Atchison students set for classroom return

(KAIR)--When Atchison Public School students return to class for the fall semester, a new transportation set up awaits.

It was in January that the Board of Education for the Atchison Public Schools of USD 409 voted to place the district's transportation operations under the oversight of the district, as opposed to a third party operator, as was done in the past.

On July 1, that vote became official, with student transportation now overseen by the district, through the efforts of a new Transportation Director.

According to a welcome post on the district's social media, Charles Stillian is no stranger to education, having begun as a social studies teacher in Leavenworth while coaching multiple sports. Stillian also served for five years as Assistant Principal and one as an ISS teacher. Most recently, he was employed in Garden City, where he worked for two years as an Assistant Principal/Activities Director, and for the past eight years as Transportation Director.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Renee Nugent, told MSC News following the vote in January that the primary benefit of returning to district transportation management is the elimination of the so-called "middleman," meaning the district will be fully in charge of transportation, including hiring, training, and routing services.

USD 409 classes begin Tuesday for the fall semester.

Many Signals Communications