Executive Summary

Olathe Public Schools were named 2018 Challenge Awards recipients of the 2018 Challenge Awards. Six Olathe high school students were named 2019 Kansas Career and Technical Education (CTE) Scholars by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE). There are 39 students across Kansas who receive this honor.

• Olathe Public Schools Deputy Superintendent for Business and Operations John Hutchison was selected to receive the International Eagle Award from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO). This award is the highest honor in school business.

• The Kansas Association of Secondary School Principals recognized Frontier Trail Middle School Principal Rod Smith with the Middle School Principal of the Year award.

• Alicia Jackson, counselor at Olathe West High School, was named Kansas School Counselor of the Year by the Kansas School Counselor Association.

• Manchester Park Elementary Principal Sean Bohon was named the 2018 Kansas School Counselor Principal Advocate of the Year by the Kansas School Counselor Association.

• California Trail Middle School center-based resource teacher Jess Petrie was named a Community Champion through the Down Syndrome Guild of Greater Kansas City.

• Jennifer Cullen, counselor at Regency Place Elementary, was selected as the Kansas School Counselor Association (KSCA) Promise Award winner.

• Chisholm Trail Middle School math teacher and boys basketball coach Zach Reed was named the Kansas Middle School Coach of the Year by the Kansas School Counselor Association.

Awards and Recognitions (2018-19)

Accomplishments

Olathe Public Schools are known for innovative programs, excellence in teaching, technology rich classrooms and well maintained buildings and grounds. With a strong reputation for educational excellence, community and parent support.

• The Olathe School District recommended 34 students to receive the Seal of Biliteracy based on their academic achievement in English and a foreign language.

• The Olathe School District had 11 National Merit Finalists.

• Students in the Olathe School District scored a composite score of 23.9 on the ACT exam, which is the third highest in the district’s history. The scores were well above state and national peers, 21.6 and 20.8 respectively.

• Olathe Public Schools were named as one of America’s Best Midsize Employers by Forbes. In collaboration with analytics from Statista, Forbes selects America’s Best Employers based on an independent survey from a vast sample of more than 50,000 U.S. employees for companies employing at least 1,000 people in their U.S. operations.

• The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE), in partnership with character.org and Smoky Hill Education Service Center, recognized Central Elementary with a Shifting School Culture Recognition.

• The Confidence in Kansas Public Education Task Force has named 185 schools in 98 Kansas public school districts, including Olathe Public Schools, as recipients of the 2018 Challenge Awards. Six Olathe Public Schools were named 2018 Challenge Award recipients: Central Elementary, Fairview Elementary, Ridgeview Elementary, Washington Elementary, Westview Elementary and Indian Trail Middle School.

• Ten Olathe high school students were named 2019 Kansas Career and Technical Education (CTE) Scholars by the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE). There are 39 students across Kansas who receive this honor.

• Fairview Elementary was selected to receive the Kansas Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (KAHPERD) Model School Gold Award for their continued excellence in physical education.

• Four Olathe high schools were named to the top-25 in the U.S. News and World Report’s list of Best Kansas High Schools. Olathe Northwest High School was ranked seventh, Olathe South High School was ranked 18th, Olathe East High School was ranked 21st and Olathe North High School was ranked 25th.

• Emily Martin, senior at Olathe North High School, was elected to serve as an International Thespian Officer. Martin is one of six students who will represent the International Thespian Society.

• The Olathe North High School Scholars Bowl team earned the Kansas 6A state championship.

• Manu Sripathi, a fourth-grade student from Regency Place Elementary, won the Olathe Spelling Bee.

• The Olathe North High School Science Bowl team won the Kansas regional Science Bowl competition.

• Five students earned a perfect score on the ACT Exam: Cory Zink, senior at Olathe Northwest High School; Dallin Armstrong, junior at Olathe Northwest; Eddie Dai, junior at Olathe North High School; Arjun Garapaty, sophomore at Olathe North; and Savindu Buluwana, sophomore at Olathe North.

• Olathe North High School math teacher Terry Link was selected as a Jedel Excellence in Mathematics Education award winner. Link is one of 16 educators in the Kansas City metro area to receive the honor.

XIV. Performance Measures

Accomplishment of Goals and Objectives

In Olathe, students continue to score above the nation and state on all standardized assessments given (ACT and SAT). State assessment results in reading, writing and mathematics continue to be above the state average as well.

Results such as these do not just occur. It takes the dedicated leadership of administration and staff, as well as the efforts of students and parents. The community and Board of Education support the concept of continuous improvement, high standards and accountability.