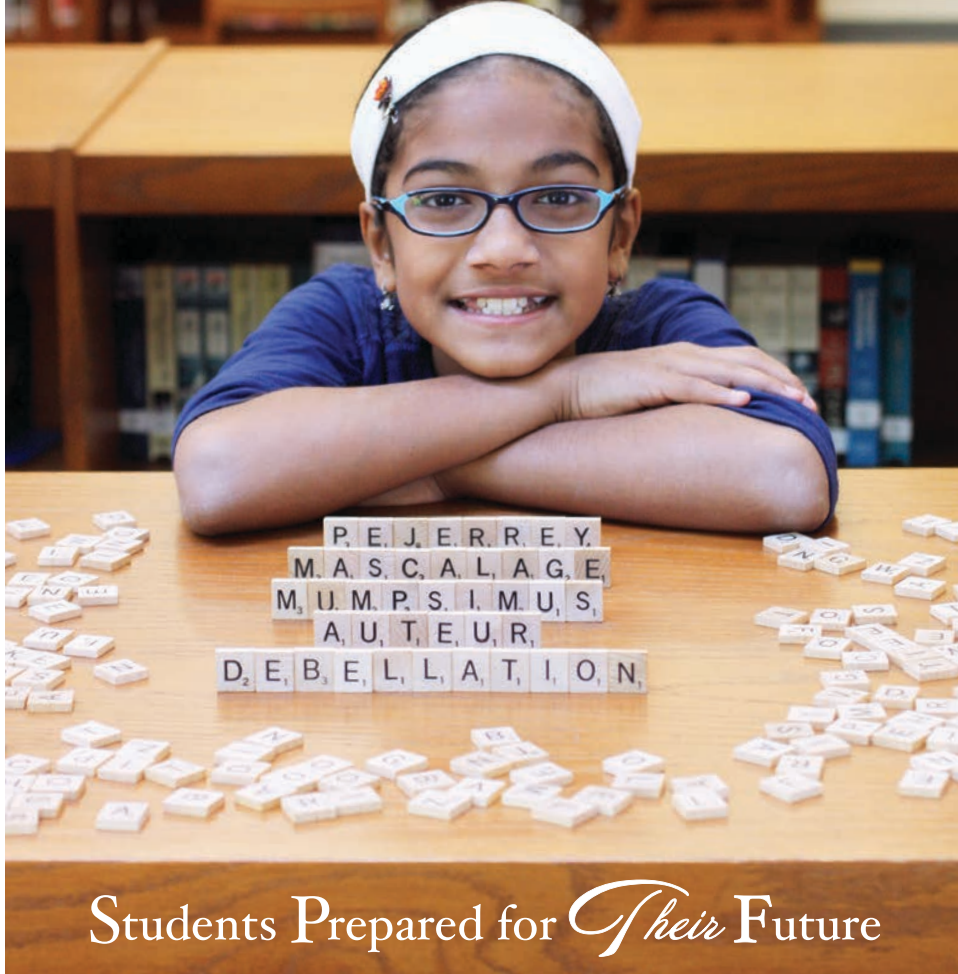


OLATHE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2011-12 Annual Report



Students Prepared for *Their* Future

A DISTRICT OF EXCELLENCE

Olathe Public Schools is a district of excellence. The largest school district in the Kansas City metropolitan area and the second largest in Kansas, the Olathe School District is located southwest of Kansas City, in Johnson County.

Home to more than 28,000 students and 4,300 staff members, the district serves students in Olathe and areas of Lenexa, Overland Park and Shawnee.

The caring staff members in each of our district's schools strive to help prepare each individual student for his or her future. Each school building has a group of staff members teaming together, providing students a safe inviting and innovative environment in which to learn.

The district has outstanding test scores year after year. It is guided by innovative thinkers and clear and concise standards.

The district is a thriving community of people who give from their hearts. The Olathe district — which has grown every single year since its inception in 1965 — is a community that deeply cares for its own.



A COMMUNITY THAT CARES





A Message from the Board of Education

Dedicated students and staff, a strong and supportive community that cares about our students, and our schools are part of what makes the Olathe Public Schools such a great place for students. The outstanding schools in our district draw families to the area. Seeing so many new families find value in the Olathe Public Schools is exciting. It means we have hundreds of new students each year who have the chance to be a part of a place where staff members dedicate themselves to provide an education that prepares students for their future.

Balancing the growth needs of our district with the budget issues that all school districts have faced in recent years is a challenge for any Board of Education. We are committed to doing what is right for students while also being good stewards of taxpayer dollars.

This past year, the district embarked on developing a Capital Improvement Plan to identify and plan for much needed building repairs. Over the past few years, due to budget cuts, we as a Board of Education chose to delay needed maintenance projects. Due to diligent fiscal planning, the board was able to increase the capital outlay fund for the 2011-12 school year in order to take on some of these needed projects.

To better understand the school facility needs, staff visited every building in the district to determine and prioritize maintenance and building projects. District staff members have created a Capital Improvement Plan that outlines projects for the coming years. It's exciting to see much needed projects being completed to make sure our facilities continue to be great places for students to learn and grow in the future.

We are very proud as a Board of Education of the great things happening in the Olathe Public Schools and look forward to much more to come.



At A Glance



Enrollment: 28,288

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

Number of Staff: 4,292

- 2,350—Certified staff
- 1,942—Classified support staff
- 15 years—Average experience of classroom teachers

Number of Schools: 52

- 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
- Millcreek Technical Education Center
- Prairie Learning Center for students with special needs

A GROWING
SCHOOL DISTRICT



Strong Foundation of Learning and Student Involvement



Learning Results

- ACT composite average: 23.7
- District continues to make Adequate Yearly Progress
- 13 National Merit finalists in 2012

Accreditation

All schools accredited by the state of Kansas

Graduation Rate

91.8 percent

Attendance Rate

95.8 percent



Programs

- Elementary International Language Program
- Elementary weekly computer technology instruction
- Tiered math instruction at the middle level, including advanced classes
- AVID for increasing college readiness — select middle schools and high schools
- Six international languages offered, including Japanese and Latin
- 21st Century High School Programs in Aerospace & Engineering, Biotechnology, Sports Medicine, e-Communication, and more
- College level classes — Advanced Placement and College Now courses
- eAcademy online education
- Physical fitness offerings at all levels
- Fine arts offerings at all levels — visual arts, general music, choral, orchestra, band, theatre

College Level Courses

- 17 Advanced Placement courses
- 24 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



The district is continually 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.

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

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 a multitude of ways.

Strengths of the Olathe Public Schools

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



STRENGTHS

Outstanding Educators

- 2011 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching — Dennis Burkett, Olathe South High School
- 2012 Kansas Teacher of the Year Award — Tiffany A. Richard, Olathe East High School
- Fifth diamond degree of membership from the National Forensics League — Catherine Smith, Olathe South High School
- Kansas Fuel Up to Play 60 Program Advisor of the Year — Wendy Scholten, Ridgeview Elementary School
- Education Award from the Olathe Human Relations Commission — Kim Thorup, Ridgeview Elementary School
- Olathe Human Relations Commission Chairman's Award — Denise Herman, Olathe North High School
- Kansas Coaches Association Bowling Coach of the Year — Dalene Moomau, Olathe North High School
- 2012 Kansas SkillsUSA High School Administrator of the Year — Kathy Musgrave, Millcreek Technical Education Center

- 2012 Dr. Arthur Newcomer Promising Athletic Director Award from the Kansas Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association — Jay Novacek, Olathe Northwest High School

- Award of Excellence presented by the Kansas Division for Early Childhood — Autism Specialist Katie Cook

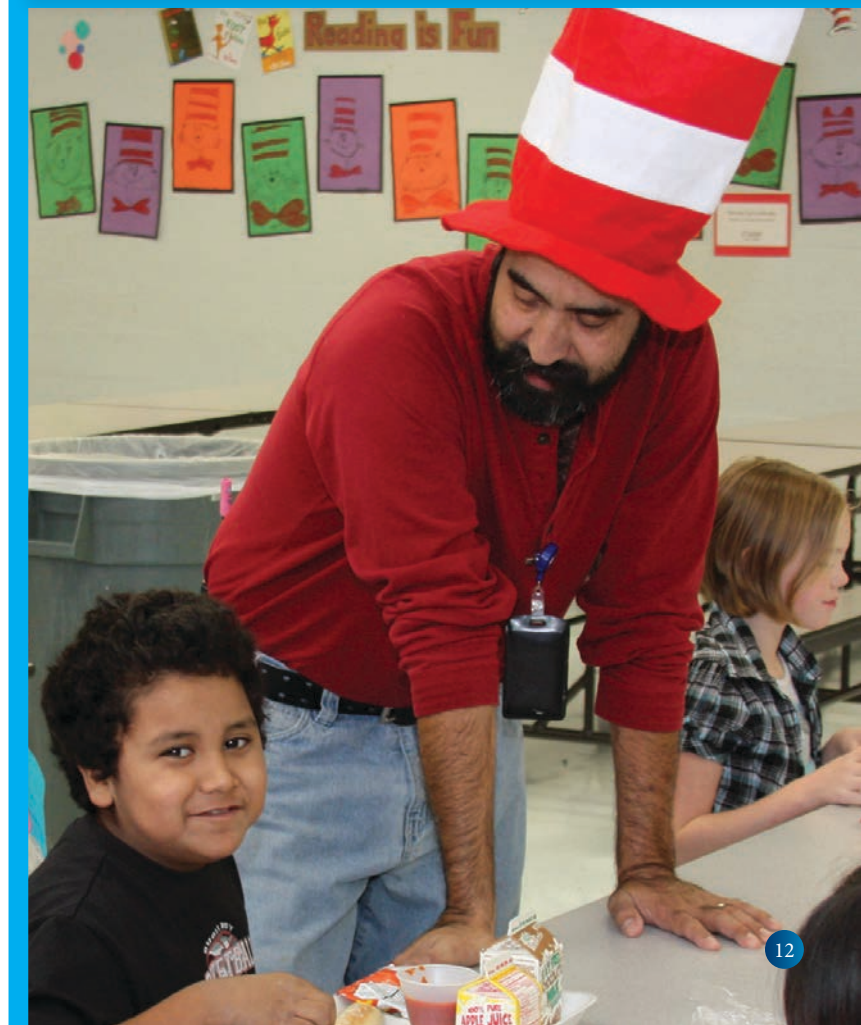
- Outstanding Contributor Award presented by the Kansas Division for Early Childhood — Parents as Teachers Coordinator Nancy Keel
- National Teachers Hall of Fame semi-finalist — Randy Dix, Olathe North High School
- 2011-12 General Administrator of the Year, presented by the Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators — Connie Heinen, Olathe North High School
- 2011 All-Metro Football Coach of the Year, presented by The Kansas City Star — Jeff Gourley, Olathe South High School
- Certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards — Lindsey Colling, Olathe East High School; Lisa Frahm, Manchester Park Elementary School; Dena Steen, Washington Elementary School
- Recertification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards — Sandra Ames, Heatherstone Elementary School; Julie Miller, Instructional Resource Center; Kate Thompson, Olathe Northwest High School
- Wayne Osness Honor Award from the Kansas Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance — Wendy Scholten, Ridgeview Elementary School
- Certified Administrator of School Finance and Operations designation by the Association for Business Officials International — John Hutchison, Education Center



- Educating Excellence Award from the University of Kansas School of Engineering and Perceptive Software — Becky Metcalf, Olathe Northwest High School
- Exemplary Middle School Principal of the Year (one of three statewide) by the Kansas Association of Middle School Administrators — Michael Wolgast, Pioneer Trail Middle School
- Kansas Special Education Professional of the Year (one of three statewide) — Matt Kunstman, Pioneer Trail Middle School
- Outstanding High School Music Educator for the Northeast District — Pam Williamson, Olathe Northwest High School
- Teaching Ambassador Fellow for the U.S. Department of Education — Bruce Wellman, Olathe Northwest High School
- 2012 Blue Ribbon Lighthouse Award and one of two finalists for the National Middle School of the Year Award — Pioneer Trail Middle School
- Standard of Excellence Award from the Kansas State Department of Education — Sunnyside Elementary School counseling program
- Program of Excellence Award from the Kansas State Department of Education — Olathe Northwest High School counseling program

CARING, QUALITY
EDUCATORS

Olathe Public Schools takes pride in its caring, heartfelt community of teachers and support staff. Each teacher cares about the success of the students who make up the district. It shows in the awards they attain year after year.



In the Spotlight



Dennis Burkett didn't have a particular fondness for chemistry in high school. As a Chemistry and AP Chemistry teacher at Olathe South High School, that is indeed, he says, what inspires him to greatness as a teacher.

He wants to spark students' interest in science. "It's fun to turn kids on to chemistry," Burkett said.

This summer, Burkett headed to Washington, D.C., to receive the 2011 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The award is the highest honor in the nation for teachers of mathematics and science.

Bruce Wellman, a science teacher at Olathe Northwest High School, nominated Burkett for the award.

"Dennis routinely demonstrates excellence in teaching by his willingness to go the extra mile to ensure even the most abstract concepts in chemistry come alive for his students," Wellman said.



2012 KANSAS TEACHER OF THE YEAR Tiffany Richard

Olathe East High School chemistry and AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) teacher Tiffany Richard is dedicated.

She's dedicated to the fact that every student can learn in her classroom.

"It's my job as a teacher to find a way to reach every single one of my students," Richard said.

Dedication is one of the many reasons that Richard was named the 2012 Kansas Teacher of the Year. She was one of eight regional finalists selected for consideration for the honor. She is the seventh Olathe School District teacher to be named as the recipient since 1974.

Richard said she strives to get students to find excitement and love for science. She finds teaching gratifying when students open their minds to new ideas.

And, students find her warm, knowledgeable and engaging.

"She's very energetic and caring," 2012 graduate Jamera Allen said. "She doesn't treat us like we're students. She treats us like we're family. When I got accepted to UMKC, I called her to tell her I got accepted. She's like our second mom."

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD RECIPIENT

Dennis Burkett

AWARD-WINNING STAFF MEMBERS

Outstanding Students

- Kenneth Smith Award; The United States Golf Association and the American Junior Golf Association Presidents' Leadership Award; Midwest PGA Junior Student-Athlete of the Year — Cassie Wang, junior, Olathe Northwest High School
- Chicago Architecture Mock Firms Competition National Champions — The 21st Century Environmental Design program at Olathe East High School
- California Athletic Trainers' Association, 11th Annual Sports Medicine Competition — Olathe North High School, second place
- National Merit Scholarship Finalists — Allison Adams, Quinton Bockhold, Rachael Dennis, Aaron Holthus, Scott Sheets, Maxwell "Max" Walden and Alexandra Welch from Olathe East High School; Erich Amerine, John Hack and Levi Hogan from Olathe North High School; Lauren E. Lee from Olathe Northwest High School; Larry Hale and Robert Winslow from Olathe South High School
- National Champions, 2012 STEM TECH Olympiad — Olathe Northwest High School Battlebot Team

- National Technology Student Association Competition — first place, Connor Weeks and Andrew Boppart for Technology Problem Solving, the largest team competition at nationals

- National ProStart Culinary Competition Champions — The Olathe School District's Culinary Arts program, housed at Olathe North High School
- 2012 Scholastic All-Star Award winner — Jumel Otiankouya, seventh grade, Indian Trail Middle School
- Perfect ACT — Tim Webber, junior, Olathe North High School
- 2012 Class of Coca-Cola Scholars — Lars Hanson, senior, Olathe East High School
- Battle of the Brains Science City and Burns & McDonnell Competition finalist — Olathe North High School, 21st Century Distinguished Scholars
- National Council of Teachers of English Achievement Award in Writing — Joe Kirchoff, senior, Olathe East High School
- 2012 U.S. Army All-American Marching Band — Forrest Goyer, senior, Olathe North High School



In the Spotlight



SCHOLASTIC ALL-STAR WINNER

Jumel Otiankouya

Jumel Otiankouya likes all things about his school, Indian Trail Middle School. Peers and adults describe him as friendly and driven to success. And, he cannot be missed when he shines his smile.

The Indian Trail Middle School 2011-12 seventh-grader was one of only 12 students in the nation to be named a 2012 Scholastic All-Star winner in the spring. It's an honor that recognizes outstanding achievements of overcoming reading challenges.

Originally from the Republic of Congo, Otiankouya has lived in Olathe for two years. Jumel says, he loves it.

His teachers say he is a model student.

In a letter nominating Otiankouya for the award, English Language Learner Teacher Leah Yates writes: "Jumel believes in the power of education, in his teachers, in himself. His progress is a result of diligence, self-advocacy and a true passion for learning. Jumel's story is a true success story."



PERFECT ACT

Tim Webber

Tim Webber, a 2011-12 junior at Olathe North High School, achieved a perfect 36 ACT score. Fewer than 1 percent of students who take the ACT earn a top score of 36.

"Tim is so humble that he did not tell anyone at school that he had earned a perfect ACT score," former Olathe North High School Principal Connie Heinen said.

"When I asked him to come to the office so I could congratulate him, he was again so humble. He credited his achievement to his outstanding teachers and supportive parents. He has now been working with other students to help them improve their ACT scores."



STUDENT LEADER Cassie Wang

Cassie Wang, an Olathe Northwest High School 2011-12 junior and accomplished golfer, is a leader both on and off the greens.

She received three impressive awards this year: Kenneth Smith Award for the Kansas City Metropolitan Area's Top High School Golfer, the Midwest PGA Junior Student-Athlete of the Year award, and the United States Golf Association and the American Junior Golf Association's prestigious Presidents' Leadership Award.

Honors galore, but Wang is perhaps most proud of her nearly 1-year-old non-profit: Youth Hope Fund. It helps provide scholarships to children in China and it's helped others getting back on their feet from last year's tornado in Joplin. In one year, it's raised around \$8,000.

The non-profit started as a small idea after Wang drove through the ravaged Joplin area in 2011 to get to a golf tournament. Throughout the tournament, she thought of the people of Joplin and knew she needed to do something.

"It was life changing," Wang said. "I couldn't shake the pictures out of my mind."

So, she did something about it. That's what leaders do.

"I would definitely say that I wasn't born a leader," Wang said. "It kind of grew on me as I began putting it into practice."

And, we all know: practice makes perfect.

BATTLE OF THE BRAINS 21st Century Distinguished Scholars

The Olathe North High School 21st Century Distinguished Scholars Team accomplished a feat of greatness in November 2011.

The team of 20 students — guided by teachers Rhonda Reist and Amy Johnston — beat out 20 other finalists in the Battle of the Brains Competition with their project "Unplugged." In addition to getting to build an exhibit for Science City, the school was awarded a \$50,000 grant to support STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education at their school.

Mirroring the team that completed the competition, the exhibit will be all about energy.

"Our exhibit will relate energy to current and future issues, such as green energy, renewable energy sources, and obesity," the Unplugged plan reads. "...Finally our exhibit will express energy in terms of everyday life; for example comparing the energy burned while riding a bicycle

to the energy in an apple; helping visitors see energy from a perspective that is easy, fun and understandable."

The exhibit — once completed — could remain in Science City for 10 years, or more.



Outstanding Athletes

6A State Championship Teams

- Football — Olathe South High School
- Boys Bowling — Olathe North High School
- Softball — Olathe East High School
- Girls Soccer — Olathe East High School
- Girls Track and Field — Olathe East High School

10 Individual 6A State Championships

- Alison Meades, Olathe East High School, Gymnastics: Uneven Bars, Balance Beam, Floor Exercise and All Around
- Rory Haug, Olathe North High School, Wrestling: 152 lb. weight class
- Connor Middleton, Olathe Northwest High School, Wrestling: 160 lb. weight class
- Clark Thomas, Olathe Northwest High School, Swimming and Diving: 1 Meter Diving
- Aaron Yuratovich, Olathe East High School, Bowling
- John Blazevic, Olathe East High School, Track and Field: Javelin
 - Jasmine Thomas, Olathe East High School, Track and Field: 100m Dash
 - Kelsey Quiring, Rebekah Raetzel, Jenny Pinkston, Valencia Hinton-Scott, Olathe East High School, Track and Field: 4x400m Relay
 - Kiera Botley, Olathe North High School, Track and Field: 100m Hurdles
 - Allison Thomas, Olathe Northwest High School, Swimming and Diving: 1 Meter Diving



CHAMPIONS

2007 and 2008 Bond Updates ✓ Completed ● Remaining

NEW SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

- ✓ Forest View Elementary School
- ✓ Mission Trail Middle School
- Elementary #35
- Technical Education Facility
- Design of High School #5

SCHOOL ADDITIONS

- ✓ 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

- ✓ Central Elementary School
- ✓ Ridgeview Elementary School
- ✓ Heartland Early Childhood Center
- ✓ Olathe North High School entry
- ✓ Washington Elementary School

AGING FACILITIES — IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

- Windows, Heating/Air Conditioning, Roofing, Asphalt/Concrete, Flooring, Ceilings/Lighting
- ✓ 104 projects

SUPPORT FACILITIES

- Technology Support Building

SITE PURCHASES

- ✓ Elementary Site #1
- Elementary Sites #2, #3, #4

DIGITAL CLASSROOMS

- ✓ All regular classrooms digital

INCREASED ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY

- ✓ Foundation standards met at all schools, all levels

TECHNOLOGY FOR NEW SCHOOLS

- ✓ Forest View Elementary School
- ✓ Mission Trail Middle School

ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

- ✓ 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




AS PROGRESS PROMISED




AYP Report

STUDENT SUCCESS



Data from the Kansas Department of Education shows that the Olathe School District again made “Adequate Yearly Progress,” or AYP, by **exceeding the state goals for progress on math and reading**

assessments as defined by the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB).



In the 2011-12 school year, the Olathe School District **made AYP in reading and math by meeting and exceeding target scores** set by the Kansas Department of Education.

94.3 percent
Proficient in Reading

93.7 percent
Proficient in Math

93.4 percent
Proficient in Science

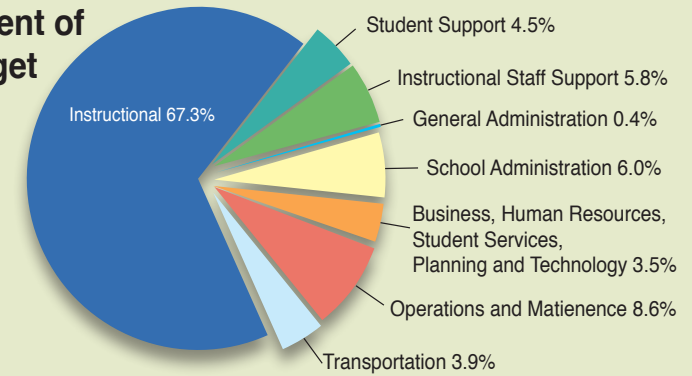
Students Prepared for *Their* Future





Finance Statement

Percent of Budget



Mill Levy

General Fund	20.000
Supplemental General	21.137
Capital Outlay	8.000
Special Liability	0.136
Extraordinary Growth	3.407
Cost of Living	3.638
Bond & Interest	13.118
Special Assessments	0.488
Total	69.924

Assessed Valuation

\$1,684,992,074

Expenditures

By Object Area

Salaries & Benefits	202,594,842
Professional & Technical Services	4,239,658
Contracted Services	236,817
Other Purchased Services	9,088,336
Supplies, Materials, Utilities	14,411,620
Equipment	618,371
Total	\$231,189,643

Sources Of Revenue

Operating Funds

Local & County Taxes	78,604,343
State Funds	146,195,160
Federal	7,017,265
Total	\$231,816,768

Expenditures

By Function Area

Instructional	155,554,773
Student Support	10,506,389
Instructional Staff Support	13,503,335
General Administration	879,151
School Administration	13,831,595
Business, Human Resources, Student Services, Planning and Technology	8,043,125
Operations & Maintenance	19,855,477
Transportation	9,015,799
Total	\$231,189,643

STEWARDSHIP

A Message from the Superintendent



How do you measure the success of a school year? The 2011-12 school year brought many accolades for students and staff. Students achieved local, state and highly acclaimed national honors in a variety of academics, activities and athletics.

Our Culinary Arts students placed first at the national ProStart Culinary Competition. Two Olathe Northwest students placed first at the National Technology Student Association competition. The 21st Century Environmental Design students from Olathe East won the national Chicago Architecture Mock Firms competition. Students in the 21st Century Aerospace and Engineering Program at Olathe Northwest won the 2012 STEM TECH Olympiad in the 120-pound battlebot category. Pioneer Trail Middle School was named one of two finalists for the National Middle School of the Year by the National Association of Middle School Principals.

Five sports teams were state champions: Olathe South Football, Olathe North Boys Bowling, Olathe East Girls Softball, Olathe East Girls Track and Field, and Olathe East Girls Soccer. Numerous individuals also placed first at state in athletics.

The district once again made Adequate Yearly Progress or AYP by exceeding the state goals for progress on math and reading assessments as defined by the federal No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). According to state data, 94.3 percent of Olathe School District students scored proficient or higher in reading and 93.7 percent of students scored proficient or higher in math.

On the staff side, Olathe East's Tiffany Richard was named the 2012 Kansas Teacher of the Year. Richard is now the seventh Olathe teacher to earn this distinction since 1974. Olathe South's Dennis Burkett was honored with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

But beyond the awards and recognitions, success occurs on a daily basis in the Olathe Public Schools, when a child understands what the teacher is explaining, gains a new skill, makes a new friend, successfully completes an assignment or earns a great score on a test. These important successes happen every day.

In the Olathe Public Schools, no matter how success is measured, our students and staff have achieved it and we are very proud.

Dr. Marlin Berry



Notice of Non-discrimination: The Olathe Public Schools prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in admissions, access, treatment or employment, in its programs and activities 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 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Inquiries regarding compliance with applicable civil rights statutes related to ethnicity, gender, the ADA or age discrimination 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. (06/10)



Cover photo: Vanya Shivashankar, a fifth-grader at Regency Place Elementary School, participated in the Scripps National Spelling Bee for the second time in her elementary school career. She advanced to the national bee after winning the Olathe Public Schools Spelling Bee. The 10-year-old stumbled on pejerrey in the national event, but she's smiling now. The Scrabble tiles represent the words she spelled at the national bee.

