



USD 497 News Release

Julie Boyle, Executive Director of Communications
110 McDonald Drive Lawrence, Kansas 66044
785-330-1662 / jboyle@usd497.org

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Administrative Announcement



West Middle School Interim Principal Kathy Branson announces the selection of Therese Brink Edgecomb as the school's assistant principal and athletic director, effective immediately, pending school board approval. Brink Edgecomb succeeds Branson in the position. The district promoted Branson after Principal Dr. Brad Kempf accepted an interim assistant superintendent position in Emporia.

“Therese’s passion is working directly with staff and families. West is a community that she lives in, knows, and loves. Her strength and knowledge in social-emotional learning is genuinely what is best for West. She will provide much needed support as we move forward from an unprecedented school year,” said Branson.

Brink Edgecomb returns to Lawrence Public Schools after serving five years as a professional development coordinator and remote learning principal in the Auburn-Washburn school district in Topeka. She previously taught in Lawrence for nine years at Sunset Hill and Hillcrest Elementary Schools and Liberty Memorial Central Middle School. She also served one year as a district curriculum coordinator and lead teacher, or teacher on special assignment, in the area of English language arts in Lawrence. Her prior experience includes teaching for three years in Kansas City, Kansas, and Wichita. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Emporia State University and her master’s at Baker University.

“I am incredibly excited about returning to the Lawrence school district. It feels like coming home to be at West Middle School, where our boys attended school and I already have many relationships. West is an outstanding school with a great staff, supportive families, and wonderful students. I truly look forward to joining the Warhawk community in this role,” said Brink Edgecomb.

Built in 1960, West Middle School serves approximately 630 students in grades 6-8.

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