June 9, 2021

Administrative Announcement: West Middle School

Superintendent Dr. Anthony Lewis announces the resignation of West Middle School Principal Dr. Brad Kempf, effective June 30, 2021, pending school board approval. Dr. Kempf will complete his fifth year of leadership at West this month. He has accepted an interim assistant superintendent position with the Emporia Public Schools.

“I appreciate Dr. Kempf’s leadership and service to the district. He has built solid relationships throughout the West Middle School community to support and improve the educational experiences of our scholars,” said Dr. Lewis. “I am pleased for Brad to have this opportunity to continue to serve public education at a district level and wish him continued success.”

Prior to joining the district, Dr. Kempf served four years as an associate middle school principal and assistant athletics director in Emporia. He previously served seven years as a principal, teacher, and coach in White City and Tonganoxie, Kansas, and Fort Knox, Kentucky, and four years in the United States Army. He earned a bachelor’s degree at Missouri State University, master’s degrees at the University of Missouri and Baker University, and his doctorate at Baker University.

“I have been blessed to lead West Middle School the last five years. I’m truly grateful for the experience because West students, families, and staff helped me learn and grow as an educational leader. West’s compassionate, innovative, and dedicated staff will continue to lead the way,” said Dr. Kempf.

“My Lawrence Public Schools experience has prepared me for my future role as the interim assistant superintendent of human resources in Emporia Public Schools. I may be leaving Lawrence Public Schools in a professional capacity, but I look forward to continuing to engage with West Middle School, Free State High School, and the district as a parent and community member,” he added.

Dr. Lewis will work with the Executive Leadership Team to evaluate how best to fill this position given that it is late in the district’s hiring season.

Built in 1960, West Middle School currently serves 626 students in grades 6-8.

###