

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given pursuant to K.S.A. 72-1431, of a public hearing to be held on the 11th day of February, 2026, at 6:00 pm at 104 S. Burlingame Road, Scranton, Kansas regarding the Unified School District No. 434, Osage County, Kansas proposal to close Scranton Preschool/District Administrative Center for the following reasons:

The Board of Education proposes to close this building to improve the school system through the consolidation of facilities and the efficient reallocation of district resources. Currently, the facility houses only a single grade level (preschool) and the district administrative offices. Closing the building will allow the district to better utilize staff, reduce operational costs, and integrate preschool students into a more comprehensive educational environment alongside other grade levels. Additionally, the district will relocate administrative staffing and the District Administrative Center (DAC) to an existing vacant building previously utilized for this purpose, ensuring more efficient use of current district-owned property.

This proposal specifically addresses the loss of revenue resulting from declining enrollment—a challenge currently affecting a majority of Kansas school districts. The Board determines that the fiscal savings realized by discontinuing the operation of this physical infrastructure will be reallocated directly to enhance student instructional programs and educational services. By prioritizing investment in students over the maintenance of underutilized brick-and-mortar facilities, the district aims to protect and improve the overall educational opportunities for all pupils during this period of shifting demographics.

Students attending Scranton Preschool will be reassigned to Overbrook Attendance Center.

A representative of the board of education will present the proposal to close Scranton Preschool and District Administrative Center and the board will hear testimony as to the advisability of the proposed closing.