



USD 497 News Release

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Administrative Announcement: West Middle School



Superintendent Dr. Anthony Lewis announces the selection of Kady Carson, Billy Mills Middle School assistant principal and athletics director, as principal of West Middle School, effective July 1, 2024, pending school board approval. This is Carson's third year in her current role.

The district announced in June the appointment of West assistant principal and athletic director Therese Edgecomb as interim principal, sharing its plans to post the position and conduct a formal search to provide time and opportunity for input from the West school community.

"I appreciate Mrs. Edgecomb's leadership and service," said Dr. Lewis. "I also am grateful to the West staff and parents who volunteered in an advisory capacity during the interview process. Their feedback informed my recommendation to the board."

"Kady is an enthusiastic, student-centered, and collaborative building leader. Among her many strengths are communication and using data to drive decision making. She understands that high expectations and high levels of support for positive student behaviors are foundational for learning. Kady has been part of a team at Billy Mills that has reduced behavior referrals, which are barriers to learning," said Dr. Lewis.

Prior to joining Lawrence Public Schools, Carson taught middle school math and robotics and coached volleyball for seven years in Ottawa USD 290. The Ottawa school district nominated her to the Kansas State Department of Education's Kansas Horizon Award (2016) and Kansas Teacher of the Year (2019) recognition programs for outstanding teaching. She earned a bachelor's degree at Emporia State and her master's at the University of Kansas.

"I am incredibly excited to lead West Middle School. I love the Lawrence community and can't wait to foster a collaborative culture and build trust among students, staff, and families. I will work to create a foundation where every member of the school community feels valued and empowered to contribute to our shared success," said Carson.

"While I embark on this new chapter at West, I carry with me deep gratitude for the incredible experiences I have had at Billy Mills Middle School. I will miss the cherished relationships I have built. I am profoundly grateful for the lasting impact each individual has had on my professional journey," she added.

Built in 1960, West Middle School serves approximately 687 students in grades 6-8 at 2700 Harvard Rd.

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