

January 20, 2022

Bluestreak Families:

Thank you for your continued support of our students, staff, and school community. We are excited to share some information with you about a recently approved opportunity for our district to temporarily expand and enhance our supply of available substitute teachers.

Due to the recent and unprecedented shortage of substitute teachers available to schools across Kansas during the COVID-19 pandemic, our Kansas State Board of Education recently and unanimously approved an emergency declaration that allows the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) to issue a Temporary Emergency Authorized License from now through June 1, 2022, to applicants who meet the following criteria:

- Must be at least 18 years old
- Have a high school diploma
- Must undergo and pass the KSDE background check
- Must provide verification from a hiring education system's chief executive office that they are willing to hire that person as a substitute teacher.

Please know that our goals in considering and utilizing this temporary opportunity as a district will continue to prioritize student and educator safety and continuing to do everything we possibly can to not disrupt continuous student learning. We are confident that this opportunity and process will help us and benefit students, and we are excited to work with more people who are interested in serving in this role.

If you have any questions or if you are interested in knowing more about how to serve as a substitute through this Temporary Emergency Authorized License (TEAL), please contact us directly at the USD 461 Board of Education Office at 620-325-2610.

Thank you for your time,

Juanita Erickson
Superintendent USD 461 Neodesha
620-325-2610