



The Record

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Number 04

Class Acts

By Dr. Jim Haas

Despite the ancient Greek proverb, “Whom the gods love dies young,” we recently lost three people who lived into their nineties and made the world a better place: Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Sir Sidney Poitier, and Betty White.

Born poor in South Africa, Tutu became a teacher but quit after the government passed rigid apartheid laws that segregated schools by race. Ordained a priest in the Anglican Church, he then went to London to study theology. Returning to Africa, he rose through the ranks to become the most senior Anglican archbishop in southern Africa and president of the All Africa Council of Churches.

With his cheerful disposition and diplomatic skills, Tutu was an effective anti-apartheid activist, supporting a boycott of South Africa, speaking at the U.N., meeting with U.S. Congressional committees and with President Reagan, whom

he later described as “a racist pure and simple.” Preaching both nonviolence and persistence, Tutu was awarded the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize.

After apartheid collapsed under international pressure in the early 1990s, Nelson Mandela, South Africa’s first Black president, asked Tutu to head a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to hold both pro- and anti-apartheid persons who committed crimes accountable and to help build a nation based on universal suffrage and mutual respect. Desmond Tutu helped lead his country to the right side of history.

Sir Sidney Poitier (knighted by the Queen in 1974) was raised in the Bahamas, but after living with Miami relatives as a teen, moved to New York to escape Florida’s Jim Crow injustices and began an acting career. With his dignified presence on film, Poitier became a star and the first Black to win an Academy Award for best actor.

In 1967, he starred in three blockbuster

films that cemented his legend as the most popular actor of his time: *To Sir, with Love* as a teacher in a lower-class London high school; *Guess Who’s Coming to Dinner* as a prominent doctor engaged to the white daughter of a major newspaper publisher; and *In the Heat of the Night* playing a Philadelphia detective on loan to a Deep South small-town sheriff to help solve a murder. I first saw *To Sir, with Love* as I was about to begin teaching high school and decided that Poitier’s character would be my model: confident, demanding, and sensitive.

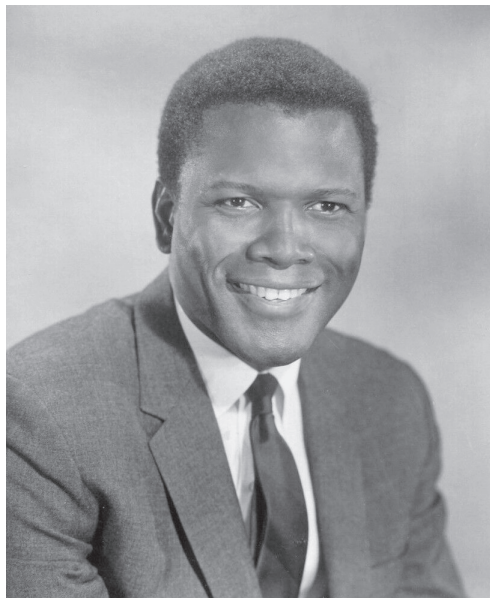
Poitier directed and continued to act into the 2000s and won numerous awards including a Kennedy Center Honor and the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He served as Bahama’s ambassador to Japan and to UNESCO.

Betty White lived to just short of age 100, her career as actor, comedian, director, and producer spanning the history of television. In 1939, singing on an experimental show in Hollywood, she and a high school friend became the first women to appear on TV.

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Archbishop Desmond Tutu



Sir Sidney Poitier



Betty White

Sue's Sudsy Soapbox



By Sue Reich

No computers, doing some switching around plus getting a different TV company because ours is going out in Feb. So guess what? I am doing everything on my phone. But, I have done it before. It isn't that bad, just a tad longer. This crazy weather just can't make up it's mind. No wonder everyone is getting sick. Hot, cold, hot, cold. We still haven't gotten our pneumonia shots. Have to get online to make appointments for everything. What about older folks that don't know how or don't even have a computer? This modern

age can be nerve-racking at times. I went in the Windmill on 55th street the other day to show off the new look of *The Record*. She was at the table with her mom and had this weird square thing, I think she said it was called the SQUARE. Don't believe it had a keyboard, just fingertouch the screen. Hmm, "what is that thing,?" I asked. She told me it is a square. "I see it is square but what is it?" She ran her finger around it, it is a Square, thus

the name. . Duh. Call me "square." I think that is a term we used in the 50's. Don't know what squares are called now. The people kind.

What's all this Covid stuff about? If there isn't one kind, there's another. Half of the population wears masks, the other half doesn't. Like I said one gal made fun of me. I let it go. Don't want any problems with anyone in this day and age. Right?. We are wanting normalcy back in our lives. When that is absolutely certified, that is when mine comes off. Until then, I save on make-up just doing my face from the cheeks

up. The only thing, my nose runs, my glasses fog, I pinch the nose area so they won't fog, but I buy tissues by the ton. What a crazy time we are having. Church, no church, school, no school, no sit in restaurant dining, pick up only. Shots, no shots.

Well my dear friends, be kind, be careful, mind your p's&q's, lvyaa all. Your friend, Sue

Ceremony Delayed

The ceremony for Michael Brazil, will be done later in the year. The weather was too bad for the event in Emerson Park.

Legislative notes for Business West members

By Jane Winkler Philbrook

Report from Topeka . . .

Gov. Laura Kelly delivered her 2022 State of the State message Tuesday, Jan. 11 to the Kansas Legislature and the public, noting that state revenue is nearly \$3 billion in excess. This is the strongest surplus in four decades.

She is proposing that the sales tax on food be eliminated. This is estimated to save the typical Kansas family \$500 annually. Kansas has the highest sales tax on food in the United States.

Other highlights of the Governor's speech include:

- Maintaining full funding for public education
- Restoring funding for higher education
- Paying down state debts
- Strengthening access to mental health care
- Expanding Medicaid
- Equipping the Kansas National Guard with tools and resources in assisting with natural disasters

• Full funding for the water plan which would allow for irrigating techniques for agriculture

During the week of Jan. 17, it is hoped the Kansas Legislature will make redistricting a higher priority without gerrymandering maps.

Action noted at Unified Government . . .

Mayor and Chief Executive Officer Tyrone Garner has appointed Cheryl Harrison-Lee as the interim County Administrator, effective from Jan. 6, 2022 until April 1, 2023.

She is the first woman and first person of color to hold this position with the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas.

Welding program succeeds . . .

A welding training program at the Lansing Correctional Facility which began in August last year is slated to graduate 25 persons in May this year. This is an excellent example of collaboration among various

governmental entities including the Kansas Department of Corrections and Kansas City, Kansas, Community College. The program provides skills for inmates who will soon be released.

Jane Winkler Philbrook is a Past-President of Business West and continues as a member its Board of Directors. She served two terms as a Unified Commissioner.



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Policy On Opinion

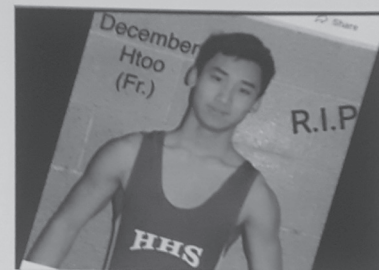
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\$8,000 REWARD

for information leading to arrest or filing of charges related to the murder of



DECEMBER HTOO, AGE 15, KCK MURDER VICTIM

December was murdered November 18, 2017 near 34th & Gibbs in the Argentine neighborhood of Kansas City, KS at a business where he worked to help support his family, who fled the Burmese Civil War with hopes of building a better life in the US. December was a sophomore at JC Harmon High School where he was a wrestler and a member of the choir. He was active in Church.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Crime Stoppers Greater Kansas City TIPS Hotline at 816-474-TIPS (8477). TIPS may also be submitted electronically at www.KCCrimestoppers.com, or by downloading our NEW mobile app, P3TIPS, on Google Play or the Apple iOS stores for FREE. *Information leading to an arrest and/or filing of charges could be eligible for up to \$8,000.00 in reward money. ALL INFORMATION IS ANONYMOUS.



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*Hope my family misses me.
I would have graduated from Harmon by now.*



By Sharon Hoover

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

collect feedback on services, and identify opportunities for improvement across the organization. Data collected is shared with our elected officials, county administrators, and department leaders to help form policy making and key budgetary decisions for the U.G. I have participated in a couple of these surveys, and they are quite comprehensive so if you receive one, please complete and return. Let your voice be heard.

This may not be the time to address this subject (27 degrees outside) but beginning January 27, the Parks and Recreation Department of the U.G. will begin recruiting for lifeguards for Parkwood Park. If you remember last summer, the pool was shut down because of the lifeguard shortage. Hopefully some

young folks or able bodied older folks will step up.

I just learned another interesting tidbit. The KCK Police Department in on Facebook Live with a program entitled "Just the Facts". It is on the second Tuesday of the month from 6pm-7pm. You can hear from the police on issues facing our community, ask questions and engage in our community's public safety. The next program is February 8, 2022.

I've spent the last week or so in the United Kingdom. Not, physically mentally. Nicci French has written numerous psychological novels, but I was introduced to the latest just this fall, "The Unheard". I enjoyed it so I picked up one of her older ones "House of Correction". It's about a girl returning to a small coastal village who is accused of killing

her next door neighbor, her former teacher. The girl was not popular growing up, was considered a little strange with an abrasive nature. The body was found in her shed, and everything points to her being the killer. She refuses to plead guilty, fires her attorney and represents herself in court while incarcerated. Surprise ending.

Presently, I am reading Elizabeth George's "Something to Hide" a Detective Inspector Thomas Lynley novel. These novels only come out every two years and are usually over 600 pages as is this one. It takes place in London, deals with murder and with a very sensitive subject – the custom of some African communities that practice fe-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

Do you have an opinion about the state of affairs in Wyandotte County? Later this month or in early February, you may receive a survey from the Unified Government. Every two years since 2014, the U.G. has mailed out a community survey to understand community priorities,



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SENATE NEWS



By Sen. Pat Pettey

The Legislature convened for its first day of session for the year on Monday, January 10th.

All branches of government were closed Monday in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. They will reopen Tuesday.

Daily calendars, committee and district information, and full text and summaries of bills are all available online at www.kslegislature.org. You can hear legislative proceed-

ings in the Senate by clicking "Senate" under Audio/Video Broadcast on the home page. To watch the Senate and select committees, click here.

I am honored to serve as your Senator. My office is located in 125-E. Please feel free to contact me at 785-296-7375 or pat.pettey@senate.ks.gov. I am also happy to set up a meeting or Zoom to discuss any questions or concerns.

Governor Kelly Delivers State of the State Address

In her fourth State of the State message, Governor Laura Kelly laid out how her administration has delivered on its promises of fiscal responsibility, economic growth,

and steady leadership. You can watch her remarks here.

On economic development: The Kelly administration has surpassed record-economic growth. There's more economic opportunity in the state of Kansas today than at any time in history. The Kelly administration has created more than 30,000 new jobs. The unemployment rate has been below 4% for over a year. In 2021 alone, the private sector invested nearly \$3.8 billion dollars in new facilities and equipment in Kansas.

On fiscal responsibility: The Kelly administration continues to pay down state debts. Governor Kelly added \$600 million dollars to the state's Rainy Day fund, the most money that's ever been put there. Growing the Rainy Day Fund is the responsible thing to do to ensure critical services like schools and law enforcement are always funded even if our economy takes a turn for the worse.

On tax relief: Governor Kelly wants to put money back in Kansans' pockets. That's why she announced that every working Kansan who filed taxes in 2021 will get a \$250 dollar tax rebate this year - \$500 dollars for married couples filing jointly. Governor Kelly also called on the Legislature to send a clean, bipartisan Axe the Food Tax bill to her desk by Kansas Day (January 29). It will save Kansas families hundreds, perhaps thousands, of dollars a year. And it's a common-sense policy where Democrats and Republicans can completely agree - and most importantly, provide relief for working Kansas families.

On agriculture: Despite all of the obstacles that our farmers and ranchers have faced, Kansas is on its way to another record year of agricultural exports. Kansas will surpass the \$4 billion dollar mark in exports for the second consecutive year - a feat not accomplished in nearly a decade. Efforts to grow the rural economy by the Kelly administration include:

* Establishing the Office of Rural Prosperity.

* Re-starting the Kansas Main-street program to help our rural communities keep their downtowns

vibrant.

* Establishing the Office of Broadband Development; expanding internet access to over 50,000 new households and businesses; and connecting rural communities that were frustrated for years by the lack of access.

* Deploying hotspots during the pandemic to ensure that students in low-income households could continue their education remotely.

On transportation: Governor Kelly believes investments in our infrastructure make communities safer, creates jobs, stimulates economic activity, and improves the quality of life for residents who rely on roads every day. That's why Governor Kelly made unprecedented investments in the state's roads, bridges, and highways, with more than 160 new infrastructure projects started. Governor Kelly's budget officially closes "the Bank of K-DOT," and stops stealing money from the highway fund to fill budget holes created by failed tax experiments.

On Medicaid expansion: Expanding Medicaid will help our rural hospitals and lessen the out-migration of our healthcare professionals to our neighboring states. It doesn't matter if our neighboring states are run by Republicans or Democrats, they expanded Medicaid - because expansion is good for their economies, it's good for their communities, and it's good for their people. We are leaving billions of dollars on the table and threatening the very viability of our rural communities by not expanding Medicaid. Expansion is something we can and must do right now.

On education: Governor Kelly is fully funding schools for the fourth straight year. And, because of the governor's fiscal responsibility, the budget has enough funding to freeze college tuition increases. In the classroom, we know our kids are feeling the lingering effects of the pandemic. Not every parent has the means to help their children get the attention or the tools they need to fill the learning gaps created by the pandemic. Governor Kelly announced a bipartisan agreement

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The person named below has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the Department of Housing and Urban Development's regulations implementing Section 504 (24 CFR, part 8 dated June 2, 1988).

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Petty...

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to allocate \$50 million dollars in Learning Recovery Grants for students who need that extra help to get caught up. These grants will give parents the ability to sign their kids up for counseling, tutoring, summer camps, and other programs to close the learning gap.

On child welfare: During her first term, Governor Kelly has made critical changes and investments in our foster care system. After three years, we have decreased the number of children in foster care by over 15%. That's one thousand fewer kids in the system. Her administration:

- * Moved the state away from a traditional child welfare system and toward a child and family well-being system. Secretary Howard directed the agency to focus on kinship care, where a child is placed with a family member or close family friend, instead of into the system.

- * Lead the country by making Kansas one of the first states to implement the Family First Prevention Services Act. This program provides support services for struggling parents to increase their ability to care for their own children, in their own home, rather than in the foster care system.

- * Created the Division of Child Advocate. The advocate will ensure an independent, accountable system to investigate complaints, to help families navigate our foster care system and act as a data-resource for further improvement of the system.

On mental health: Governor Kelly's budget includes additional funding to make it easier for local communi-

ties to provide critical mental health services closer to home and reduce the strain on our law enforcement agencies, our jails and our hospital emergency rooms. It will save lives and it will protect our communities.

Governor Unveils Budget Proposal

Governor Laura Kelly announced her fourth budget recommendation on Wednesday. This budget builds on years of work by the Kelly Administration to restore the state's fiscal prosperity, grow the state's economy, expand the state's workforce, and invest in the health and safety of the people of the state of Kansas. It's a strong proposal, and I hope the Legislature will implement it.

The Governor's budget fully funds K-12 for a fifth straight year and makes historic investments in workforce training and higher education to ensure that Kansans are ready to enter the workforce. By expanding Medicaid, the state of Kansas not only nets millions of dollars of enhanced federal matching funds, it allows more people to remain in the workforce and boosts local economies.

Recognizing that some revenues may be one-time only, the budget makes several one-time investments to reduce debt and increase structural balance, including paying off KPERS and other debts accrued under previous administrations, providing Kansas taxpayers with a \$250 rebate, and making one-time investments and capital improvements in the state's public safety, corrections, and juvenile justice systems.

Issues to Watch This Session

Personal priorities for the 2022 session:

1. Work to increase child care support for working families with child care and economic driver.

2. Telemedicine access and reimbursement

3. Increased availability to quality early learning from birth to 5 years old.

4. Support Senior Property Tax - SB 76

Our plan to Axe the Food Tax has gotten a lot of buzz — for good reason. Eliminating the food sales tax will provide tax relief to all Kansans in every corner of the state. We have the second-highest grocery tax in the country at 6.5%. Taking that to 0% will save an average Kansas family over \$500 a year. That's \$500 that can be used on school supplies, a down payment on a car, and investing in your family's future. I've signed on as a co-sponsor to this bill, and so far not a single Republican Senator has joined.

The Senate Committee on Redistricting met on Wednesday to begin the process of redrawing our congressional, state senate, state house, and state board of education maps. The committee held two rounds of town halls during the interim, where Kansans overwhelmingly asked for a fair, transparent process. I agree that we deserve nothing less than that, and I'll be watching this process closely to ensure we end up with maps that allow voters to choose their elected officials — not the other way around.

Informational hearings on medical marijuana kicked off this week in the Senate Committee on Federal and State Affairs. This is the first time the Senate has taken up this issue, after the House passed a

version at the end of the 2021 session by a vote of 79-42. The committee chairman had scheduled three days of hearings for next week, but on Thursday, Senate President Ty Masterson moved the bill to the Senate Committee on Interstate Cooperation, which he chairs and rarely convenes. The Senate President has never been keen on passing medical marijuana, so while the move was shocking, it's not entirely surprising. I hope this is just a bump in the road and that the majority party can put their interpersonal strife aside to give this issue the attention it deserves.

Assistance for Farmers and Ranchers Impacted by Wildfires

The Senate and House Tax Committees have worked quickly this week to move out legislation that provides a sales tax exemption for purchases to reconstruct, repair, or replace fencing damaged or destroyed by wildfires in December. The Senate committee approved an amendment using language from Senator Tom Holland's SB 45, which allows counties to abate property taxes on structures damaged by natural disasters. We expect to take action on this as a body next week.

Governor Kelly also sent a letter to USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack to allocate additional aid for Kansas farmers and ranchers. The Governor emphasized the need for Secretary Vilsack and the USDA to revisit the payment rate of the Livestock Indemnity Program, to better mirror the value and cost to replace cattle killed in the fires. She also encouraged the Secretary to look at the Emergency Conservation Program and

increase the rate of the cost share agreement to adequately reflect the cost to replace fencing. The Governor suggested the Secretary empower the regional and local representatives, who have direct knowledge of the cost and availability of fencing materials, to approve modifications for the program. You can see a copy of the letter here.

Follow Our Work

In addition to watching legislative proceedings live, you can always stay up to date with legislative matters by following our caucus's social media accounts. Our staff live-tweets Senate session daily, provides updates on legislation regularly on Facebook, and shares resources to help you advocate for your issues on Instagram.

Important State Phone Numbers

Here is a list of numbers I often receive requests for during the Legislative Session. I hope you will find this information helpful.

Attorney General
(888) 428-8436

Child Abuse Hotline
(800) 922-5330

Consumer Protection
(800) 432-2310

Crime Tip Hotline
(800) 572-7463

Crime Victim Referral
(800) 828-9745

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OBITUARY

Robert Francis Darling



Robert Francis Darling passed away January 5, 2022 due to a fall at the age of 90. Bob was born September 21st, 1931 to Thomas and Dorothy (Detlor) Darling in Muskogee, Oklahoma. At age 7, he moved to the Turner area of Kansas City, Kansas with his father and step-mother Cora (Nilges) Darling and attended school there. He met and then married the love of his life Charlotte M. Smith on December 27th, 1952. Bob served his country in the 6th Armored Division of the

Army from 1952-1954. Together Bob and Charlotte raised 5 sons, Kenneth, Vincent, David, Scott and Jeffrey. Bob worked in the printing industry until his retirement. Over the years Bob enjoyed camping, playing in his band, became a master at woodworking and loved playing on the computer making CD's and DVD's. He was preceded in death by his parents, step-mother, 2 sisters, Dorothy Lou Darling, Ruth Lorraine Nilges and a half-brother, Albert Mullens. Surviving Bob is his wife, Charlotte, 5 sons, Kenneth Darling, Vincent Darling, David Darling (Christina Cain), Scott Darling (Kelley Pica), Jeffrey Darling (Deanna), 2 Grandsons, Adam Darling, Justin Darling, 2 Great Granddaughters, Destiny Darling, Brityn Darling, 1 Great Great Granddaughter, Dallas Darling and several nieces and nephews. His life was a life well-lived and well-loved and a life that will be greatly missed.

Haas...

...from page 1

She did various radio parts before producing and hosting her own show on NBC TV. Her wit and charm made her a regular on game shows and late-night talk shows. NBC offered her the *Today Show* but she declined, not wanting to move to New York, later saying, "They had to get by with Barbara Walters."

White co-starred on the *Mary*

Tyler Moore Show, winning two Emmys, and at age 88 was the oldest person to host *Saturday Night Live*. She continued working almost to the end, was an animal protection activist, and was made an honorary forest ranger by the Forest Service, her original career goal at a time when women were not eligible. Asked the secret of her long success, she said, "Always get eight hours of beauty sleep. Nine if you're ugly."

Hoover...

...from page 3

male genitalia mutilation. Although outlawed, safe havens do exist for young girls. George goes into detail on the descriptions of the buildings and transportation problems of the city which lead me to think I don't

want to visit London. She also uses English terminology and accents that make for a dictionary search. I'm three fourths through and haven't figured out who the murderer is. I have a hard time putting this one down. Good informative read.

Until next time, stay safe, and be kind to those around you.

Tom's Tasty Treats

By Tom Valverde

Valentine's day is just around the corner and if you have someone who you wish to gift, instead of buying a box of chocolates, make a tasty treat at home! Then they will know that you really care and love them. This week's tasty treat could Not be simpler to make or quicker to make. Your loved one will feel especially treated if you make...

EASY PEANUT BUTTER FUDGE

Ingredients:

- 2 sticks Butter, cut up into pieces
- 1 c Peanut Butter
- 3 3/4 c Powdered Sugar
- 1 1/2 t Vanilla

Butter an 8" square pan and line it with wax paper or parchment paper, with 2" on either side as an overhang. In a microwave safe bowl melt the butter and peanut butter. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and cook for 20 seconds, stir and cook again in the microwave. Continue until both are melted; about 2 minutes. Careful remove the bowl from the microwave and stir the butter and peanut butter until combined. Add in all of the powdered sugar and stir quickly. Also add the Vanilla. Place the fudge into the pan and smooth the top using an offset spatula. Place a piece of wax paper on top of the fudge and chill for 2 hours. Lift the cold fudge from the pan and cut into squares. Store in an air-tight container with wax paper between the layers. Yum!

Variants:

When the fudge is set, melt a generous cup of either dark or semi-sweet chocolate and pour over the fudge. Chill until set. For Valentine's day, sprinkle the melted chocolate with multi-color sprinkles or red and white decors for Valentine's day. Tiny conversation heart candies, one to each piece would be neat also. Or give the entire pan and write, "Be Mine" on top in red, inside a big heart! You'll win your special Valentine, for sure.

If you prefer Crunchy peanut butter fudge, try this...

Ingredients:

- 1 16 oz jar Jiff Crunchy Peanut Butter
- 1 16 oz jar Ready to use, Vanilla Frosting

Line a 9x9 pan with parchment paper. Microwave the Vanilla frosting for 30 seconds, stir and repeat. Carefully stir in the peanut butter. Once combined, pour into the pan and chill for 2 hours. Decorate as above. Remember someone who lives alone, you both will have a happy Valentine's day.

Enjoy!

LEGAL PUBLICATION

LEGAL PUBLICATION

INVITATION TO BID:

The Board of Education, Unified School District No. 500, Kansas City, KS will accept sealed bids for: RFP 22-001 LEASED LIT WIDE AREA NETWORK FIBER OPTIC SERVICES. Sealed bids should be addressed to: Purchasing Department, Board of Education, 2010 N. 59th Street, Room 370, Kansas City, KS 66104 - "RFP 22-001 - WAN Services". Bids will be opened 02/18/22 @ 1:30 PM in the Purchasing Office. Bid Documents are available at the Purchasing Department Office, at the above-address between 8 AM and 5 PM, M-F. Bid Documents are posted at <https://vrapp.vendorregistry.com/Bids/Manager/BidsList?MenuItem=Solicitations>.

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