



# JUNE

## Newsletter 2026

### FAIR UPDATES

The Beloved Carnival is BACK for the Fair This Year!

Join us August 12th–15th from 6:00 PM–11:00 PM each evening for rides, games, fun, and unforgettable fair memories for the whole family!

Be sure to stay tuned for next month's newsletter for the full fair schedule and all the exciting events happening throughout fair week!

### OVERBROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For many years, Overbrook had a working doctor's office serving the medical needs of our community. The Overbrook Historical Society invites you to attend our next Speakers Series event, The Doctors of Overbrook: Memories and History. Join us at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 25, in the Overbrook Library Community Room to share your memories and hear from Katie Moon, president of the Overbrook Rural Health Initiative, a non-profit working to further healthcare access in our rural community.



### OVERBROOK POLICE DEPARTMENT

Summer Safety Reminder from the Overbrook Police Department: School's out and summer fun is in full swing! That means more kids will be out and about—riding bikes, playing games, and enjoying the sunshine. Please slow down and stay alert, especially in neighborhoods and near parks. Let's work together to keep our streets safe for everyone.

**The Overbrook Police Department will host a class on fraud and financial scams aimed to help residents prevent becoming victims on Monday, June 8th at 6:00 PM at Grace Community Church.**

### OVERBROOK AMERICAN LEGION

Join The American Legion as we celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the 4th of July!

Start your Independence Day with a delicious biscuits & gravy breakfast served from 7:00 AM – 10:00 AM.

### FIREWORK ORDINANCE:

Fireworks may be legally discharged within the city limits of Overbrook from **July 1st through July 5th**, between the hours of **10:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. each day**. However, on July 4th, fireworks may be discharged from 10:30 a.m. until 12:00 midnight to allow for extended celebration of Independence Day. Outside of these dates and times, it is unlawful to discharge, fire off, or explode any fireworks—including squibs, rockets, firecrackers, Roman candles, or any other combustible fireworks—within the city limits. If someone wishes to discharge fireworks outside of the July 1–5 window, they must submit a request to the Overbrook City Council in advance. The request must be approved prior to the event.

# FREEDOM FESTIVAL

Thursday July 3rd. Food begins at 6 PM. Please bring a side and/or a dessert to share. Patriotic ceremony and flag raising will begin at 7:15. The live music will start at 7:30 and the fireworks will begin at dark (approx. 9:15). Water games will be available for those who want to participate (dress accordingly and bring a towel) as well as 9 square and basketball for the youth! Bring lawn chairs, blankets, food, and bug spray and expect a beautiful, fun-filled evening full of food, fun, fellowship and **FIREWORKS!!**

## 4TH TH OF JULY FESTIVAL

Join us in Celebration of the 250<sup>th</sup> Birthday of America!! The Children's Bike Parade starts at 10:00am at the Water Tower on Ash Street. Fun family activities following the parade at the Fairgrounds. Evening events start at 6:00pm at Overbrook City Lake. Food Trucks • Snow Cones • Inflatable Water Slide & Basketball (free) • Free Watermelon & Glow Sticks • Face painting DJ Dusty Workman **FIREWORKS DISPLAY** to start at approximately 9:45pm.

## OVERBROOK BIBLE CHURCH Vacation Bible School is Coming!

Join us August 2nd, 3rd, and 4th for three days full of fun, faith, games, music, crafts, and laughter!

August 2-4

6:00 PM – 7:45 PM

Open to all kids entering Kindergarten through 6th Grade

Bring your friends and come enjoy an exciting time of learning, fellowship, and summer fun!



## USD 434



### CONFIGURATION UPDATE:

Please see attached flyer for the latest update from the school. If you would like more information, please visit <https://www.usd434.org>

Please see flyer for information on free meals for children this summer.

Provided by USD 434.



## BOOK SALE

Friends of the Library Book Sale  
**July 23,24,25** at the Overbrook Public Library  
Thursday 10:00am -7:00pm Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm Saturday 9:00am-1:00 pm. Bag Day on Friday and Saturday Fill a bag for \$5.00



## Overbrook Park & Recreation Newsletter June 2026

### Pool Updates

- Lifeguards Needed: OPR is still hiring lifeguards! Applications are available at City Hall. For questions, contact Madison at 785-219-9060 or OPR@Overbrookks.com.
- Swim Meet – June 27: Please expect increased traffic and limited parking near the pool. Affected areas include Maple St. and 7th St. Consider avoiding these areas if possible.
- 4th of July Free Swim: Join us for a free swim from 12:00 PM – 5:00 PM on July 4th. This event is open to everyone.

### Soccer

- Registration Opening Soon:
- Soccer signups will open in early July.
- Season Details:
- Runs September – October
- Includes an end-of-season tournament
- Open to PreK – 6th grade (2026–2027 school year)

### Ball Fields

OPR will be hosting games Monday through Friday starting at 6:00 PM throughout the month. Please plan for:

- Increased traffic
- Limited parking

### Summer Camp

Spots are still available.

If you haven't enrolled yet, contact OPR as soon as possible to get your kiddos signed up.

### Fishing Derby

18th Annual Steve Cross Memorial Children's Fishing Derby

July 11

PreK – 3rd Grade

- Registration: 8:30 AM
- Fishing: 9:00 – 9:45 AM

4th Grade – Age 16

- Registration: 9:15 AM
- Fishing: 10:00 – 11:30 AM

Prizes and gift boxes will be distributed immediately after each group finishes.



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# SUN MEALS TO-GO

USD 434 Summer Meals at CAC, OAC and SAC

- Free Meals available to all children 1-18
- Starts June 1<sup>st</sup> and ends July 31<sup>st</sup>
- Pick up times 9:00am to 9:30am, Monday-Friday
- Grab and Go Meals - 1 breakfast and 1 lunch per day  
(distributed at the same time)
- Meals have to be consumed off site
- Schedule variation: closed July 6th-10th
- If there is severe weather or important site updates we will communicate to the public via social media platforms and school messaging system

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



**5K&1 MILE RUN & WALK**

**How to sign up:**

[runsignup.com](https://runsignup.com)

Search: Overbrook Community 5k

*Fundraiser to support Community Christian School*

**SATURDAY  
4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY 2026  
8:00 AM**

**LOCATION:  
OVERBROOK CITY  
BASEBALL  
DIAMONDS**

**If you would like to sponsor, or have any questions please reach out to Hanna Powell  
785-640-0450.**

# PUBLIC NOTICE BOND ELECTION AUGUST 4, 2026



## USD 434 Santa Fe Trail Reconfiguration Project

May 19, 2026

Dear Santa Fe Trail Community,

On behalf of the USD 434 Board of Education, I am writing to share important information regarding an upcoming School Bond Election scheduled for August 4, 2026. On May 12, the Kansas State Board of Education approved USD 434's application to place a bond issue on the ballot for a two-campus project. This election asks our community to vote on a structural and financial plan designed to address our long-term facility needs and allocation of district resources through reconfiguration.

### Overview of the Proposal

- **Aligned School Campuses (Two-Campus Model):** The proposal outlines a plan to reduce the number of active school buildings from four to two. This would bring our students together into **one district-wide elementary school** and **one unified middle/high school campus**, reducing the number of times students have to change schools during their academic careers.
- **Addressing Financial Realities:** This plan directly addresses the drop in state revenue caused by 30 years of declining enrollment, balancing those losses against the high day-to-day costs of running four separate facilities.
- **Prioritizing Funding for Students:** The project aims to "right-size" our physical spaces to better match our current student enrollment. This shift is intended to target tax dollars directly toward student programs, classroom instruction, and competitive staffing rather than the continuous maintenance of older, underutilized buildings.

In 2009 and again in 2016 the district reorganized. USD 434 moved away from its historical K-8 "town-by-town" structure to adapt to state budget cuts and declining enrollment, reducing 23 certified positions and support staff through consolidation.

facts behind our declining enrollment, looking at regional birth rates, rural population shifts, local housing availability, and families opting for homeschooling or private education. Crucially, while we looked at why some families leave, we also analyzed why a high number of out-of-district families actively choose to enroll in USD 434.

- **2024-2026 Expert Consultation:** HTK Architects and Piper Sandler have partnered with USD 434 since August 2024 to assist with facility planning, financial forecasting, and steering committee coordination. A 42-member steering committee, made up of a diverse group of stakeholders, met regularly from May to October 2025 to evaluate the best paths forward.
- **2025-2026 Facility Repurposing Study:** The BOE is dedicated to repurposing school closures in this project. Allen Community College and USD 434 are collaboratively planning to repurpose the Scranton Attendance Center into a post-secondary technical education center to serve local and regional students as well as community members.

**Based on three years of data and recommendations from the community steering committee, the Board of Education has placed the Two-Campus Model on the upcoming ballot for a community vote.**

### School Closures:

- **Scranton Facility Status:** Independent of the bond election outcome, the Scranton facility will close as a district attendance center. To secure immediate operational savings, our three preschool classrooms will move to the Overbrook Attendance Center for the upcoming school year. The district administrative offices will return to the annex building on the high school campus.
- **Overbrook Facility Status:** If the bond passes, the Overbrook facility would close as an elementary school after remodeling is finalized in Carbondale. The Board of Education will continue to evaluate viable options regarding the potential repurposing or sale of this property.
- **The Proposed Model:** A consolidated PK-5 Elementary School operating at the Carbondale site, and a unified 6-12 Middle/High School campus operating at the SFTHS site on Highway 56.

### Commitment to Our Towns and Facilities

The Board of Education deeply respects the history and personal connections our communities have with local school buildings. If voters approve the transition to a two-campus model, the Board is fully committed to finding purposeful new lives for both the Scranton and Overbrook facilities. The district is actively pursuing partnerships with regional organizations to ensure these buildings can continue to support the local economy and community life.

### Staying Informed & Getting Involved

However, the resulting layout required our students to move through four separate building sites during their school years, creating inefficiencies, alignment issues, and additional expenses.

Current Organization: Preschool (Scranton) K-3 (Overbrook) 4-8 (Carbondale) 9-12 (SFTHS)

**Where to Find the Facts:** Detailed architectural concepts, estimated tax impact data, and comprehensive project details can be found in this document. This factual information will also be shared with community members this summer through mailers, the district website, local newspapers, in-person community meetings, and social media. Students have received these documents in their backpacks today.

### Project Specifications

- **Two-Campus Model:** PK-5th Grade @ Carbondale Campus | 6th-12th Grade @ High School Campus
- **Scope of Work:** Remodeling, new construction, and safety and infrastructure updates to aging buildings—including mechanical, plumbing, electrical, and structural systems.
- **Bond Principal Amount:** \$26 Million
- **Election Date:** August 4, 2026

### Review of District Financial Data

In Kansas, public school funding is tied directly to student enrollment numbers. As USD 434's enrollment has declined over the past three decades, our state funding has dropped accordingly. Despite serving fewer students, the district has continued to maintain the expensive overhead of four separate locations—including duplicate costs for student transportation, utilities, food services, technology infrastructure, property insurance, and facility upkeep.

To balance annual operating budgets up to this point, the Board of Education has had to reduce staff positions and student program options. This proposed bond project is intended to lower overall facility square footage, allowing the district to move money away from building operations and reinvest it into high-quality instruction, classroom staff, and student programs.

### Timeline of the Three-Year Planning Process

This proposal is the result of a thorough three-year research and community engagement process, which included:

- **2021-2023 Community Town Halls:** The district hosted eight town hall meetings (two in each of our communities). Feedback from residents consistently identified our facility layouts, grade level configuration, and overall efficiency as top priorities for the district's future improvements.
- **2023-2024 Facility & Enrollment Studies:** The district hired professional consultants to evaluate the long-term structural needs of our buildings. We also analyzed the

The ultimate decision regarding this facility and reconfiguration proposal rests entirely with the registered voters of our district. Throughout the summer, the district will provide opportunities for in-person Q&A sessions, information about verified tax impact figures, and election information.

### Updates will be shared through:

- **District Website & Official Social Media Pages:** Serving as central hubs for all project data.
- **YouTube Channel:** To watch live-streamed or archived Board of Education meetings.
- **Local Media:** Regular informational updates published in the *Osage County Herald Chronicle*.
- **Direct Mail:** Detailed, fact-based bond information mailed straight to all district households this summer.

Sincerely,

*Faith Flory*

Superintendent of Schools