

LSR-7 School Board CANDIDATE PROFILES

LS



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2023 Lee's Summit R-7 School Board Elections

Seven candidates have filed to run for three available three-year terms on the Lee's Summit R-7 Board of Education. The Chamber is hosting the LSR-7 School Board Candidate Forum from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 22 at the Missouri Innovation Campus, 1101 NW Innovation Pkwy. The forum offers a great opportunity to meet the candidates and learn more about their stances on certain issues. The candidates are:

- Kathryn "Kathy" Campbell
- Dr. Kamile Johnson

- Stacy Cronhardt
- Regina Garrett
- David Grady

- Dr. Kamile Johnson
 Erica D. Miller
- William "Billy" Peterson
- The Chamber encourages residents to make an educated vote on April 4, 2023.

Contact Chamber President, Matt Baird, at 816.524.2424 or mbaird@lschamber.com for more information.

Please Note: All answers were copied directly from answers provided by candidates and were not edited by the Chamber.

This Program was paid for by the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce, Matt Baird, President.

Current School Board



Kathryn Campbell President



Kim Fritchie Vice President



Ryan Murdock Member



Rodrick Sparks Member



Jennifer Foley Member



Heather Eslick Member

Special thanks to our forum sponsors













Kathryn "Kathy" Campbell

as a Board are seen in the success of every one of our LSR7 students.

Education: BBA and MBA, University of Missouri – Kansas City Occupation: Information Technology – Healthcare Portfolio Leader Activities & Organizations: Missouri School Board Association (MSBA), Master Certification; Project Management Institute (PMI) and PMI KC, PMP Certification; ScrumAlliance – Member; The Summit – Lee's Summit United Methodist; Various volunteer activities past & present! Political Experience: LSR7 Board of Education, 2020 and Board President, 2022-2023

1. What compelled you to run for the R7 School Board? I am passionate about our LSR7 kids and their educational opportunities. I've served for the past 3 years as a Board Member and the past year as President of the Board. I'm bringing experience, stability and balanced leadership to this reelection run with students at the center of all decision making- celebrating district success and continuing to work hard to resolve district challenges asking tough questions to close barriers and engage all stakeholders as part of the process – listening to ensure our strategic direction and decisions

2. If re-elected what would be your top three priorities during your term? Strategic Planning & Focus – Lead, listen and learn to continue to advance the Board Priorities and the current Strategic Plan (CSIP) as we begin work on the next Strategic Plan and a comprehensive Master Facilities plan- engaging stakeholders in the planning that will shape the future of our district- 5, 10 and 20 years into the future. Accountability & Transparency to ensure we do what we promise – tracking metrics to ensure progress on commitments to our students, staff and community and creating comprehensive and actionable two-way communication strategies and community engagement at all levels. Partner through Change – Partner and champion through the changes needed for our district for sustained growth – helping engage everyone in fulfilling commitments to improve student achievements, opportunities, and wellbeing for every one of our LSR7 Students

3. What do you see as your primary job as a school board member? Setting the district's strategic direction – we do that with our Board Priorities and our Strategic Plan (CSIP), Collaboration with the Superintendent with clear understanding of delegation of duties in the operation of the district to the Superintendent, District and Superintendent Performance, Community connection and engagement, Responsible Leadership.

4. What three qualities do you have that you think will allow you to be a successful school board member? I am a leader focused on building relationships, listening and collaborating. When we build relationships based on common goals we can work through barriers to achieve those goals – I respect and value differing viewpoints, strengths and expertise in other as I gather information, evaluate options to make decisions – I do that with students at the center, evaluating stakeholder impact and an eye to our shared mission – Preparing each student for success in life. I am a change champion. I think about how change impacts people and how we engage stakeholders to become a part of the change, understand the why behind it and own their role in helping others move forward. I am not afraid to ask tough questions or have tough conversations – for clarification and understanding or to spur discussion and debate to accelerate us to get to our shared vision

5. Do you feel as a school board member you connected, engaged and communicated effectively with the community? In any professional or volunteer leadership role – I think about connections – how I can connect with people to resolve issues or celebrate success, how I can bridge connections between people to ensure they are getting the information or services they need to be successful. As a Board Member individually – I've worked to engage in a variety of communication channels – small groups, 1:1s, email, phone calls. As Board Members we share committee assignments and this year I've really gotten a lot of great input and feedback sitting on the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), the Business Roundtable, and with the LS Workforce Alliance Committees.

As Board President – two of the most important aspects I've focused on is ensuring each of us as board members have the training, knowledge and information to make the very best decisions for our district and I've worked hard to build collaborative relationships with many across our community understanding how critical the intersection is between a strong vibrant district and a strong vibrant community.

6. Although standardized test scores show increasing improvement in our schools, significant differences among economic and cultural groups still exist. What can the District do to continue the overall success in academic achievement while significantly closing the achievement gap? At the board level – it's about accountability – I work to ensure our administration at the district and building level have actionable plans in place that they are executing on and we have clear metrics that we are tracking that will show us incrementally the progress– having the data that will monitor that those plans are working and moving things in the right direction to the next standardized testing sessions or to show us the warning signs that plans need to change. There is continued challenges with standardized testing – year over year there are delays in getting the data and changes in how the data is going to be shared- we can't wait 6 or 9 months after the testing – to get the information because if we do – we're already behind from an individual student standpoint.

7. What do you think the R7 District does well and what do you think they could improve on? There are so many examples of what the district does well – noting a few here are our amazing, state of the art facilities that support student learning and ensuring the strategic plans are laid out to maintain, upgrade and build as needed. Rigorous academic opportunities for students from pre-K through high school – the portrait of a graduate that ensures we deliver on our mission – the Real World learning programs that ensure there are career paths and pipelines for our college bound and career ready students. Project-based and competency based learning ensures our students are getting hands-on experience with companies across the region. We have incredible staff throughout this district that are all engaged and dedicated to the educational opportunities of our students – every day in every staff role in this district. And we have an engaged community that supports our district and our students in volunteering and in our ballot initiatives.



Stacy Cronhardt

Education: Bachelor of Science, Occupational Therapy Occupation: Occupational Therapist Activities & Organizations: I'm an advocate and sponsor for Guiding Eyes for the Blind Political Experience: None

1. What compelled you to run for the R7 School Board? As an occupational therapist and 20-year resident of the school district, I decided to run for school board because I believe that I can make a positive impact on the education system in our community. Through my work as an occupational therapist, I have gained a deep understanding of child development and the importance of early intervention in fostering academic success Additionally, my experience as a long-time resident of the district has given me a unique perspective on the needs of our community and the challenges that our schools face. I believe that serving on the school board is an opportunity to give back to my community and make a difference in the lives of our students. I am committed to working collaboratively with other board members, administrators, teachers, parents, and community members to create positive change and improve the educational experience for all students in our district.

2. If elected, what would be your top three priorities during your term? Fixing teacher pay discrepancies is very important to me. Fair and full compensation is necessary to retain and recruit qualified educators to continue our district's legacy of academic success. Improving communication between students, families, educators, staff, and all individual stakeholders in the community is paramount to moving forward and working together in a politically divisive climate. I will strive to bring all voices to the discussion and work with all stakeholders to find common ground and implement solutions that help children succeed. I am committed to addressing teenage vaping in schools. Our district must equip families with the tools they need to have these important conversations with their children. As a school district, we have to allocate resources to educate kids against vaping and help those who do to quit. The focus cannot solely be on punitive measures like suspensions and expulsions.

3. What do you see as your primary job as a school board member? My primary job as a school board member would be to responsibly steward the district's resources, set policies and goals that support student achievement and well-being, and work collaboratively with all stakeholders to create a positive and supportive learning environment for all students. Ensuring that the district's superintendent is fulfilling board goals is critical to our district's success.

4. What three qualities do you have that you think will allow you to be a successful school board member? As a member of the school board, I would seek to communicate with a variety of stakeholders, including teachers, students, parents, administrators, and community members. Listening to understand rather than just responding would be my approach. I am dedicated to student success in LSR7 and I am committed to improving the educational experience for all students- no matter their background or abilities. I am willing to make tough decisions that prioritize the needs of students above any other interests. Finally, I would strive to work collaboratively with other school board members and district staff. I believe compromise is critical to collaboration. I will seek to build consensus around difficult issues and welcome feedback from my colleagues, district staff, and the community.

5. How will you as a school board member connect, engage and communicate with the community? I would regularly attend community events. Parent Teacher Association and town hall meetings would be two avenues I would use to stay connected to the community. I am also committed to hosting public forums, in-person and virtually, to discuss important issues happening in our school district. This would serve as an opportunity for community members to ask questions and give feedback about what is working in our district and areas where improvement is needed.

6. Although standardized test scores show increasing improvement in our schools, significant differences among economic and cultural groups still exist. What can the District do to continue the overall success in academic achievement while significantly closing the achievement gap? Our district must continue to use data to identify and monitor achievement gaps and to inform all decision-making. As a member of the board of education, I will seek to analyze student performance data, identify any areas of disparity in access to resources, and work collaboratively with my colleagues to develop data-driven strategies to address this issue. I also believe it is important for our district to provide targeted support to students who are academically struggling and students who are at risk of falling behind. Additional resources must be provided. This can include access to tutoring networks, after-school programs, and developing individualized plans to support student success.

7. What do you think the school district does well and what do you think they could improve on? Our district is focused on centering the needs of students and that is a major strength. We must remain committed to ensuring an equitable education for every student- no matter their race, cultural background, or ability. Every child deserves to leave our district prepared to be productive in the next stage of life. LSR7 must prioritize investments in areas that directly support student learning and success. It is past time our district addresses pay discrepancies among some of our teaching staff. Teachers deserve wages commensurate with their years of service. This is an issue that affects some of our longest-tenured teachers. If we want to remain a destination district and recruit and retain qualified diverse staff, we must do right by our employees and never place them in a position to have to petition for what they have already earned.



Regina Garrett

Education: Graduated Blue Springs High School in 1990; Attended MCC, studied Sciences; Accepted into the Physical Therapy Assistant Program through Penn Valley College. Occupation: Homemaker Activities & Organizations: I am a PTA member through Highland Park Elementary Political Experience: I have never run for a political or school board seat

1. What compelled you to run for the LSR7 School Board? I have a passion for my own children's education and I believe that my experience with LSR7 thus far can bring a new perspective to the board that can help bridge the gap between concerned taxpayers and many answers that might already lie within the district. I have been to many school board meetings in the last year and the more I've paid attention, the more I feel there is a disconnect between this great school district and the community that it serves.

2. If elected, what would be your top three priorities during your term? Focus on the basics in Reading, writing, and arithmetic to increase all student's proficiency rates. Amplify family voices including teachers and staff. We need to hear the voices of the community to make the necessary improvements. Prioritize safety and security for all. I believe we should be creating a space for both students, teachers, and supportive staff to feel safe in their educational environment. Teachers also need to be heard without having fear of job security.

3. What do you see as your primary job as a school board member? My Primary job as a school board member is doing much research to ensure I am making good policy decisions for all students and teachers while also being a good steward of our community's tax dollars. I also think Board members should have good communication with school teachers, students, and parents. Each member is one vote of 7 and it is important to be as transparent as possible.

4. What three qualities do you have that you think will allow you to be a successful school board member? My family is one of diverse viewpoints that we often share and can engage in civil discourse. We may not always agree but I believe iron sharpens iron. First, I am always willing to listen to another's point of view and take into consideration something I hadn't thought of myself. Second, another good quality I have is empathy. I can respectfully listen to another's story and viewpoint and have empathy for another's adversity. Empathy for humanity can go a long way in bringing a community together. Third, I feel I can be a teamplayer. It is important to understand that the BOE is one acting body, and no matter how an individual votes, all members must support decisions of the board in unison.

5. How will you as a school board member connect, engage and communicate with the community? I would share the wealth of knowledge I have acquired, because of my own children, in regards to all of the great educational programs that Lee's Summit offers. We have an LSR7 magazine that talks about programs through the Great Beginning Early Education Center, Parents as Teachers, Struggling Readers, Summer Learning Institute, and STA, but many parents still aren't familiar with programs the district offers. I think different forms of advertising are needed to make more citizens aware. I believe that attending community and school events show that a board member cares about our citizens and students and engaging with students, teachers, and parents fosters good relationships. I support the notion that there needs to be a more open dialogue between public commenters and the board at meetings, or a more transparents means of addressing those concerns.

6. Although standardized test scores show increasing improvement in our schools, significant differences among economic and cultural groups still exist. What can the District do to continue the overall success in academic achievement while significantly closing the achievement gap? I believe we should look to our community for local resources that offer tutoring programs, educational supplements and diverse solutions to students in need. Additionally, the district should take the initiative to stop unnecessary spending on third party consultants that are very expensive and not in the business of educating children. As a school board, all spending efforts should be directly related to academics and core subjects, especially reading. Reading carries into so many subjects, it is imperative to help all children who are struggling with reading deficits or dyslexia.

7. What do you think the school district does well and what do you think they could improve on? LSR7 is a great district. I believe it does a great job encompassing the diverse needs of our student body and the many different family dynamics they come from. However I believe there are communication gaps between the community and the school district. Many don't know there are free educational programs offered to our community. I was only lucky enough to learn about the Great Beginnings Early Education Center and Parents as Teachers program through a family member. Too many families don't learn about these opportunities. The district needs to better advertise the great educational programs that LSR7 offers and make them available to students in need. Secondly, I don't believe the citizens speaking at school board meetings feel heard. A change is needed to have improved discourse between the public and the board. Board members should have the opportunity to address and discuss topics publicly. Lastly, more transparency is needed in regard to our school districts test scores and proficiency rates. More accurate data should be presented by the district in a way that can be better understood by constituents.



David Grady

Education: Associate's of Engineering, Longview Community College Occupation: Activities & Organizations: Fellowship Church Political Experience: none

1. What compelled you to run for the R7 School Board? I want to bring LSR7 back to its former reputation as Number 1 in the State of Missouri.

2. If elected what would be your top three priorities during your term?

- a. Focus on academics to improve achievement.
- b. Increase parental involvement because engaged parents help children excel.
- c. Eliminate distractions and recover lost learning due to COVID.

3. What do you see as your primary job as a school board member?

- a. Lead the District by example and clear direction to those in positions of authority.
- b. Increase teacher involvement in decision making.

4. What three qualities do you have that you think will allow you to be a successful school board member?

- a. I held many leadership positions in industry so I know how to work with others.
- b. My goal is to help the children rather than get personal attention or gain.
- c. My reputation is built on honesty and integrity.

5. How will you as a school board member connect, engage and communicate with the community? I plan to keep my social media account open. I will pay attention to emails from citizens and respond. If people have valid issues and concerns, I prefer to address those without always making a big confrontation. Let's work things out for the students' best interests. I want community engagement. It makes us better.

6. Although standardized test scores show increasing improvement in our schools, significant differences among economic and cultural groups still exist. What can the District do to continue the overall success in academic achievement while significantly closing the achievement gap?

a. The best students usually have much family involvement. The poorest performers usually have little family involvement. That feeds the gap.

b. Every employee of the District should mentor good life/work habits. These should be built into curriculum and expectations. Students must be on time to class, come prepared to learn, bring complete assignments, and do their best.

c. As leaders, we must set high expectations. Encourage, equip, and expect the best form LSR7 students.

7. What do you think the school district does well and what do you think they could improve on?

a. We have the Summit Technology Academy which provides great opportunities for students to get into four-year colleges, trade schools, or go directly into careers or military service. We offer many programs for those who need extra assistance.

b. We must focus on education. Get back to the basics of academics. Eliminate distractions. We can do better. Our children deserve it.



Dr. Kamile Johnson

Education: Bachelor of Science, Biology / Doctorate of Pharmacy Occupation: Vice President of Pharmacy Services / Adjunct Professor Activities & Organizations: American Society of Health-System Pharmacists National Pharmaceutical Association American Academy of HIV Medicine Midwest AIDS Training Education Center Political Experience: None

1. What compelled you to run for the R7 School Board? It is important for me to pour into the next generation of children like those who did the same for me. Every success I have achieved is owed to the "village" of people who sacrificed to make my success possible. I view running for Lee's Summit Board of Education as my small way of paying it forward. I have been fortunate to have some fantastic professional experiences serving in leadership roles as a pharmacist, and in the classroom, as a professor. Having the opportunity to bring these experiences and skills into a role on the board of education I hope would be beneficial to our district.

2. If elected what would be your top three priorities during your term? I will work to increase school district employee salaries and hourly wages so that our employee compensation is competitive across the region. This pay increase would apply to teachers, bus drivers and bus aides, food service workers, administrative staff, paraprofessionals, facilities management, and other non-executive level staff. District leadership must provide our teachers with the resources they need to be successful in the classroom. Teachers are experts in their field and deserve the right to teach without outside interference. I would prioritize creating collaborative and supportive environments for teachers to thrive. Providing additional mental health resources is essential to student health and well-being. I will leverage my healthcare background to grow relationships between the school district and community partners to support a holistic approach to student success.

3. What do you see as your primary job as a school board member? I believe board members have an obligation to represent the interests of families and serve as a convener of public sentiment and concern. I am elected to be responsive to those who elected me and that is what I will try my best to do on the school board. Other job-specific roles include reviewing the performance of the superintendent of schools, reviewing grievances and/or legal matters, and managing the district budget.

4. What three qualities do you have that you think will allow you to be a successful school board member? I believe in transparency, strategic planning, and always being willing to learn more. I am committed to making decisions that are in the best interests of students and the community, and I am willing to be held accountable for those decisions. I believe the community has a right to know about every decision, especially those that affect their children. My professional experiences have equipped me with the ability to think strategically. I will use these skills to analyze the complex issues in our district and make informed choices. I will maintain a long-term perspective on district challenges and seek to balance competing priorities while ensuring fiscal responsibility and accountability. Lastly, I will keep an open mind about district business and community concerns, and maintain a willingness to learn about new ideas, policies, laws, and trends. I will also seek out opportunities to expand my knowledge to better serve our district.

5. How will you as a school board member connect, engage and communicate with the community? I think traditional modes of engagement like regular meetings are valuable, but it is important for leadership in any organization to stay informed about the most effective ways to communicate with stakeholders. As technology continues to dominate our culture, I believe it must inform how we communicate as a school district. With that in mind, I would utilize social media (where most people get their news nowadays) to connect and engage with parents, students, and community members. Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram are great tools to share information, engage with the community, and respond to questions and concerns. I will also send regular newsletters to community members by email to update parents and community stakeholders on district activities, upcoming events, and relevant education news.

6. Although standardized test scores show increasing improvement in our schools, significant differences among economic and cultural groups still exist. What can the District do to continue the overall success in academic achievement while significantly closing the achievement gap? Our school district must build stronger partnerships with families and community members. Stakeholder engagement is absolutely essential to close achievement gaps. We must engage families in the education process, provide culturally-responsive instruction, and create opportunities for families to participate in the decisions being made that affect their children. I am a huge supporter of investment in high-quality professional development for educators. These opportunities for unique, continuing education promotes academic achievement. This includes training in evidence-based instructional practices and approaches to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of students with differing ability levels.

7. What do you think the school district does well and what do you think they could improve on? For decades our school district has attracted some of the best teachers in the region. We owe our stellar graduation rates and college matriculation to this success. This should be a source of pride for our district and everyone in our community. However, in recent years, college enrollment has declined, and a significant number of college students are not choosing the teaching profession. We have seen teachers choose early retirement and some have decided to explore other careers. If our district is to remain a destination district for families, we must prioritize higher salaries and wages for teachers and non-executive-level staff.



Erica D. Miller

Education: Bachelor of Science, Family Studies & Human Services / Masters of Family Therapy **Occupation:** Talent Development Specialist / Clinical Care Manager **Activities & Organizations:** Hope Haven, board member / Alpha Kappa Alpha Inc., member **Political Experience:** None

1. What compelled you to run for the R7 School Board? I have a passion for service and I want to see each and every child in our district succeed. My background in the behavioral health sector has provided me with substantial insight concerning the barriers to academic success that many kids face. As the mother of a dyslexic child, I have seen firsthand how difficult it can be to access much-needed dyslexia and special education services within our district. I want to help change that by streamlining processes to allow families quicker access to the services they need for their children. Every child deserves to leave our district happy, healthy and prepared to face life's challenges.

2. If elected what would be your top three priorities during your term? The past three years have been a whirlwind for our students. The pandemic caused many kids to fall behind academically and suffer mentally and emotionally. I propose the creation of a Student Assistance Program to provide students with free access to mental health services. This will include counseling, support groups, and prevention programs. The long-term sustainability of our school district will require us to provide competitive pay to our teaching staff and additional opportunities for professional development. Teachers are the backbone of our education system, and many are emotionally depleted and underpaid. Higher pay and more time for collaboration will ensure educators are at their best. I will seek to amplify the voices of parents. All voices matter and differences of opinion should not result in permanent barriers to communication between the district and the community.

3. What do you see as your primary job as a school board member? My primary job as a school board member would be to work collaboratively with other board members and district administrators to create a high-quality learning environment that meets the needs of all students.

4. What three qualities do you have that you think will allow you to be a successful school board member? I will bring strong leadership skills to my board service. I have the ability to make informed decisions, build consensus, and motivate others to work towards common goals. I have a strong commitment to the well-being of all students. I am willing to listen to different perspectives and work as a team to create an inclusive environment where every student feels valued and supported. I understand how important it is to communicate effectively with families and community members. Civil discourse and transparency are key to growing relationships and I will try to build bridges with community members so that our district improves overall engagement.

5. How will you as a school board member connect, engage and communicate with the community? I think building relationships with community leaders such as local government officials, business leaders, and community organizations would help me gain a better understanding of community needs and concerns. This type of engagement would also help me identify potential resources and partnerships to support our district's goals. Volunteering and other outreach activities would be another way I will engage the community. Strengthening our district will require district leadership to demonstrate its commitment to serving the community outside of regular board service.

6. Although standardized test scores show increasing improvement in our schools, significant differences among economic and cultural groups still exist. What can the District do to continue the overall success in academic achievement while significantly closing the achievement gap? All students must have access to high-quality resources, including technology, textbooks, and learning materials. The resources must also be tailored to each student's needs. Every child must possess the necessary support to promote academic success. Our district must regularly monitor progress and adjust strategies as needed to ensure that the district is making progress in closing the achievement gap while maintaining overall academic success. This will require the board to analyze student data, track student progress, and assess the effectiveness of interventions and strategies.

7. What do you think the school district does well and what do you think they could improve on? Our district has a number of excellent curriculum offerings that are top-level. From our AP classes to our robotics programs, STA, and our aeronautics program, our district has consistently grown the curriculum offerings for students. Communication between the school district and families can be improved. Too many families still feel they are not provided enough information about the decisions being made that affect their children. This void allows for misinformation to spread, which has on more than one occasion in the past few years placed our school district in a bad light. Communication must be timely, regular, and accurate if we are going to turn the corner on this issue.



William "Billy" Peterson

Education: Bachelor of Science – Computer Information Systems Occupation: Stay At Home Dad Activities & Organizations: Serving Member of Abundant Life / Children's Ministry Political Experience: No offices held

1. What compelled you to run for the R7 School Board? I witnessed a decline in academic standing in the district, as well many stakeholders being ignored by the Board of Education.

2. If elected what would be your top three priorities during your term?

Focus on improving literacy rates.

Maintain & bolster pipelines between business needs and student pathways.

Increase truth, trust, and transparency In the community.

3. What do you see as your primary job as a school board member?

The primary job of a board of education member Is fostering academic excellence by ensuring all students have access to the resources they need for success.

4. What three qualities do you have that you think will allow you to be a successful school board member?

Integrity first

Service before self

Strive for excellence In all you do

5. How will you as a school board member connect, engage and communicate with the community? I will be an open ear and voice for all people In the community. I will do this by being approachable via social media & at events In the community.

6. Although standardized test scores show increasing improvement in our schools, significant differences among economic and cultural groups still exist. What can the District do to continue the overall success in academic achievement while significantly closing the achievement gap? I believe that standardized testing Is not the all encompassing metric by which academic success can be measured. Addressing underlying Issues & incorporating a whole of community approach Is how we can effectively shrink achievement gaps among varying groups of people.

7. What do you think the school district does well and what do you think they could improve on? I think the School district does STEM exceedingly well. I think the district could focus more on listening to stakeholders In the district who might have solutions from a perspective the administration cannot see.

Map of Lee's Summit R-7 Schools

For detailed boundary maps or to search your address and determine your school, visit **Isr7.org**.

Elementary

- 1. Hazel Grove Elementary 2001 NW Blue Pkwy Lee's Summit, MO 64064
- 2. Underwood Elementary 1125 NE Colbern Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64086
- **3. Mason Elementary** 27600 NE Colbern Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64086
- 4. Meadow Lane Elementary 1421 NE Independence Ave Lee's Summit, MO 64086
- 5. Longview Farm Elementary 1001 SW Longview Park Dr Lee's Summit, MO 64081
- 6. Cedar Creek Elementary 2600 SW Third St Lee's Summit, MO 64081
- 7. Westview Elementary 200 N Ward Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64063
- 8. Lee's Summit Elementary 110 SE Green St Lee's Summit, MO 64063
- 9. Richardson Elementary 800 NE Blackwell Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64086
- **10. Prairie View Elementary** 501 SE Todd George Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64063
- **11. Pleasant Lea Middle School** 630 SW Persels Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64081

- **12. Highland Park Elementary** 400 SE Millstone Ave Lee's Summit, MO 64063
- **13. Sunset Valley Elementary** 1850 SE Ranson Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64082
- **14. Woodland Elementary** 12709 Smart Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64086
- **15. Hawthorn Hill Elementary** 2801 SW Pryor Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64086
- **16. Summit Pointe Elementary** 13100 E 147th St Kansas City, MO 64149
- **17. Trailridge Elementary** 3651 SW Windemere Dr Lee's Summit, MO 64082
- **18.** Greenwood Elementary805 W Main StGreenwood, MO 64034

Middle

- **19. Bernard Campbell Middle School** 1201 NE Colbern Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64086
- 20. Pleasant Lea Middle School 630 SW Persels Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64081
- 21. Summit Lakes Middle School 3500 SW Windemere Dr Lee's Summit, MO 64082
- **22. East Trails Middle School** 1001 SE Bailey Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64081

High

- 23. Lee's Summit North High School 901 NE Douglas St Lee's Summit, MO 64086
- 24. Lee's Summit High School 400 SE Blue Pkwy Lee's Summit, MO 64063
- **25. Lee's Summit West High School** 2600 SW Ward Rd Lee's Summit, MO 64082

Lee's Summit Chamber announces support of LSR7 No-Tax-Increase Levy Transfer

The Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors recently announced its endorsement and support for the LSR7 No-Tax-Increase Levy Transfer appearing on the April 4, 2023, ballot.

The LSR7 No-Tax-Increase Levy Transfer is designed as a no tax-rate-increase approach to ensuring the school district can offer competitive staff compensation during a time of high inflation and stagnant state funding for pre-K through K-12 education.

"We believe the No-Tax-Increase Levy Transfer will ensure that the LSR7 School District is staying competitive in the market of hiring quality teachers to our top-rated school district," said Matt Baird, president of the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce.

Baird said in recent years, neighboring districts have taken voter-approved actions such as levy transfers and increases to invest in salary schedules and LSR7 has fallen behind in starting pay for teachers and other positions. The Chamber Board believes reallocating additional revenue to the operating fund would allow the district to increase staff compensation as part of the district's goal of recruiting and retaining quality staff.

"This ballot initiative is extremely vital to the growth, development and future of Lee's Summit," Baird said. "The LSR7 School District is a key component to the success of the Lee's Summit community and by approving this transfer we can enable salary increases for LSR7 employees to recruit and retain quality staff and ensure we are staying competitive in the hiring market of regional public school districts."

Baird said overall, the ballot initiative will ensure the community is still a top-rated destination for business to grow and flourish.

"The Lee's Summit Chamber supports the LSR7 No-Tax-Increase Levy Transfer and we encourage the citizens of Lee's Summit and our business community to show their support by voting 'yes' on April 4," Baird said.

The Lee's Summit Chamber was incorporated in 1968 and is a member-supported organization of businesses dedicated to creating opportunities for business success through networking, advocacy, and business and professional development. For additional information, call the Chamber at 816-524-2424.

Interested in other legislative priorities supported by the Chamber? Visit lschamber.com to learn more.



Lee's Summit Chamber announces support for the City of Lee's Summit's No-Tax- Increase Bond Projects Ballot Initiatives and 3% sales tax on non-medical marijuana

The Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors recently announced its endorsement and support for the City of Lee's Summit's no-tax-increase bond projects ballot initiatives appearing on the April 4, 2023, ballot.

The bonds include a no-tax-increase public safety and emergency preparedness bond project and initiative totaling \$74 million; a no-tax-increase transportation bond project and initiative totaling \$98 million; and a no-tax-increase general municipal bond project and initiative totaling \$14 million.

"Lee's Summit takes great pride in our public safety services, and as a result, one of the main reasons that families are moving to our wonderful community is to enjoy the safety and care provided by our top-rated police and fire departments," said Matt Baird, president of the Lee's Summit Chamber of Commerce. "The revenue generated from these bond initiatives will allow for a consolidated public safety operations coordination center between the police and fire departments, ensuring all information is consistent and shared between our public safety sectors."

Baird said several other key projects will come from the bonds, including fire and police headquarter renovations and facility reinvestment.

"The no-tax-increase transportation bond project will address major road improvements, sidewalk repairs and upgrading, and facility reinvestments," he said. "The no-tax-increase general municipal bond project addresses City Hall renovations, maintenance facility renovations as well as the replacement of an outdated resource-planning software system."

The Lee's Summit Chamber Board of Directors also announced its support of a city sales tax of 3% on all retail sales of adult-use, non-medical marijuana sold in the city of Lee's Summit. The funds from this tax will go to the City's general fund.

"Part of the attraction for businesses to come to Lee's Summit is all that the city offers — from public safety to our beautiful parks system, the development of our thriving downtown and the developments currently happening across our community" Baird said. "The City will be able to ensure our city is a top attraction for business development and growth by capitalizing on this revenue. We encourage the citizens of Lee's Summit and our business community to show their support by voting 'yes' on April 4."

The Lee's Summit Chamber was incorporated in 1968 and is a member-supported organization of businesses dedicated to creating opportunities for business success through networking, advocacy, and business and professional development. For additional information, call the Chamber at 816-524-2424.

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