



June 24, 2025 ~ **Olathe Public Schools Responds to Kansas Attorney General Letter Regarding Unlawful “Social Transitioning” in Schools**

On Tuesday, June 24, 2025, Olathe Public Schools was made aware of a letter sent by Kansas Attorney General Kris Kobach to U.S. Secretary of Education Linda E. McMahon regarding unlawful social transitioning in schools. Below please find a statement from the district in response to this letter.

STATEMENT FROM OLATHE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Olathe Public Schools is obligated to follow all state and federal laws to support our students, staff and families. As a district, it is always our practice to work directly and partner with families and students as situations arise to ensure we are providing the appropriate and necessary support. To be absolutely clear, it is our expectation that staff work directly with families regarding student-related matters involving their own child(ren). The Olathe Public Schools does not and has never socially transitioned our students.

Olathe Public Schools received written communication from the Attorney General’s office on Dec. 11, 2023, regarding concerns about student pronouns and gender identity. The district responded directly to the Attorney General’s office on Dec. 19, 2023. On Feb. 8, 2024, the district was also made aware of a press release sent from the Attorney General’s office related to the same concern. The district immediately responded to his concerns upon being notified and worked through multiple correspondences to schedule a meeting with the Attorney General’s office in person.

On Tuesday, March 26, 2024, the Olathe Public Schools superintendent and staff counsel met with two attorneys from the Attorney General’s office, as Attorney General Kobach did not meet with the district. In that meeting, the district repeatedly sought clarity from the Attorney General’s office regarding specific changes that they believed should be made by the district. The district also asked the Attorney General’s office to identify specific situations involving Olathe Public Schools students, staff or families that they were aware of in which the district was not following state or federal laws. However, the Attorney General’s office would not provide specific input or information regarding any alleged violations of state and federal laws by the district.

Due to the limited information shared by the Attorney General's office, the district was left with no actionable information to make change. Despite the district's willingness to remedy any concerns, the result of the meeting and overall interaction left the district feeling as though they were part of a larger political agenda. As the second largest district in the state supporting tens of thousands of students, Olathe Public Schools does not have time to engage in political agendas. Our focus is and will always be educating our students for their future.

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About the Olathe Public Schools: The Olathe School District is the largest school district in the Kansas City metropolitan area and is located southwest of Kansas City, in Johnson County, Kan. The district serves students from Olathe and parts of Lenexa and Overland Park. Home to nearly 30,000 students and 5,000 staff members, the district's vision is Their Future is Our Future. For more information about the Olathe Public Schools, visit the district's website at www.olatheschools.org.