LHS sports preparing to start back up in June with summer workouts



Kansas high school sports has been absent since the middle of March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but that all could change very soon.

During its board of directors meeting earlier this month, the Kansas State High School Activities Association made a change to its summer regulations. Starting on June 1, school employed coaches may begin summer programs as long as it is permitted by the community's health authorities and the school district.

Coaches at Louisburg High School are making plans to move forward beginning the first of June, but they must meet some guidelines to do so.

In the first two calendar weeks in June, athletes will need to attend a conditioning session each day. Those must be completed to be able to participate in a coach's camp or organized competition.

If an athlete is playing football, they must complete an extra five days of conditioning before being able to participate in competition.

The first two weeks of conditioning sessions will not involve weights, indoor facilities or sporting equipment to ensure safety. Masks will be optional at workouts, but six feet of distance will be in place along with no more than the 90 gathering restriction under the phase 3 guidelines put out by the state.

Then on June 15, barring no setbacks, conditioning will include indoor weight sessions and indoor facilities will be allowed. Coaches will also be able to hold camps and competition throughout the summer.



Louisburg football coach Robert Ebenstein has plotted out summer workouts for his football team beginning with three weeks of conditioning starting June 1

"I think the guidelines were set to help ensure the safety of all student athletes accords the state, along with their physical health as well as the preparation for the season," Louisburg football coach Robert Ebenstein said. "Challenges may be there, but overall they are irrelevant as all the teams in the state have to follow the same guidelines. Our school administrators have been very supportive throughout this process."

Along with the new changes, KSHSAA also lifted the moratorium period at the end of the summer and will allow teams to practice all the way up to the beginning of the school year. Fall sports, however, will take precedence from Aug. 1 through Aug. 15.

For some programs, the changes won't be much different as what they have experienced in the past, other than practicing social distancing through the first two weeks of conditioning.

"We are still allowed to compete in leagues and camps after all athletes have completed 10 days of conditioning/training," Louisburg volleyball coach Jessica Compliment said. "Our summer weights program is changing some this summer, so it gives the players a chance to acclimate back into workouts before putting a ball in their hands.

"When you really look at the schedule, we lost the first two weeks in June (in terms of volleyball skill work), but we gained the moratorium week and have full contact until August 16. The fall season starts on August 17. Normally, we can't have contact, outside of weights and conditioning, after mid-July. This actually gives us about four weeks on the back end of summer to work with the athletes."



Louisburg volleyball coach Jessica Compliment has her normal summer scheduled planned out despite a different start.

Still, the new-look summer won't be without its challenges — especially in the first 10 days of the summer calendar. However, the coaches and athletes will gladly work around the new rules in order to get back together and competing again.

"I think the new guidelines will help kids get back to some normalcy as long as everything continues to get better, but the six feet of social distancing could be challenging when you are coaching a team sport," Louisburg soccer coach Kyle Conley said. "We will find a way to overcome these challenges and help the kids develop as much as possible."

Coaches have already altered their camp schedules for the summer, and that information, along with a list of camps, can be found here.

As for Louisburg cross country, the runners will also be going through a conditioning period like everyone else. They will meet at the football practice field at 7 a.m. for an hour every morning beginning June 1 and that will continue through the summer.

Since school has been out since the middle of March, coaches have tried to find a way to stay in touch with their players — and like with online schooling — the zoom platform has been a big help for coaches.

"Football has been doing online zoom workout together for those currently in high school every Monday, Wednesday and Friday while we have been out of school, so I have still been seeing them and they have been doing some cardio," Ebenstein said. "We have as normal of a summer planned as possible. We will have our weights sessions, our team camp, review/skills night, and we will have our contact camp that KSHSAA is allowing."

With everything going on around the state and the country, everything is still in limbo and dates could have to be altered once again depending on what local officials decide. Even with all that, the coaches believe there will be a fall season.



Louisburg soccer coach Kyle Conley has tried to keep many of his same events for both the boys and girls teams.

"I am confident our fall season will be played," Conley said "It may have some things that are different, but we will play. I know that the boys are very anxious in having conversations with some of them."

Many of the coaches and players are just ready to return to some kind of routine following the spread of COVID-19 and they hope sports can give that to them.

"As of right now, our season is scheduled, and we'll plan accordingly if told differently," Compliment said. "But for right now, (activities director Michael) Pickman has stressed that for most of the athletes, a return to summer weights/conditioning/activities will be their first taste of 'normalcy.' I'm excited to get back at it and see the athletes

Pickman named as new LHS activities director



Michael Pickman (left) was hired as Louisburg High School's new activities director and assistant principal last week following the USD Board of Education meeting. Current Louisburg AD, Scott Hinkle (right), will move to the middle school to serve in the same capacity starting next school year.

Louisburg High School will have a little different look to its activities department for the 2020-21 school year.

Following the USD 416 Board of Education meeting on April 13, Michael Pickman was hired to serve as the school's new assistant principal and activities director. Pickman will replace Scott Hinkle, who has been in that position for the last two years.

Hinkle will remain in the district and will move over to the middle school to serve in the same capacity.

"I had known for a while that I wanted to continue my education by getting a second master's degree, but I didn't really know which area," Pickman said. "I talked with current

administration and was both inspired and encouraged to explore administrative leadership. This is the job I wanted because it meant staying in Louisburg and continuing to work with the staff and coaches who I know have, can and will achieve great things when it comes to our students and student athletes.

"We are a Louisburg family and I want my daughter in the Louisburg community and school system, so I wouldn't have done this anywhere else. The atmosphere from district leadership to the building leadership is top notch and I am ready to grow as an educator and work alongside (principal) Jeremy (Holloway) and the administrative staff at the high school and the amazing coaches and support them."

Pickman has taught English at the high school for the last seven years and has also worked in the Prairie View, West Franklin and Maur Hill Prep school districts.

He has also spent a lot of time in the athletic arena as he has served as the Wildcat boys and girls soccer assistant coach, alongside head coach Kyle Conley, for the last five-plus years.

"It will be tough to give up all aspects of it, but the magic of these soccer programs will be especially difficult," Pickman said. "Kyle has been an amazing person to coach with and his passion is contagious. Getting to start the girls program with him and the immediate success has been amazing. State finals and big wins and the atmosphere — some don't ever get to experience that — and lastly the players, both boys and girls who have graduated and those who remain to carry on the greatness are why I said yes to coaching. They make the whole experience amazing and fun.

"So it will be hard, but I would also not have gone anywhere else to do a different job and so I will still be able to support the soccer players and every other student and athlete through my new opportunity and to do so the Wildcat Way."

As for Hinkle, he spent the last two years as the LHS activities director after coming from Liberal High School. He is excited that his new position at the middle school will allow him to spend more time with family.

"I really enjoyed my time at the high school, even though it was only two years," Hinkle said. "I am leaving behind a great workplace with a great culture and an unbelievable staff. It was not an easy decision.

"I made the move to the middle school to get back some evenings and weekends. I have been an athletic director for 11 years at the high school level in my career, and I was ready to free up some time. I know I am joining another great staff at LMS, and look forward to the new challenge ahead of me."

Ratliff-Becher captures second straight powerlifting state title



Louisburg senior Reilly Ratliff-Becher poses with her four state medals after capturing her second straight Class 4A state powerlifting championship on March 7 at Piper High School.

KANSAS CITY, Kan. - After winning

a state championship a year ago, Reilly Ratliff-Becher had every intention of

backing up her performance during the Class 4A State Powerlifting Championships on March 7 at Piper High School.

In fact, the Louisburg senior wanted to improve it. Last season, Ratliff-Becher took first in everything but squat, which she got runner-up.

This time around, she got the clean sweep.

Ratliff-Becher took first in bench, squat and clean and that led to her second straight state championship in the 180-pound class.

"It means a lot to me that I was able to win the state title again," Ratliff-Becher said. "I set a goal for myself to

win first in everything since I had got second in squat last year and I

achieved it. Even though it wasn't my best showing with the numbers I got on my lifts."

"The competition was very good this year, as it always is. But, fortunately with all the work I put in to at least maintain my numbers from last year, meant I was able to lift bigger amounts than my competition."



Louisburg sophomore Bailey Hallas finished second overall at the state meet in her division.

Ratliff-Becher wasn't the only Wildcat weightlifter to find their way to the podium. Sophomore Bailey Hallas had a strong performance of her own in the 114-pound division.

Hallas finished as a state-runner-up

as she finished second overall. She was the state champion in bench, was third in clean and sixth in squat.

Sophomore Sierra Hahn finished 10^{th} in the 165-pound division to round out the Louisburg girls participants.

On the boys side, the Wildcats had four lifters take fourth in the state. Sophomore Aidan Cannon (132 pounds), sophomore Tom Koontz (148), freshman Ethan Wrigley (165) and senior Ian McGuire (181) all came in fourth.

McGuire came in third in both the squat and clean competitions, while Wrigley also finished third in bench.

Junior Will Patterson (powerweight) came in fifth overall, while junior Cole Evans (242) took ninth. Evans also finished second in the bench competition.



Louisburg is just in its second year of sending athletes to the state powerlifting championships.

The Wildcats are just in their second

year of doing powerlifting competitions at the state level and Ratliff-Becher

has seen herself improve in other areas outside the weight room.

"Weightlifting has improved me as an

athlete in a lot of ways," Ratliff-Becher said. "It's made me much more

disciplined with my work ethic. It's taught me to never underestimate myself

and to keep working when I get frustrated. Weightlifting makes people realize

(or me at least) that you can't be 'handed' strength. You can only be the best of the best if you outwork everyone else."

Meet the 2020 LHS Winter Homecoming Candidates



The Louisburg High School Winter Homecoming candidates are (from left) Haley Cain, Michael Waldron, Erin Lemke, Landon Johnson, Gabby Tappan, Deven Wieland, Andie Masten and Garrett Rolofson.

Homecoming week at Louisburg High School kicked off Monday and events are in full swing. With something going on every day this week, it will be a busy time for students. All of it is, of course, centered around the crowning of the 2020 winter king and queen. Eight students were selected as nominees and here are their names and profiles.

The crowning will take place on Friday during halftime of the Wildcat boys' basketball game with Spring Hill. Tipoff for that game is set for approximately 7:30 p.m. Good luck to all the participants and make sure to come out on Friday to support both the Wildcat girls and boys basketball teams



Haley Cain and Michael Waldron

Haley Cain

Haley is the daughter of Robin and Keith Meeks and Tom and Terri Cain. Haley has participated in volleyball and basketball for four years, soccer for three years and track for one year. She plans to attend Pittsburg State University and is undecided on a major.

Michael Waldron

Michael is the son of George and Jackie Waldron. He has participated in football and basketball for four years, track

and band for three years, National Honor Society for two years and baseball and FBLA for one year. Michael plans to attend the University of Central Missouri and major in accounting.



Erin Lemke and Landon Johnson

Erin Lemke

Erin is the daughter of Mike and Teresa Lemke. Erin has participated in volleyball and soccer for four years, along with basketball, student council and FFA for three years. After graduation, Erin plans to attend the University of Central Missouri in the fall.

Landon Johnson

Landon is the son of Tim and Angela Johnson. He has participated in soccer and choir for four years, National Honor Society and girls soccer manager for two years and the musical for one year. Landon plans to attend Washington University in St. Louis and study sports management.



Gabby Tappan and Deven Wieland

Gabby Tappan

Gabby is the daughter of Dave and Jackie Tappan. Gabby has participated in cheerleading and the musical for four years, FCCLA for three years, along with Leo's Club, FBLA, National Honor Society and student council for two years. She plans to attend the University of Kansas and major in marketing.

Deven Wieland

Deven is the son of Dan and Deanell Wieland. Deven has participated in choir for four years, soccer and golf for three years, FBLA, National Honor Society, student council, debate and the musical for two years and TSA and scholars bowl for one year. Following graduation, Deven plans to study mechanical engineering and his school of choice is unknown at this time.



Andie Masten and Garrett Rolofson

Andie Masten

Andie is the daughter of Darren and Kristin Masten. She has participated in choir for four years, volleyball and FFA for

three years and basketball, soccer and National Honor Society for two years. After graudation, Andie plans to attend Pittsburg State University and major in occupational therapy.

Garrett Rolofson

Garrett is the son of Robert and Gloria Rolofson. He has participated in basketball for four years, select choir for three years, cross country, soccer, golf, baseball, National Honor Society, debate and FCA for two years and Leo's Club for one year. Garrett plans to attend the University of Kansas after graduation and major in exercise science and obtain and minor in business.









Top 10 Louisburg Sports Stories of 2019



It was a successful, and eventful, 2019 for Louisburg High School athletics and for those who are connected to the Wildcat program. This past year created a lot of school history for LHS and several programs brought back state hardware.

Below are the Top 10 stories from 2019, along with a brief explanation of each. Included in the explanation is the link to the actual story from the event.

When putting the list together, I took a lot of things into account — whether it was team vs. individual, popularity of the sport, historical achievements and the interest it drew on the web site. There were stories that I had to leave off that normally would easily make it. 2019 was that successful of a year for Wildcat athletics.

This year was a blast to cover and I was blessed to have the opportunity to go along for the ride with many of these. As much fun as it was, I can't wait for 2020 to begin. Looking forward to it!



10. Tucker, Ratliff-Becher win powerlifting titles, Tucker breaks state record.

Two Louisburg High

School weightlifters made their way to the top of the podium in March during

the Class 4A State Powerlifting Meet at Basehor-Linwood High School.

Louisburg senior Kiefer Tucker and junior Reilly Ratliff-Becher both earned state championships in their respective weight class. Senior Jonathan DePriest finished third overall and several other Wildcats also earned individual medals.

Not only did Tucker

win a state title in the 220-pound division, he also broke a 24-year state bench

press record as he recorded a bench of 375 pounds to surpass the old mark of

365. He also won the squat competition at 505 pounds and had a total of 1,165

pounds to run away with the crown.

Tucker's total was the

highest three-lift mark at the entire state meet in all weight classes.

"I had messed around with 375

and 385 before on bench, so I was confident that I could lift it if I had the

chance," Tucker said. "I was more worried about my first lifts on bench at 345

and 365 because if I messed up on those attempts then I would not have had the

change to even attempt 375. It was definitely a sigh of relief when I finally

locked it out.

"It was a great feeling to beat the state record. To put Louisburg up on the record chart definitely brought a smile to

my face."

Ratliff-Becher had a big day

in the women's division as she won a state crown in the 180-pound weight class.

She finished with a three-lift total of 575 pounds.



The Louisburg junior took first in bench press with 155 pounds,

first in clean at 150 pounds and second in squat with a 270-pound lift.

"Winning the state title meant a lot to me," Ratliff-Becher said. "I have put in a lot of time and

effort in weights class, so it's nice to see it has paid off. But, also because

I feel as if I put out a message to girls that it's cool to be strong

physically. I know that being sometimes the only girls in a class with a lot of

strong guys is intimidating. Weightlifting is all about your own personal

growth and seeing how far you can push yourself.

"I was honestly surprised I won because there are lots of very strong girls there and it's good competition. It's also fun to meet new people

that have the same interests and motivation as you."



9. Golf qualifies for state, Dillon medals for third straight season

As the scores trickled

in to the clubhouse at Paola Country Club, the Louisburg golf team could hardly stand it.

The Wildcats were

nervously waiting to hear if they had qualified for state, but they knew it was

going to be close. Louisburg had to be in the top three of the team standings

to earn a spot and the Wildcats had some tough competition amongst them.

As it turned out, the Wildcats had nothing to worry about.

Louisburg recorded a team score of 352 during the Class 4A regional tournament in May and finished third overall by nine strokes over fourth-place Ottawa. The Wildcat team of Calvin Dillon, Drake Varns, Garrett Rolofson, Ryan Haight, Noah Hill and Colin Cook all competed in the state tournament

Topeka-Hayden won the

regional title going away with a 332 and Louisburg was just three strokes

behind runner-up Tonganoxie, which had a 349.

"It feels great,

especially with all the hard work we have put in the offseason and last few

months," Dillon said. "It was our goal coming in and we did it. I felt like we

had a good chance. It was borderline with those four teams being as close as we

are. I knew we had a chance, but it was nice to actually qualify. It was

definitely a little nerve-racking waiting for the scores to come in."

As impressive as that

feat was for the Wildcats, Dillon's performance blew away the rest of the competition.

The Louisburg junior

won his first individual regional title as he carded a 1-over 73 to win the

tournament by six strokes. Dillon's 73 was his best score on the season and he

has now won all but one tournament on the year.

Dillon went on to record his third consecutive state medal and finished 11^{th} overall in Dodge City after the tournament was postponed several times, and eventually moved due to weather.



8. Wildcat wrestling sends six to state, Moore earns first state medal

Back in early November

of 2018, Austin Moore was in a sling with a broken collarbone and he wondered

why all this was happening.

Moore suffered the

injury during the regional football playoffs and he didn't get to finish his

final high school season. Not only that, his hopes of getting his first state

wrestling medal was in serious jeopardy.

A little more than

four months later, Moore was on the medal stand with some of the state's best wrestlers in his weight class.

The Louisburg senior earned a fourth-place medal at 220 pounds during the Class 4A Kansas State Wrestling Championships in February at the Tony's Pizza Events Center in Salina. It was his first high school state medal and it marked the end of a long journey for Moore.

"It was pretty special

for me to get a state medal, especially because it has been a goal of mine ever

since I started wrestling," Moore said. "Overall, I felt like
I wrestled pretty

well, but I just wish I could've ended it on a win."

The Wildcats qualified six wrestlers for state, had three regional champions and took third place in the team standings during the regional tournament in Paola — all while not being able to field a full team.

Louisburg's talent was

certainly on full display during the two-day tournament. Brandon Doles, Blue

Caplinger and Austin Moore won regional crowns, Cade Holtzen was a regional

runner-up, while Gabe Bonham and Ryan Owens also qualified for state by placing

third and fourth, respectively.

As a team, the

Wildcats ended up with 138.5 points and was just 2.5 points out of second

place. Ottawa won the regional with 149.5 points and Eudora was second at 141.

It was the highest regional team finish for Louisburg since 1998.

"The way these guys

wrestled this weekend shows that the program has been doing so many things

right this season," Louisburg coach Bobby Bovaird said. "We've had the obstacle

of low numbers, which hurt us in our duals, but when it comes to tournament

time, we have a bunch of guys who are placing high and that gives us a lot of

team points. Taking six to state feels pretty encouraging, and finishing third

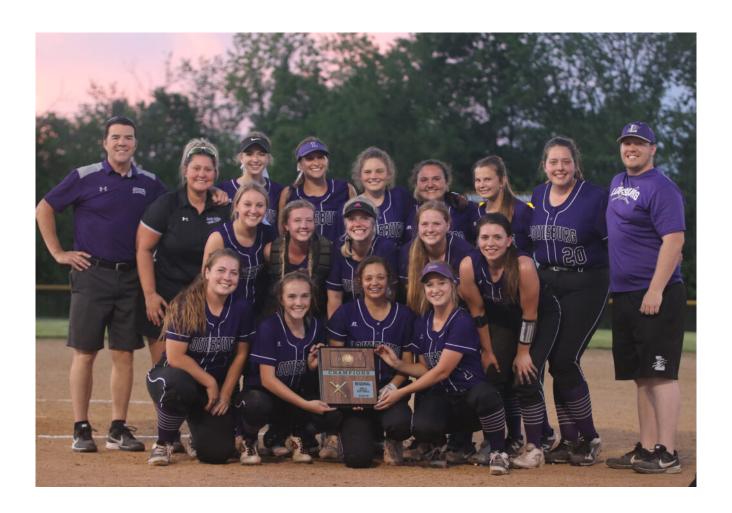
at regionals is an awesome statement for this team.

"If a few things had

gone the other way, we would have been in second as a team. On paper, we

weren't supposed to be in the race for a regional plaque. Almost all of our

guys stepped up and scored huge team points for us."



7. Louisburg softball captures regional title

OTTAWA - Madison

Svoboda could feel her heart starting to come out of her chest.

Karson Griggs was a feeling a little nauseous.

Those are some of the

same feelings that were flooding the Louisburg softball's team dugout during the

final inning of the Class 4A regional championship game against Chanute on Tuesday in Ottawa.

Louisburg held a one

run lead, but Chanute had the tying run on third, two outs, and a trip to the

state tournament was on the line. On the mound was sophomore

Brooklyn

Diederich, and with two strikes, the Chanute batter fouled five straight pitches.

The tension was mounting.

Finally, on the 10^{th} pitch of the at-bat, Diederich got what she was looking for — a swing and miss.

The strikeout sealed the Lady Cats' trip to state with a 6-5 victory over No. 7 seed Chanute and sent shockwaves throughout Class 4A softball.

"I want to cry, but at

the same time I am just really happy," Griggs said. "It is exciting because I

never thought something like this could happen, especially this year. It feels

really nice and now maybe people will actually start taking us seriously."

Not many gave people

gave the Lady Cats a chance as they entered the Class 4A regional tournament

with just five wins and were forced to begin tournament action in the play-in game.

After a 17-2 win over

Parsons last Monday in the play-in game, No. 15 Louisburg advanced to the

regional semifinals and upset No. 2 seed Ottawa, 9-7, which helped set up the

Lady Cats' first state tournament appearance since 2014.

"I think a lot of

other teams underestimated us," Diederich said. "The fact that we came out and

played our hardest ball showed what type of team we actually are. It is just crazy."

At the state tournament in Salina a week later, the Lady Cats faced off against Andale and lost to the eventual state champion in the first round, 10-0.



6. Cross Country qualifies for state, Moore breaks school record and takes third at state

BALDWIN CITY — One by one,

members of the Louisburg girls cross country team crossed the finish line and

coach John Reece was unsure whether or not his team did enough

to qualify for state.

The Lady Cats had made

school history by qualifying the last two seasons, but the third time was a

little bit in jeopardy — that was until the results were released.

As it turned out,

Reece didn't need to be so worried.

Louisburg finished third overall with 96 points in October at the Class 4A regional meet at the Baldwin Golf Course, and beat out Bishop Miege by six points to earn a spot at the state meet this weekend in Wamego.

The team of Trinity

Moore, Carlee Gassman, Reese Johnson, Claire Brown, Ruth Minster, Kennady

Wilkerson and Bree Gassman competed for the Lady Cats at state.

"This group of girls runs

well, they race well and they train well together," coach Reece said. "They are

a good group and this is just as exciting as the other two times. The

competition was a lot tougher than the previous two times. We had to run our

races and we did. From our third to fifth runners was about an eight point spread."

Trinity Moore has left a

lasting impression on the Louisburg cross country program over the last four

years, but she saved the best moment for her final act.

Moore broke her own school record with a time of 19 minutes and 39 seconds to finish third overall at the Kansas Class 4A State Cross Country Championships at the Wamego Country Club a week later.

The Louisburg senior

recorded the program's best ever state finish as she eclipsed her fourth-place state

medal from a season ago.

"It meant so much to

me to finish with such a great race for my high school career," Moore said.

"Going into the race, I didn't know how well I would finish. This race had the

best competition that I have ran against all year and I think that is what $\begin{tabular}{ll} \end{tabular} \label{table}$

really pushed me.

"When I saw my time

crossing the finish line, I was ecstatic. I felt great the entire race and was

able to control everything I did. Finishing third was icing on the cake. I was

surprised but so incredibly happy to be able to place in such a great spot, but

I also knew that this what I had worked for all year."

This made the fourth

state medal for Moore in her high school career and she improved on her state

finish every year. Last season, she took fourth overall and bested her state

time from a year ago by more than 30 seconds.



5. Boys Soccer wins league, regional titles to earn No. 1 seed in playoffs.

For more than 70 minutes, the goals for Louisburg were hard to come by and it started to leave an eerie feeling on Halloween night.

However, the Wildcats got their treat when it was all over.

Louisburg scored two goals in the final seven minutes of the match to earn a 2-0 victory over Kansas City Christian in the Class 4-1A regional championship game Thursday. The Wildcats (16-2-1) earned their third regional title in the last four years and advanced to the state quarterfinals.

"This group is special," Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. "It is going to be tough when it is

all over. This group has changed our culture. They came back to what this

program believes and they have bought in to what we are teaching them. They

have worked so hard since June. For these seniors, this is their third title in

four years and I think it is a lot of fun for them.

A school record 16

wins, a Frontier League championship and a regional title are all something

worth celebrating, but following the state quarterfinal match with Bishop

Miege, all Louisburg could think about was the finality of it all.

Despite all those

accomplishments, the Wildcats fell one win short of their main goal — a spot in the state final four.

Louisburg saw its season come to a close with a 3-0 loss to Bishop Miege at the Wildcat Sports Complex. The Wildcats lost to the eventual state champion, as Miege went on to defeat Wichita-Trinity on Saturday, 3-1, for the Class 4-1A state championship — the Stags' fourth in a row.

As difficult as the

loss was for Louisburg, there was no forgetting how big of a jump the Wildcats

made from the season before as they went from a 6-win team to one that earned

the East's No. 1 seed in the state playoffs.

"Going 6-11 last year

and seeing this Miege team almost mercy-ruling us in the regional championship

last year in the rain, was a program changer," Louisburg coach

Kyle Conley

said. "After that was over, we talked about how things needed to change and it

starts now. For our first practice in June, I told them that they are the ones

that has to change them. Since day one, they have played for each other, played

hard in practice and it was a total mindset change. When someone got hurt, it

was the next guy up. We missed two starters for half of the year and it was

always the next guy up taking advantage of his opportunity to fill in. The

freshmen stepped up huge for us.

"This team is special.

16 wins is a school record and only two losses is probably a school record.

This team is incredible, played so hard and did everything I asked them to do.

They were always there to pick each other up and that is what this soccer

family is all about. It will be tough to say goodbye to these kids."



4. Volleyball knocks off Miege to win regional title, takes fourth at state

ATCHISON - The

sub-state semifinal game between Louisburg and Bishop Miege had all the feels

of a state tournament match.

Partially because a year ago, it was.

Louisburg met Miege in

the state championship match only to see the Stags send the Lady Cats to a

runner-up finish in two sets. Then three weeks ago the two teams met again, and

like before, Miege dispatched of Louisburg in two sets.

However, Bishop Miege

saw a different Louisburg team during the sub-state tournament at Atchison High

School — one they didn't expect.

The Lady Cats came out on fire and never let up in a 25-18 and 25-22 win over Miege to end the Stags' season. It marks the first time in at least 12 years, if not longer, that Miege will not be at the state tournament.

Since the state

tournament began in 1971, Bishop Miege has made 39 state appearances during

that time in either Class 5A or 4A and is the most in Kansas history.

"Our energy was going

to be the difference in that match, so we knew we had to bring it," Louisburg

senior Erin Lemke said. "We knew we had the same skill set as Miege, but our

energy was what was going to pull us through there in the end. To get there, we

just had to believe in ourselves and work hard this past week to give us the

confidence that we needed."

However, even after

pulling off a big revenge win that expended a lot of energy, the Lady Cats

still had a sub-state championship match to play against No. 2 seed Atchison.

The No. 7 seed Lady Cats took care of business as they won in straight sets,

25-12 and 25-15, at Atchison High School.

Louisburg lost its final two matches of the season, but those setbacks didn't take away from what the Lady Cats accomplished during the Kansas Class 4A State Championships.

For the third straight

season, the Lady Cats were among the last four teams playing

and brought home a

little hardware for their efforts. Louisburg took fourth overall after losing

its third place match to Towanda-Circle, 2-1, in October at Hutchinson Sports
Arena.

"Every season our goal

is to put ourselves in the best position to qualify for state and then to

hopefully advance to bracket play on Saturday," Louisburg coach Jessica

Compliment said. "Leading up to state, we talked about how nothing is

guaranteed and in order to make it to bracket play, we have to show up and play

our best from the first whistle to the last whistle. If we play our game, then

hopefully the winning will take care of itself and we'd advance.

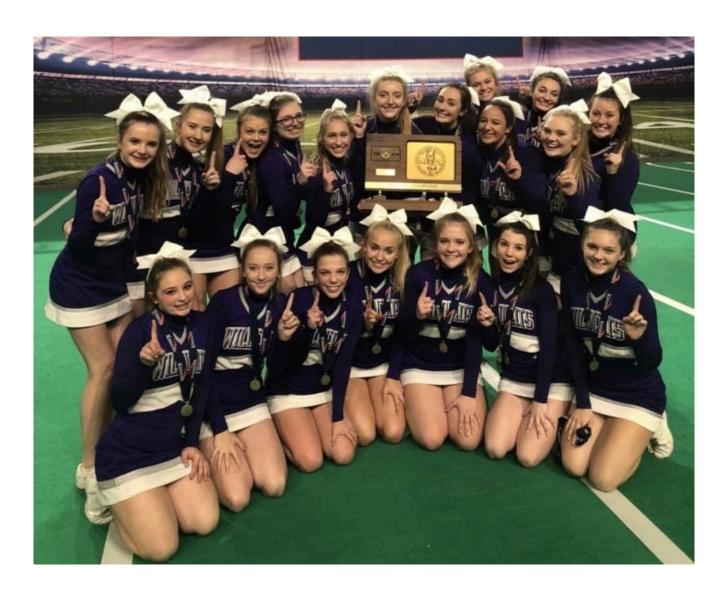
"The eight teams at

state this year were all very talented. I was happy that we qualified for the

semifinals because that put us one step closer to the championship. Even though

we didn't reach the championship match and finished fourth, I was still very

proud of how the team played throughout the tournament."



3. Louisburg cheer wins first state championship

The Wildcat

cheerleaders competed at the Class 4A KSHSAA Game Day Spirit Showcase

Competition on Nov. 23 at the Stormont Vail Events Center in Topeka and came

back home with a big trophy in tow.

Louisburg edged out runner-up Augusta with a point total of 82.25 to 81 in the finals to secure what is just the third athletic team state title in school history.

"I was so nervous at

the awards," Louisburg senior Lauren Vincent said. "We were all holding hands

and had our heads down. We thought that we would get second

place at best, most

likely third. We were content because we put everything out on the mat and did

the best we could. But when they called out second place and it was Augusta, we

screamed, cried, and hugged each other because we knew that we had just won.

"When our name was

called for first, we jumped up and hugged each other. Then I ran out onto the

mat and grabbed the trophy and we held it up and jumped around victoriously. It

was the best feeling in the entire world. Knowing that all of our hard work had

finally paid off was indescribable feeling of joy."

The Louisburg

cheerleaders that competed are Lexi Pena, Lauren Vincent, Ashlyn McManigal,

Brooklyn Mitchell, Gabby Tappan, Andrea Gaza, Eleanor Willming, Jayden Trester,

Lacie Kallevig, Sammy McDaniel, Mable Graham, Anna Morrison, Bella Feikert,

Audrey Anderson, Sydney Dudzik, Kaitlyn Vest, Jolie Hendrickson, Abby Bradley

and Zoe Cutshaw. Louisburg's head coach is Jayna Guerra.

Not only were the

Wildcats the third team to win a state title in school history, they were also

the first female squad to win a team crown as well. All the history just added

to what was a special day for the program.

"It means so much to

me and all my teammates," Tappan said. "As someone who's been a part of a variety

of sports my entire life, I know how hard each of our teams work to do their

very best in whatever sport they're a part of. We are so thankful that we got

to make history for Louisburg and it is something that I can guarantee that

each and every one of us will remember it for the rest of our lives."



2. Girls soccer takes second at state, Conley named coach of year and Scholtz, Buffington awarded players of year.

When it was all said and done, the Louisburg girls soccer team held its trophy high in front of the Wildcat faithful and the tears were easy to spot.

After nearly 200

minutes of soccer in a nine-hour time period, including one

match that ended in

penalty kicks, the Wildcats were spent. They gave everything they had.

For the second consecutive season, Louisburg earned the Class 4-3-2-1A state runner-up trophy after a wild victory over Topeka-Hayden in the semifinals and then were shutout by Bishop Miege in the championship game, 4-0. It was the third consecutive state final four appearance for Louisburg.

Frustration and

sadness was easy to see following the Wildcats' loss to the defending state

champion, but the team realizes what they have accomplished in just four years

of existence is to be celebrated.

"Being in this

situation two years in a row is something that doesn't happen very often,"

Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. "There are a bunch of teams that haven't been

to a state final four and we have been to three in three years. It is pretty cool and it is special."

It was a wild 24 hours

for the Wildcats. Louisburg was supposed to play Hayden on Friday in the

semifinals, but severe weather forced the postponement to early Saturday morning.

The Wildcats battled

Hayden through four overtimes and eventually led to penalty kicks. After an

intense first five penalty kicks that left the match still tied, senior goalie

Carson Buffington recorded a big save and then senior Hallie Hutsell converted

the sixth penalty kick to break the tie and give Louisburg a 2-1 win over Hayden.

"We usually play 80 minutes, but this time we

had to play 110 minutes and we were gassed," Conley said. "We were holding on

and had some chances at the end to win it, but then we went to overtime and

then to penalty kicks. It was all about to see if we could survive. Emotionally

it was just a high for us and an unbelievable response and a great finish.

Carson making a big save, Hallie putting it in for the win — it was just a great game."

In the championship match,

the Stags were just too much for the Wildcats and junior Sophia Stram provided

a big spark. Stram scored all four goals for Miege in the title game, all of

which came in the first half, and the Wildcats didn't have an answer.

"They are just so freaking good," Conley said. "I think the girls were mentally ready, but I don't think their legs were quite ready, but

we lost to one of best teams in the state of Kansas. They have great players,

they are well-coached, but our girls played their butts off.

Coming off its second

consecutive state runner-up appearance, Louisburg had some positive

repercussions from its historic season.

However, none bigger

came when the all-state teams were released by the Kansas Soccer Coaches

Association. Not only did six Wildcats earn all-state selections, but they were

honored with some of the highest awards out there.

Junior Mackenzie Scholtz was named as the Co-Offensive Player of the Year in Class 4-1A with Bishop Miege's Sophia Stram after she led the Wildcats in scoring.

Louisburg was also

recognized on the other side of the ball as senior Carson Buffington was named

the Class 4-1A Goalkeeper of the Year.

"Seeing Mackenzie and

Carson recognized for their positional player of the years was fantastic,"

Louisburg coach Kyle Conley said. "They both had incredible years."

The Wildcats weren't

done, as for the second consecutive season, Conley was named as the Class 4-1A

Coach of the Year as he guided Louisburg to a 17-4 record. He also led the

Wildcats to three consecutive final four appearances.



1.4×400 boys wins state championship, Wright wins four state medals and team breaks six school records at regional meet.

Three days after

arriving in Wichita for the Kansas State Track and Field Championships, Justin

Collins, Blue Caplinger, Ben Wiedenmann and Chris Williams finally got the chance

to get on the Cessna Stadium track.

The four Wildcat

runners had the top time in Class 4A going into the 4×400-meter relay, but

weather threw a little wrench into their plans. The meet, which was supposed to

end on a Saturday, was postponed to Sunday morning and all

races were judged by times with no preliminaries.

It wasn't the ideal situation, but they made it work — and it worked well.

Collins, Caplinger, Wiedenmann and Williams won the state championship in a time of 3 minutes and 25.39 seconds as they edged Chapman at the finish line, which ran a 3:25.61. It was the first state track championship for Louisburg since 2015 when Connor McMullen won the discus.

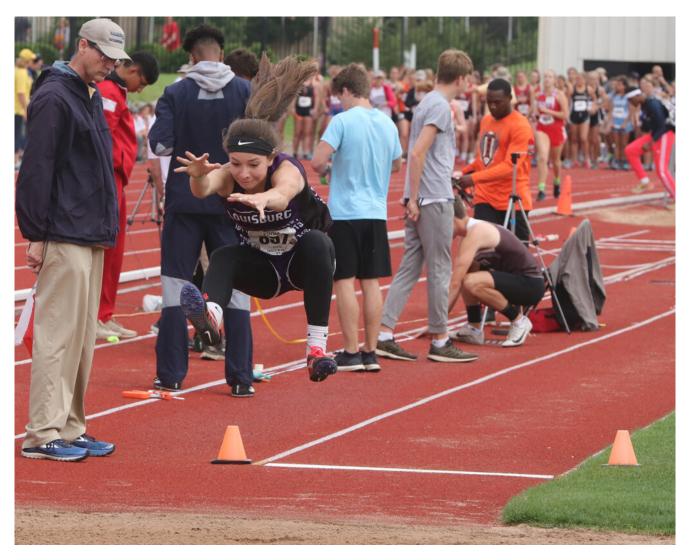
That was just one event in what was an historic week for Louisburg track.

Louisburg freshman Delaney Wright earned four state medals, while junior teammate Carlee Gassman finished with three as the Lady Cats went on to finish $10^{\rm th}$ in the team standings. The Lady Cats earned several other medals at the state meet coming off an impressive performance at regionals.

During the Class 4A

regional meet at Paola High School, Wright qualified for state in four events,

broke two school records and earned a regional title in her first postseason track meet.



Wright won a regional

title in the long jump and finished second in the 200 and 400meter dashes. She

also helped Carlee Gassman, Rain Pugh and Sydni Keagle to a second place finish

in the 4×400 -meter relay.

"I am so grateful for

everything," Wright said. "I had been having trouble with my hip this week and

I just wanted to come out and make state in at least one event. I didn't

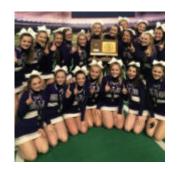
realize I would make it in four. It is an unbelieveable feeling."

Wright's day was just one of the many positives for the Lady Cats as they broke four school records, had four regional champions and qualified for state in 10 events.

As a team, the Lady Cats nearly earned the regional runner-up trophy as they racked up 86.5 points and finished a half a point behind second place Baldwin and Bishop Miege, who tied for second. Paola won the regional title with 107 points.

The Wildcat boys also broke two school records and would end up qualifying for nine spots at the state meet.

Wildcat cheer makes history with school's first female state title



The Louisburg High School cheer squad was all smiles after the Wildcats edged out Augusta to win the 2019 Class 4A state championship in Topeka.

It has been almost two weeks since the Louisburg High School cheer squad made history, but the excitement is still like it all happened yesterday

And why wouldn't be — Louisburg won a state title.

The Wildcat cheerleaders competed

at the Class 4A KSHSAA Game Day Spirit Showcase Competition on Nov. 23 at the

Stormont Vail Events Center in Topeka and came back home with a big trophy in tow.

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Augusta with a point total of 82.25 to 81 in the finals to secure what is just

the third athletic team state title in school history.

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Louisburg senior Lauren Vincent said. "We were all holding hands and had our

heads down. We thought that we would get second place at best, most likely

third. We were content because we put everything out on the mat and did the

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screamed, cried, and hugged each other because we knew that we had just won.

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The Louisburg cheerleaders that competed are Lexi Pena,

Lauren Vincent, Ashlyn McManigal, Brooklyn Mitchell, Gabby Tappan, Andrea Gaza,

Eleanor Willming, Jayden Trester, Lacie Kallevig, Sammy McDaniel, Mable Graham,

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Kaitlyn Vest, Jolie Hendrickson, Abby Bradley and Zoe Cutshaw. Louisburg's head coach is Jayna Guerra.

Not only were the Wildcats the third team to win a state title in school history, they were also the first female squad to win a team crown as well. All the history just added to what was a special day for the program.

"It means so much to me and all my teammates," Tappan said. "As someone who's been a part of a variety of sports my entire life, I know how hard each of our teams work to do their very best in whatever sport they're a part of. We are so thankful that we got to make history for Louisburg and it is something that I can guarantee that each and every one of us will remember it for the rest of our lives."

The Wildcats, who competed against 18 other programs, opened with a fight song routine, followed by crowd leading and then the band chant.

It was the latter that helped put them in the finals when the top six teams were announced.

At the time, Louisburg was second in points with 180.6, but Piper — the defending state champion — had racked up a score of 194.8 with a good opening round.

"Our band chant was

definitely the highlight of our individual performances," Guerra said. "On and

off the practice mat, I was approached by coaches, athletes, and staff members

commenting on how unique and clean our routine was. That was really reassuring

to me being a first time coach. That let me know that I was

doing good, and was providing for my girls.

"Overall

I think our final performance was the best. They killed it out there. Competition

day, they were coachable and made quick changes to make the routine fit what

the judges were ultimately looking for."

In

the finals, Louisburg performed its all-cheer, which is all three routines plus

a situational sideline for whatever the judges call and they had to perform it

all in a 3-minute window.

"We were a little nervous because we have

lots of stunts and we always need to have our spirit up and be engaging with

the crowd, so it's very tiring," Tappan said. "We had practiced a lot though so

we knew we could do it. At that point we weren't thinking we were going to win,

we were just happy we made it to the finals."

When the announcement finally came, the Wildcat cheerleaders were in disbelief when their name was called for first and they had won the state title. A flood of other emotions soon followed, and it was then they realized all their hard work had paid off.

"To win a

state title my senior year is the most amazing yet rewarding feeling," Vincent

said. "Us seniors have been working so hard for this moment for the past four

years. We have analyzed countless routines and observed the

seniors from the

past years to better ourselves and prepare for this leadership position. And

when our time finally came around to lead, we felt prepared and knew that we

had a good team on our hands.

"We have put in so much work the last four

years to make sure that our team and choreography were up to par. We were hard

on our girls sometimes, but to win the state title means that our leadership

and constructive criticism paid off. I'm so proud of our girls for stepping up

to both Jayna and our high expectations of success."

It was a lot of work to get prepared for the showcase event as the Wildcats began prepping in October and had 1-2 practices

a week along with their normal cheering engagements.

"I could not have asked for a better

group of hard working girls," Guerra said. "They are the ones that did all the

work, I just guided them in the direction they set the path for. For me, seeing

their reactions and having them know that their hard work paid off was all

I needed. I will fully admit that I am overjoyed with our placement, but I am

more proud of the girls and the leadership and dedication they showed

throughout the process."

TeamMates program makes its way to Louisburg



TeamMates program director DeMoine Adams speaks to students at Broadmoor Elementary last week about the new TeamMates program in Louisburg.

Aaron Bauer, like many other people throughout country, spends part of his day cycling through hundreds of emails.

Then one day, Bauer saw one that caught his eye — it came from his mentee.

You see, Bauer served as mentor to this child in rural Nebraska before making the move to Louisburg. It was part of a program called TeamMates.

Three years after moving to
Louisburg, Bauer's mentee graduated high school and sent him,
what Bauer
called, "the coolest email I have ever received."

"Aaron, Thank you. Towards the end of the year, Ms. White showed me a picture of our first match. It

reminded me of the matches and our time together. You helped a lot during

TeamMates, more than you will ever know, and I'll be forever

grateful."

Bauer really wasn't sure what kind of an impact he was having with his

mentee, and if it was even making that much of a difference this child's life.

One email changed all that.

"Unfortunately, I had to move do to my career," Bauer said. "My TeamMate

graduated this last spring, three years after I moved. I remember as

school was ending earlier this spring telling my wife that my TeamMate would

graduate and I asked the rhetorical question, "Do you think I had any

impact?" A couple of weeks later, after his graduation and during his

summer break, he wrote me a 4-page email because he wanted to update me on his

life and tell me how much our time meant to him."

The TeamMates program has created several stories like that through

Nebraska and surrounding states and now it is making its way to Kansas — more specifically

Broadmoor Elementary in Louisburg.

Louisburg is one of 10 school districts in Kansas that have begun using

TeamMates, a mentoring program that pairs a community volunteer with a student.

That mentor would spend time once a week with their mentee to do things the

student enjoys.

"I think it is a great opportunity for our students," Louisburg program coordinator Sara McIntire

said. "We are a

small-town, and while we are close to the city or to Overland Park, we have a

lot of kids that don't have the resources to go do some of those things. We

might have kids who are good at sports like basketball, and have the

opportunity to get coached by an adult, but not everyone gets opportunities

like that. I also think our community is special. If a family has a need, and

people became aware of it, we wrap ourselves around that and resources come out of the woodwork."

TeamMates Mentoring Program

began in 1991 with the vision of University of Nebraska Head Football Coach Tom

Osborne and his wife Nancy. Coach Osborne felt that the athletes in his program

could make an impact on the middle school students, and twenty-two football

players began meeting with middle school students in the Lincoln Public Schools.

Of the 22 original mentees, 21

went on to graduate from high school while one left school early to pursue a

successful Motocross career. Eighteen of the original mentees also

obtained some form of post-secondary education.

Since that time, the program

has expanded throughout Nebraska and into surrounding states to help create

those connections to help in a child's life.

On Nov. 4, TeamMates program

director DeMoine Adams and training and match support manager Allyson Horne

made the trip to Louisburg to speak to the Broadmoor Elementary staff and students about the program.

"Our hope, as we started as an organization, is to be able to give kids more opportunities to be feel heard and to give mentors more of an opportunity to see what is happening in school districts today and make a difference," Horne said. "I don't think any of us could have ever predicted 10,000 matches, five states and so much ripple effect of the impact.

"My own daughter matched with her

mentor when she was in fifth grade. She is now 23 and recently became a mentor

herself and we have lots of stories like that where we have former mentees who

are now becoming mentors. We have three former mentees who work for the central

office. As a mentor, my hope was always to make a difference in my mentee's

life, but I would say they probably changed mine more than anything else."

Later in the evening, the

school provided mentor training for interested participants, and according to

McIntire, had 43 possible mentors go through training. By the following

Thursday, more than 40 students signed up that they were interested in the program.

"I always tell mentors that it is ok to say 'I don't know, or I'm not sure,'" Horne said. "I think my mentee loves doing crafts with me because she knows that I am terrible at them.

She likes to see me struggle I think. When we let our mentee's teach us, I think some phenomenal things happen with trust-building. It also takes a lot of pressure off of a mentor.

"It has been a unique experience

to be here already. To come in and already see the space created for mentors

and mentees to meet has just been amazing. The school staff has a lot of energy

for it and Sara's dedication...43 mentors who are going to be trained is not

typical right at the start. For us to come in and feel totally welcomed, but

also this excitement and energy, is unique for us. My role for DeMoine and

myself, we travel program-wide, so we are in South Dakota, Wyoming, we are in

Kansas this month and a lot of communities in Nebraska. When there is already a

culture of belonging and welcoming in a community, we know this is a great fit

and I can already see that.

As good of a first step as

that is, McIntire said they will always be looking for new mentors as they hope

to one day build the program into the middle and high school levels.

"We would love for the community

to embrace this on an even bigger level," McIntire said. "We have some

businesses already, like First Option Bank and Louisburg Family Dental, who are

having all their employees sign up to be mentors. It is awesome that businesses

are supporting their staff and the giving of their time. We would love to see

that spread. I think the possibilities are endless. I think the legacy of the

program speaks for itself."

Bauer, who has seen what the

program has done for students first-hand, is taking on a big role in the

Louisburg program as the advisory board president.

Other community members, Becky Bowes (vice-president), T.J. Williams (treasurer), Jennifer Heston (secretary), Connie Barbour, Nick White, Dave Tappan, Dave Alexander, Kristine Lowry, Tim Johnson and Jim Real are all serving on the advisory board, and along with building coordinator Amy Buffington, all hope to see the program take off.

"I am not the type of person that typically gets excited about a whole

lot, but I am super excited about TeamMates coming to Louisburg," Bauer said. "All

my colleagues that mentored though TeamMates had similar positive, unique

stories. The special part of being a TeamMates mentor is that you are

matched with a student based on common interests and you remain TeamMates until

the mentee graduates. TeamMates is also unique in today's world in that

it is designed to focus on the student's strengths, and the meetings must be

face to face in a safe environment. There are no phone calls, texts,

social media, etc. interactions allowed with your mentee.

"Initially, I

would anticipate the impact of mentoring will not be as evident until trust is

built between the students and the mentors. In a few years,

and from then

on, I expect the impact to be very noticeable and it will only continue to

grow. TeamMates has quite a bit of research though Gallup and the

resulting data shows the positive impact on students that have had a

mentor. Often, it reaches far beyond school academics and truly has a

long-lasting and profound impact in the lives of the kids."

For those that

are interested in becoming a mentor, or want to learn more about the program,

contact McIntire at mcintires@usd416.org or 913-837-1973.

You can also

visit www.teammates.org to learn more

about the program and view testimonials from those mentors and mentees that

have been impacted.

New LHS Hall of Fame class happy to be included among Wildcat greats



(From left) Dennis Stiles, John Lohse, Jason Burk and Krystal Bowes-Grojean were inducted into the Louisburg High School Athletic Hall of Fame last week.

When Dennis Stiles, John Lohse,

Jason Burk and Krystal Bowes-Grojean returned to Louisburg High School and

Wildcat Stadium last Friday night, memories came rushing back.

It was hard for them not think

back to what was all like. The four former Wildcat athletes created plenty of

memories for themselves and left a lasting impression on LHS athletics.

They were each officially inducted

into the Louisburg High School Athletic Hall of Fame and were recognized at

halftime of last week's football game against Piper. They became the first

class since 2008 to be inducted into the hall.

The USD 416 Endowment

Association, which oversees the LHS Athletic Hall of Fame, announced the class

last summer and they were the top four vote getters in this year's voting.

"Louisburg has a history

of great athletes," said Damon Dennis, a USD 416 Endowment Association board

member. "We had a good cross-section of both young and older

voters this year

that really took their job seriously. The four athletes chosen represent

several generations of former Wildcats and each one were dominant in their

particular era and sports. The Endowment Association is excited to get the

Hall of Fame going again and plan on some big things in the future."



Dennis Stiles

Stiles, who is a member of the Class of 1969, lettered 4 years in football and track and 3 years in basketball. His senior year he was

named all-league and all-state in football and was co-captain on the Wildcat

team that finished the year 4-4.

As a sophomore, he played on the varsity basketball team, which went 12-0 in league play, finished the year 20-3 and were district

champions. He earned honorable mention all-state honors his sophomore and

junior seasons and was second-team all-state his senior year. Stiles was at one

time the school's career scoring leader.

Stiles competed at the state track meet as a junior and senior where he placed fourth in the discus his senior year. He previously

held school records in the discus and triple jump. He also received a football

scholarship to Kansas State University.

"Just

to be considered is an honor," Stiles said. "But, to be selected, I am thankful

to the people who were part of the selection process. I was totally shocked

when Damon gave me the news.

"As far as proud

moments, it was just being part of teams that were just trying to compete. We didn't always win, but I enjoyed the friendships that were

built. As a sophomore, I played on a basketball team made up of mostly

seniors, but we went undefeated in league and finished with a 20-3 record. It

was just a great group of guys."



John Lohse

Lohse, a member of the Class of 1995, lettered all four years in baseball and was selected to represent Kansas in the all-star baseball classic his senior year. He was an all-league pitcher and centerfielder for the Wildcats his sophomore through senior years. He had a .510 average his junior and senior seasons, with 10 home runs his junior year and 12 more his senior season.

In football,

Lohse was a 3-year letterwinner. He was an all-league wide receiver his junior

and senior seasons. In his senior year, he had 850 yards receiving and 11

touchdowns and was later selected to represent Kansas in the Metro Classic

All-Star Game.

Lohse was also a 3-year letterwinner in basketball and was an all-league selection his junior and senior seasons. He averaged a double-double his junior and senior years.

Post-graduation,

Lohse attended Pittsburg State on a baseball scholarship and played on the

Gorilla team for four years. He was selected to the all-MIAA team his sophomore

and junior seasons before injuring his shoulder his senior year.

He had a .315

average his junior and senior seasons. In his first collegiate at-bat his

freshman year, Lohse hit a game-winning grand slam to give Pitt State its first

win over Missouri Southern in five years.

"Being inducted into the Louisburg

Hall of Fame was a honor," Lohse said. "All the sweat, tears and practices just

to get to this point is all worth it. That's not counting the relentless hours

my dad Rich worked with me at home as well. We spent many hours in the backyard

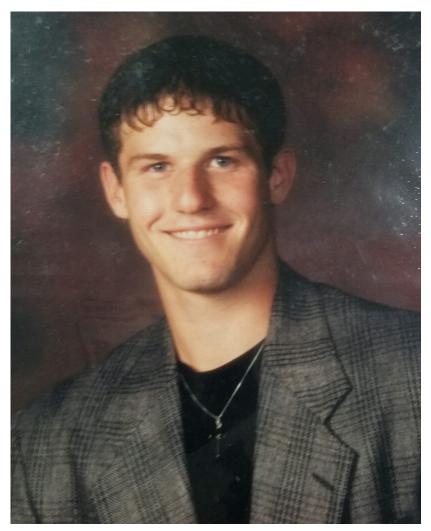
playing catch and working on stuff. My parents never missed a game and I was

glad my parents, wife and my three kids were present for the induction.

I have always taught my kids to give 110 percent at everything you do. Practice makes perfect.

"I had a lot of favorite memories. Whether it was winning substate my junior year in basketball and going to state, or being selected to play in the Metro Classic football game and being selected as the Kansas MVP or scoring four touchdowns my

senior year against Wellsville on homecoming. I have so many great memories that I could go on and on, but I couldn't have done it without the great coaching and teammates I had."



Jason Burk

Burk, who graduated

in the Class of 1999, was a 4-year letterwinner for the Louisburg track and field team

and qualified for state in all four years in four events. He accumulated 12

state medals, 16 regional track medals and 14 Frontier League medals. Burk was

selected to the Kansas City All-Metro track team in 1998 and 1999.

During his senior season, Burk was a state champion in both the triple and long jump. He won the triple jump with a leap 48 feet and

the long jump with a mark of 22-5. He also finished fifth in the 100-meter dash and sixth in the high jump.

As a junior, Burk won a state championship in the triple jump with mark of 46 feet and won three more state medals. He took

second long jump, fourth in the 100 dash and sixth in the 200 dash. As a

sophomore, Burk won state medals in the triple jump (second), long jump (fourth)

and 4×100 relay (third). He was a member of the 4×100 team that took second at

state as a freshman in 1996.

At one time, Burk held seven school records. He currently holds school records in the triple jump, high jump and long jump.

Burk holds the school record for most points in a season with 326.

Burk also played football, where he was a part of bi-district, district and regional championship teams.

"It was a great honor and a proud moment for me and my family when we found out," Burk said. "It gave me a great feeling of accomplishment. I would like to thank Doc D and everyone who was involved in the ceremony. It turned out amazing.

"My favorite memory was my freshman year at regionals when I missed the school record in triple jump by a half-inch. I had a personal record

that day and the reaction I got from coach (Aaron) Webb was priceless. That was

the moment Webb and I knew the rest of my high school career was going to be

great. My proudest moment was going to state
my junior year by myself and taking seventh in the team



Krystal Bowes-Grojean

Bowes-Grojean, who graduated in 2001, was a 4-year letterwinner in track before she was offered a scholarship on the Wichita State track and field team.

In her senior season at Louisburg, Bowes earned three state medals, including a second-place finish in the javelin with a throw of

145-10. She was also third in the discus with a toss of 126-9 and fifth in the

shot put at 37-5. As a sophomore and junior, she finished sixth in the discus

at state. In all, Bowes racked up five state medals in her high school career

before moving on to Wichita State. She is the current Louisburg record holder

in the javelin (146-10) and discus (137-11).

At Wichita State, she earned academic All-American honors and was a team captain all four years. Bowes was a two-time NCAA

national qualifier and finished fifth in the javelin and was second in the

Missouri Valley Conference in 2006.

In 2004, Bowes took first in the MVC in the javelin and fourth in the discus. In 2003, she won the Missouri Valley Conference

discus title, was second in the javelin and fourth in the hammer throw. Bowes

was also a member two Shocker teams that won conference titles.

In volleyball and basketball at LHS, Bowes was a 3-year letterwinner in each sport and earned first-team all-Frontier League honors each season.

"It's a pretty amazing honor to be selected for the Hall of Fame, knowing that there have been some awesome athletes to come out of Louisburg and now to be recognized as one of them, truly is humbling," Krystal said. "You know, when you're in high school and just doing the work you need to do to get the job done on the field/court, you don't think about the level of competition you can set for the next generations. At least I didn't until my name got put on the wall for those school records and having them still there is pretty sweet. I just have high expectations of myself and where I wanted to go with it all and a lot of support from my family helped.

"You know having to write down everything I accomplished over my four years at LHS, and then to go on to WSU and add them all up was pretty fun to think back on. All the road trips to sub-state and state, no matter what the outcome, the memories that I have and the coaches to help me get there I will never forget. It may have even brought some tears to my eyes thinking about all the fun we use to have.

"But I think most of all my favorite

thing looking back at it all was knowing that I had two parents in the stands

at all of my games, sitting on those hard bleachers cheering us on through it

all. So for that I'm thankful and will always remember I'm one BAC."

Meet your 2019 LHS Fall Homecoming Candidates

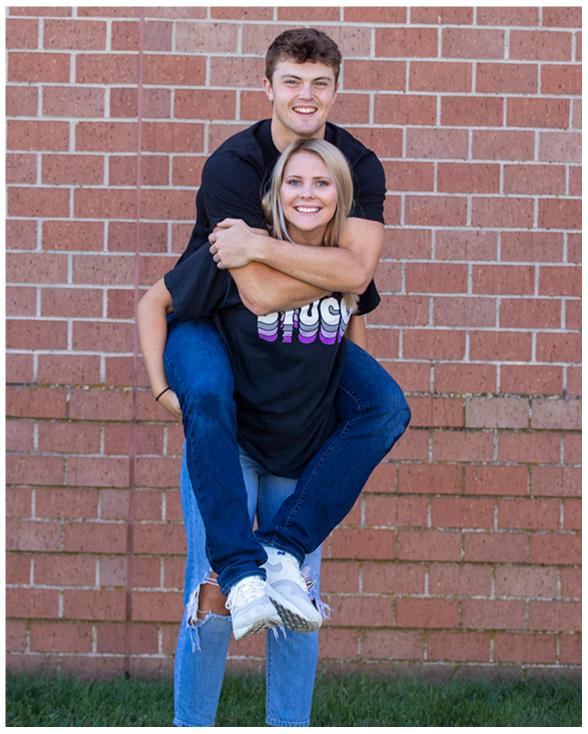


The 2019 Louisburg High School fall homecoming candidates are (front row, from left) Kami Geiman, Riley Kallevig, Kody Lowry, Reilly Ratliff-Becher; (back row) Brayden White, Ian McGuire, Madden Rutherford and Calvin Dillon.

Homecoming week at Louisburg High School kicked off Monday and events are in full swing. With something going on every day this week, it will be a busy time for students. All of it is, of course, centered around the crowning of the 2019 fall king

and queen. Eight students were selected as nominees and here are their names and profiles.

The crowning will take place on Friday before the Wildcats' home football game with Eudora. Kickoff for that game is set for 7 p.m., with the crowning to take place at 6:30. Good luck to all the participants and make sure to come out on Friday to support the Wildcat football team.



Kody Lowry and Madden Rutherford.

Kody Lowry

Kody is the daughter of Kristine and Shawn Lowry. Kody has participated in the musical for four years, STUCO for three years and girls basketball, track and field, select choir and football manager for two years. Kody plans to graduate in December and attend Kansas State University, majoring in Human Development and Family Science.

Madden Rutherford

Madden is the son of Breck and Shane Rutherford. Madden has participated in football, baseball and choir for four years and basketball for three years. He has been a part of National Honor Society and the musical for two years and Future Business Leaders of America for one year. Madden is undecided on his college destination, but hopes to play football or baseball in college. He plans to major biology and sports medicine.



Riley Kallevig and Ian McGuire

Riley Kallevig

Riley is the daughter of Kara and Eric Kallevig. Riley has participated in volleyball for four years, FFA for four years, basketball for one year and STUCO for one year. Following graduation, Riley plans to attend college but is undecided on the destination at this time.

Ian McGuire

Ian is the son of Lacey and Sean McGuire. Ian has participated in football for four years, band for four years and track and field for one year. Following graduation, Ian plans to attend college and major in accounting.



Kami Geiman and Brayden White

Kami Geiman

Kami is the daughter of Shelly and Tad Geiman. Kami has participated in choir for four years, STUCO for three years, band for two years and cheer for one year. Following graduation, Kami plans to attend Missouri State University and major in nursing.

Brayden White

Brayden is the son of Melissa and Nick White. Brayden has participated in football for four years, FFA for four years, track for three years and basketball for two. Following graduation, Brayden plans to play football in college and major in Ag Business.



Reilly Ratliff-Becher and Calvin Dillon

Reilly Ratliff-Becher

Reilly is the daughter of Trish Becher and Kelly Ratliff. Reilly has participated in volleyball, softball and band for four years. She has been a part of the powerlifting program for three years, basketball and FFA for two years and is a member of National Honor Society. Following graduation, Reilly plans to attend Pittsburg State and major in psychology.

Calvin Dillon

Calvin is the son of Karen and Jim Dillon. Calvin has participated in golf, FFA and FCA for four years. He has participated in band for three years and has been a member of National Honor Society for two. Following graduation, Calvin plans to play golf at the University of Central Missouri and

major in accounting.













KSHSAA releases classifications for 2019-20 school year



The Kansas State High School Activities Association released its classifications for the 2019-20 school year, along with the football classifications for the 2020-21 and 2021-22 seasons.

There were a few changes in both areas, but more so on the football side.

Football classifications are determined based on enrollment figures in ninth, 10th and 11th grade. Louisburg is still in 4A with 432 students and is toward the lower half of the classification.

Entering Class 4A beginning in the 2020 school year will be St. James Academy, Lansing and Great Bend, who have all moved down from Class 5A. Wamego also made the jump back in from Class 3A.

Kansas State High School Activities Association

Football Classifications and Enrollments-Descending Order 2020 & 2021

Enrollment figures are based on ninth, tenth and eleventh grades only.

Enrollment figures are as of September 20, 2019.

6A		5A		4A		3A	
Member Schools - 32 Range: 1854 - 1092		Member Schools - 32 Range: 1083 - 655		Member Schools - 32 Range: 654 - 340		Member Schools - 48 Range: 324 - 168	
Wichita-East	1854		1083	Lansing	654	Baldwin	324
Wichita-North	1691		1049	Great Bend	651	Topeka-Hayden	314
Wichita-Southeast	1662		1045	Lenexa-St. James Academy		Parsons	286
Derby	1638	Shawnee-Mill Valley	982	Bonner Springs	640	Andale	279
Garden City	1560	Leavenworth	977	Arkansas City	620	Pratt	275
Dodge City	1533	Wichita-Northwest	970	Andover Central	608	Clearwater	266
Olathe South	1503	Emporia	949	Basehor-Linwood	587	Iola	256
Olathe East	1477	Kansas City-Turner	902	McPherson	535	Girard	252
Olathe North	1469	Wichita-Bishop Carroll	890	Kansas City-Piper	518	Nickerson	252
Topeka-Washburn Rural	1449	Topeka West	882	Ottawa	507	Clay Center Community	247
Wichita-South	1438	Topeka-Seaman	881	Buhler	497	Holton	242
Lawrence-Free State	1411	Tecumseh-Shawnee Height		SM-Bishop Miege	493	Concordia	241
Manhattan	1402	Maize	871	Augusta	491	Kansas City-Bishop Ward	240
Topeka	1364	Kansas City-Washington	850	Winfield	472	Garnett-Anderson County	234
Olathe Northwest	1356	Maize South	842	Tonganoxie	471	Chapman	224
Kansas City-Wyandotte	1355	OP-Blue Valley Southwest	811	Independence	461	St. George-Rock Creek	224
SM East	1353	Salina-South	800	Chanute	452	Baxter Springs	223
Gardner-Edgerton	1325	Newton	788	Paola	447	Osawatomie	221
Haysville Campus	1297	De Soto	758	Fort Scott	434	Columbus	220
SM West	1277	Salina-Central	758	Louisburg	432	Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail	217
SM Northwest	1266	Topeka-Highland Park	757	Towanda-Circle	429	Wichita-Trinity Academy	217
Olathe West	1256	Andover	733	Coffeyville-Field Kindley	409	Hoyt-Royal Valley	216
OP-Blue Valley Northwest		Goddard-Eisenhower	725	El Dorado	400	Hugoton	216
SM North	1226	Valley Center	699	Eudora	391	LaCygne-Prairie View	214
Lawrence	1221	Kansas City-Sumner Acad.		Rose Hill	381	Hiawatha	213
OP-Blue Valley	1182	OP-St. Thomas Aquinas	693	Altamont-Labette County	377	Frontenac	211
OP-Blue Valley West	1182	Wichita-Kapaun Mt. Carme		Mulvane	375	Meriden-Jefferson West	211
Junction City	1136	Pittsburg	691	Atchison	355	Holcomb	210
Wichita-West	1129	Hays	687	Abilene	352	Burlington	203
Kansas City-JC Harmon	1110	Kansas City-FL Schlagle	687	Wamego	351	Hesston	202
SM South	1106	Spring Hill	668	Wellington	345	Colby	201
OP-Blue Valley North	1092	Goddard	655	Ulysses	340	Wichita Collegiate	201
						Lindsborg-Smoky Valley	200
						Galena	199
						Scott Community	198
						Caney Valley	192
						Perry-Lecompton	192
						Larned	188
						Cherryvale	186
						Marysville	183
						Cheney	182
* Note: Per class						Goodland	182
Rule 5-2-2, enr	ollme	nt ties are broken by i	ısing	the previous		Riley County	182
classification of			ೆ			Russell	181
crassification (July 1	Contraction of the Contraction o				Council Grove	180
				-		Sabetha	173
						Gypsum-Southeast of Salin	0 171
						Gypsum-Southeast of Sain	CTIT

2A		1A		8-Player Division	8-Player Division II		
Schools - 48 Range: 168 - 112		Schools - 28 Range: 111 - 62		Schools - 48 Range: 98 - 66		Schools - 52 Range: 66 - 29	
Cimarron	168	Whitewater-Remington	111	Herington	98	Sylvan-Lucas Unified	66
Lyons	168	Conway Springs	110	Bennington	97	Rural Vista (White City / Hope	e) 65
Wellsville	167	Horton	110	Hoxie	97	Peabody-Burns	64
Haven	166	Sedgwick	108	Yates Center	96	Bucklin	61
Hoisington	162	Arma-Northeast	106	Medicine Lodge	95	Minneola	61
Osage City	161	Brookville-Ell-Saline	106	Hill City	94	Victoria	61
Seneca-Nemaha Central	161	Richmond-Central Heights	106	Howard-West Elk	93	Caldwell	60
Fredonia	159	Wabaunsee	105	Pratt-Skyline	93	Satanta	60
Silver Lake	158	Wichita-The Independent	103	Leoti-Wichita County	90	Kensington-Thunder Ridge	59
Easton-Pleasant Ridge	156	Lyndon	99	Spearville	90	Onaga	59
		Sublette	99	WaKeeney-Trego Community		Downs-Lakeside	58
Riverton	155 153	Ellinwood	98	Moundridge	88	Mankato-Rock Hills	58
Neodesha	-		98	Sedan	88	Coldwater-South Central	57
Norton Community	153	Oakley	98	Cottonwood Falls-Chase Co.	84	Lebo	57
Beloit	150	Salina-Sacred Heart	-	Stockton	84	Quinter	57
Anthony/Harper-Chaparral		Uniontown	98		82		54
Kingman	148	Johnson-Stanton County	96	Attica/Argonia		Beloit-St. John's/Tipton	54
Eureka	147	Winchester-		Valley Falls	82	Osborne	
Pomona-West Franklin	144	Jefferson Co. North	94	Burlingame	80	South Haven	53
Douglass	142	Inman	93	Canton-Galva	79	Wakefield	52
Kismet-Southwestern Hts.	141	Elkhart	90	Goessel	79	Hutchinson-Central Christia	
Lakin	141	Plainville	89	Meade	79	Ingalls	51
St. Marys	141	Pleasanton	86	Ness City	79	Sharon Springs-Wallace Co.	51
Hays-TMP-Marian	140	Allen-Northern Heights	85	Washington County	79	St. Francis	51
Oskaloosa	140	Blue Rapids-Valley Heights	82	Little River	78	St. Paul	51
Minneapolis	139	Smith Center	82	Shawnee-Maranatha		Claffin-Central Plains	50
Ellsworth	137	Holton-Jackson Heights	78	Christian Academy	77	Hartford	50
Atchison-Maur Hill-Mt Acad	135	Troy	70	Cedar Vale/ Dexter	76	Norwich	50
Rossville	135	Olpe	69	Burden-Central	75	Scandia-Pike Valley	50
Effingham-		Centralia	62	Langdon-Fairfield	75	Colony-Crest	49
Atchinson Co Comm.	130			Madison/Hamilton	75	Frankfort	49
Erie	130			Solomon	75	Melvern-MDCV	49
Hillsboro	129			Udall	74	Buffalo-Altoona Midway	48
Humboldt	129			Atwood-Rawlins County	72	Dighton	48
Mound City-Jayhawk Linn				Highland-Doniphan West	72	Hanover	47
Phillipsburg	128			La Crosse	72	Leroy-Southern Coffey Co.	47
Wathena-Riverside	127			Oswego	72	Chetopa	46
Belle Plaine	124			Kinsley	71	Logan/Palco	46
				Clyde-Clifton Clyde	70	Lost Springs-Centre	46
Syracuse	121			Oberlin-Decatur Community		Otis-Bison	46
Garden Plain	120			Rosalia-Flinthills	70	Linn	43
Ellis	119			Jetmore-Hodgeman County	69	Waverly	42
Cherokee-Southeast	118			Lincoln	69	Southern Cloud	44
Belleville-Republic County				Macksville	69	(Miltonvale / Glasco)	40
McLouth	117			Oxford	69	Stafford	40
Eskridge-Mission Valley	116				68	Wetmore	39
Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic				Moran-Marmaton Valley		1 / C + 7 / C C C C C C C C C C	33
Leon-Bluestem	112			Greensburg-Kiowa County	67	Grainfield-	0.00
Marion	112			St. John-Hudson	67	Wheatland/Grinnell	38
Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan				Montezuma-South Gray	66	Randolph-Blue Valley	38
Sterling	112			Pretty Prairie	66	Kiowa-South Barber	37
						Winona-Triplains/Brewster	36
						Chase	33
						Axtell	30
						Tescott	30
						Wilson	29



Goddard, Pittsburg and Spring Hill all saw their enrollment grow and will be moving up from 4A to 5A next year. Baldwin

saw their enrollment decline and will move down to Class 3A in football the next two years.

In the rest of the sports, not much changed with regards to Class 4A for this year.

Enrollment figures for all grades in Louisburg this year is 573, which puts the school in the upper half of Class 4A. The biggest school is Buhler with 661 and Bishop Miege is the second biggest at 656 and Ottawa is third at 653.



3A Member Schools: 64		2A Member Schools: 64		1A Member Schools: 117	
Range: 305-172	1939	Range: 171-109	187	Range: 108-14	
Garnett-Anderson County HS Concordia HS	305	Mound City-Jayhawk Linn H5 Oskaloosa H5	171	Stockton HS Elbing-Berean Academy	108
Wichita-Trinity Academy	303	Belle Plaine HS	170	Little River HS	105
Kansas City-Bishop Ward HS	300	Rossville HS	169	Meade HS	103
Osawatomie HS	296 296	Elisworth HS	168	Ness City HS Washington County HS	103
St. George-Rock Creek HS	294	♦ Wathena-Riverside HS	164	Udall HS	102
laxter Springs HS	286	Conway Springs HS	160	♣Goessel HS	101
Carbondale-Santa Fe Trail HS toyt-Royal Valley HS	286	Belleville-Republic County HS Garden Plain HS	158	Valley Falls HS Oswego HS	101
lugoton HS	280	Hutchinson-Trinity Catholic HS	158	Burden-Central HS	97
lesston HS	279	Cherokee-Southeast HS	157	Troy HS	97
rontenac HS feriden-Jefferson West HS	276	Eskridge-Mission Valley HS Arma-Northeast HS	156	Macksville HS Atwood-Rawlins County HS	96 95
liawatha HS	273	Hillsboro HS	155	Rosalia-Flinthills HS	95
ialena HS	270	Olathe-Heritage Christian Academy	155	La Crosse HS	94
aCygne-Prairie View HS lolcomb HS	270 266	Ellis HS Syracuse HS	154	Solomon HS Burlingame HS	93
farysville HS	266	McLouth HS	152	Lincoln HS	92
richita Collegiate HS	266	Whitewater-Remington HS	152	Oberlin-Decatur Community HS Oxford HS	91
cott Community HS aney Valley HS	265 263	Horton HS Sterling HS	150	St. John-Hudson HS	91
indsborg-Smoky Valley HS	263	Marion HS	146	Clyde-Clifton Clyde HS	90
olby HS	262	Leon-Bluestern HS	144	Jetmore-Hodgeman County HS	90
urlington HS erry-Lecompton HS	260 252	Wichita-The Independent HS Richmond-Central Heights HS	142	Peabody-Burns HS Kinsley HS	90
oodland HS	246	Sedgwick HS	140	Langdon-Fairfield HS	89
relisville HS	243	Alma-Wabaunsee HS	139	Highland-Doniphan West HS	87
arned HS	242	Brookville-Ell-Saline HS	139	Olpe HS	87
ussell HS heney HS	239	Pittsburg-St. Mary's Colgan HS Prairie Village-Kansas City Christian HS	139 136	Centralia HS Montezuma-South Gray HS	86
abetha HS	237	Medicine Lodge HS	134	Moran-Marmaton Valley HS	86
ley County HS	231	Lawrence-Bishop Seabury Academy	132	Greensburg-Klowa County HS	85
ouncil Grove HS herryvale HS	229	Salina-Sacred Heart HS Winchester-Jefferson County North HS	131	Wichita-Classical School Of Wichita Onaga HS	83
ypsum-Southeast of Saline HS	223	Bennington HS	128	Caldwell HS	80
alstead HS	221	Johnson-Stanton County HS	128	Lebo HS	79
aven HS iverton HS	220	Lyndon HS Oakley HS	127	Minneola HS Bucklin HS	79 78
redonia HS	213	Plainville HS	127	Pretty Prairie HS	78
yons HS	213	Sublette HS	127	Sylvan-Lucas Unified HS	78
ilver Lake HS eloit HS	213	Inman HS Yates Center HS	126	Norwich HS Victoria HS	77
eneca-Nemaha Central HS	210	Elimecod HS	124	Coldwater-South Central HS	76
imarron HS	207	Pratt-Skyline HS	123	Mankato-Rock Hills HS	76
oisington HS	205	Wakeeney-Trego Community HS	122	Satanta HS	76 75
orton Community HS sage City HS	204	Uniontown HS Herington HS	120	Kensington-Thunder Ridge HS Osborne HS	75
aston-Pleasant Ridge HS	203	Smith Center HS	119	Madison HS	74
ingman HS	202	Pleasanton HS	118	Dexter HS	72
eodesha HS nthony/Harper-Chaparral HS	200 199	Elkhart HS •Hill City HS	117	Hanover HS Burrton HS	71 70
omona-West Franklin HS	192	Hoxie HS	116	Hutchinson-Central Christian HS	69
ismet-Southwestern Heights HS	190	Allen-Northern Heights HS	115	St. Francis HS	69
ureka HS Lakin HS	188	Howard-West Elk HS Sedan HS	115	Ingalls HS McPherson-Elyria Christian HS	68
tchison-Maur Hill-Mount Academy	184	Cottonwood Falls-Chase County HS	113	Downs-Lakeside HS	67
linneapolis HS	184	Holton-Jackson Heights HS	113	Wakefield HS	67
ays-Thomas More Prep-Marian HS t. Marys HS	182	Canton-Galva HS Blue Rapids-Valley Heights HS	112	Hartford HS Quinter HS	66
louglass HS	178	Moundridge HS	110	Dighton HS	65
Effingham-Atchison Co Community HS		Shawnee-Maranatha Christian Academy		Frankfort HS	65
Humboldt HS	174 172	Leoti-Wichita County HS	109	Melvern-Marais Des Cygnes Valley HS St. Paul HS	65
hillipsburg HS	212	Spearville HS	109	Claffin-Central Plains HS	64
				Colony-Crest HS	63
				Randolph-Blue Valley HS	63
				Scandia-Pike Valley HS Lost Springs-Centre HS	63
				South Haven HS	62
				Rexford-Golden Plains HS	61
				Chetopa HS Sharon Springs-Wallace County HS	60
				Buffalo-Altoona Midway HS	59
				Leroy-Southern Coffey County HS	58
				Otis-Bison HS Grainfield-Wheatland/Grinnell HS	58
				Stafford HS	57
				Ashland HS	56
				Linn HS Tribune-Greekey County HS	56 55
				Beloit-St. John's HS	54
				Waverly HS	54
				Wetmore HS Attica HS	51
				Attica HS Deerfield HS	50 49
				Argonia HS	48
				Cunningham HS	48
				Klowa-South Barber HS Rolla HS	48 46
				Moscow HS	45
				Axtell HS	42
				Bird City-Cheylin HS Chase HS	42
				Hope HS	42
				Cedar Vale HS	40
				Rozel-Pawnee Heights HS	40
				Tescott HS Wichita-Central Christian Academy	40
				Almena-Northern Valley HS	39
				White City HS	39
				Logan HS Wilson HS	38
				Wilson HS Fowler HS	35
				Natoma HS	30
				Ransom-Western Plains HS	29
				Weskan HS Brewster HS	29
				Palco HS	28
				Glasco HS	27
				Longton-Elk Valley HS Hamilton HS	26

Three schools will make the move up to Class 4A this year. Clay Center, Girard and Holton all saw their enrollment increase and will come back to 4A, while Osawatomie, Anderson County and Wichita-Trinity Academy will move out of 4A to 3A this year.