May 28, 2019

Administrative Announcement

Superintendent Anthony Lewis announces the resignation of Kyle Hayden, chief operations officer, who has accepted a position as chief finance and operations officer for the Blue Valley school district, effective July 1. The Lawrence Board of Education approved the personnel matter Tuesday night.

“Kyle has been a tremendous asset to Lawrence Public Schools, serving a year as superintendent and leading the community through a multi-year process of planning for and investing in improvements to all of our schools through the two largest school bond referendums in the district’s history,” said Dr. Lewis. “I appreciate that Kyle will assist us with the transition of leadership for the construction projects currently in progress at four remaining secondary schools.”

Except for Lawrence High’s three-year transformation, which will be about 20% complete by the fall, the rest of the current bond construction projects – at Free State High and Liberty Memorial Central and West Middle Schools – will be finished by the end of the summer. The board approved up to 15 days of consultation with Hayden beyond the end date of his contract.

“I wish Kyle and his family all the best in the future,” Dr. Lewis added.

Hayden served as USD 497’s seventh superintendent of schools in 2016-2017 and five years as assistant superintendent of business and operations. Among other areas of oversight, he managed the district’s capital improvement and facility master planning that led to the $92.5 million bond election in 2013, which funded updates to all 14 elementary schools, and the $87 million school bond election in 2017 for secondary school needs. Hayden also played a key role in the community partnerships that led to the construction of the Lawrence College and Career Center, which houses the Boys and Girls Club Teen Center and shares a campus with Peaslee Tech, and the district’s Facilities and Operations campus and warehouse. In addition, Hayden served as an assistant principal at Lawrence High during the 2004-05 school year.

Before joining Lawrence Public Schools, Hayden served 16 years as a superintendent, assistant superintendent, principal, assistant principal, teacher, and coach in Tonganoxie, Ellis, Blue Rapids, Udall, Cheney, and Overland Park, Kansas; and Granbury and Marble Falls, Texas. He earned a bachelor’s degree from Tabor College and his master’s from Emporia State University.

“It has been a pleasure and honor to serve in a district leadership role for Lawrence Public Schools. I am proud to have been a part of many school district accomplishments over the last eight years and hope my contributions make a lasting positive impact on others,” said Hayden. “I have been blessed to have worked with many talented and dedicated educators and community members who have a heart for kids.”

USD 497 will assess this open position and other needs as part of planning for the 2019-2020 school year.