



UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT 400

*We Champion for All Students*

INVITES CANDIDATES TO APPLY FOR THE  
POSITION OF  
**SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

**USD 400 MISSION STATEMENT**  
SMOKY VALLEY WILL PREPARE STUDENTS WITH  
THE SKILLS, EXPERIENCES, AND VALUES NEEDED  
FOR SUCESS AS CONFIDENT, COMPASSIONATE  
YOUNG LEADERS.

**THE POSITION**  
The Smoky Valley USD 400 Board of Education is seeking a highly qualified and fully licensed superintendent. Smoky Valley Unified School District is accredited by the Kansas Department of Education. Length of contract to be negotiated with salary based on qualifications and experience. A comprehensive benefit package is also included.

**WELCOME** *Valley*  
TO THE



**SODERSTROM ELEMENTARY**  
SCHOOL Grades PreK-4 - FTE 288



**SMOKY VALLEY MIDDLE**  
SCHOOL Grades 5-8 - FTE 252



**SMOKY VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**  
Grades 9-12 - FTE 242



**SMOKY VALLEY VIRTUAL CHARTER**  
SCHOOL Grades 6-12 - FTE 217



**USD 400 EMPLOYEES**  
Certified - 79, Classified - 75

**Budget Information**

- \$72,832,193- Assessed Valuation General Fund
- \$90,078,535- Assessed Valuation & All other Funds
- 20.00 Mill General Fund Levy
- 8.00 Mill Capital Outlay Levy
- 15.211 Mill LOB Levy
- \$9,093,854- General Fund Budget

**SELECTION TIMELINE**

Application Due: March 13 , 2025  
Screening Begins: March 17, 2025  
Anticipated Hire Date: April 2025  
Contract Begins: July 1, 2025

**HOW TO APPLY**

Letters of inquiry, requests for applications or other questions about the process should be directed to:

**Dr. Gary Sechrist**  
Kansas Association of School Boards  
1420 SW Arrowhead Road  
Topeka, KS 66604-4024  
[gsechrist@kasb.org](mailto:gsechrist@kasb.org)  
620-680-0871





**SODERSTROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**



Named after longtime superintendent LaVerne W. Soderstrom, our PreK-4 building has an FTE of 288 students. With three sections of each grade level, class size is around 20 students per classroom. Every student is assigned an iPad for use in class. Students start in our highly-regarded orchestra program in the fourth grade. SES students take part in the local Swedish Heritage Hyllningsfest festival by performing dances and singing. Student support includes MTSS small group and individual interventions.

**SMOKY VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL**

Smoky Valley Middle School is a 5-8 building that shares its campus with Smoky Valley High School. With an FTE of 252 students, the class size average sits around 20 students per classroom. Students in grades 5-6 are assigned an iPad while 7/8 students take home a Mac laptop. The middle school has a strong emphasis on the arts, with successful music programs (choir, band, jazz band, and orchestra), and traditional art. Also available is introductory technology classes. SVMS students also take part in the Hyllningsfest celebration. As a part of the Central Kansas League, SVMS 7/8 students can compete in a number of extra-curricular activities, including Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Basketball, Wrestling, Track, and Tennis.



**SMOKY VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL**



The 'Home of the Vikings' serves students in grades 9-12. The arts, music, and technology are a primary focus at SVHS, as well as the variety of activities and clubs students can participate in. Being a 3A sized school in the Central Kansas League allows our students to compete in a number of athletics, and has led to a number of state-level showings in Football, Volleyball, Cross Country, Tennis, Swimming, Wrestling, Basketball, Softball, Baseball, and Track. The 1:1 Laptop program at SVHS was started in 2004 and was the largest in the state at the time. The Vision\_Tek program teaches our students how to create multimedia and other technological projects to further their digital creative skills. The VT Program is known for their high-level products that have won a number of awards at the eImagine competition. Partnerships with Bethany College and Hutchinson Community College provide dual-credit courses for our students to use to jumpstart their college careers. With an FTE of 242, class sizes are small which makes for a better learning experience for our teachers and students and it shows in our 94%-98% graduation rate.

**SMOKY VALLEY VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL**

Smoky Valley Virtual Charter School was established in 2004 and was among the 1st accredited virtual charters schools in the state of Kansas. With options for full-time, part-time, and adult students, Smoky Valley Virtual Charter School gives K-12 students the opportunity to attend school from home while offering a program tailored to students who need to complete and gain credits to graduate from high school or progress to the next grade level.



**USD 400 AND THE SMOKY VALLEY COMMUNITY**



USD 400 is between Salina and McPherson, along and west of I-135. In 1963, USD 400 unified the communities of Lindsborg, Falun, Smolan, Roxbury, and Marquette. In that time, USD 400 has had a total of five superintendents, two of which have been recognized as superintendent of the year. Lindsborg and the surrounding area was settled by Swedish immigrants and that rich heritage is celebrated every other year during Hyllningsfest. Lindsborg has a population of 3700 and Marquette's population is 800, both of which are considered bedroom communities for Salina, McPherson, Hutchinson, Ellsworth and Wichita. Lindsborg is home to Bethany College which the district has numerous partnerships.

