

THE JOPLIN GLOBE

SPARKLE IN THE PARK RETURNS. A7 | COLEMAN OFFERS CLASSIC HOLIDAY MOVIE. A6

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Joplin High School Principal Randy Oliver named next Seneca superintendent

STAFF REPORTS
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Joplin High School Principal Randy Oliver has been named the next superintendent of the Seneca School District.

Oliver will start July 1 following the retirement of longtime Superintendent Brandon Eggleston at the end of the 2026–2027 school year.

"I am incredibly humbled and honored to have been selected as the next superintendent of Seneca Schools. From the moment I began learning about the district, I was impressed by the pride this community takes in its schools, the commitment of its educators and the tremendous opportunities available to students," Oliver said in a statement. "I have always believed that schools have the most important job in the world and that is preparing young people to become productive citizens in a globally competitive society. ... My goal is simple: to listen, learn, serve and lead alongside the incredible people who make Seneca Schools such a special place."

Oliver has more than 25 years of experience in educational leadership. Throughout his career, he has served in a variety of administrative roles, including principal, associate principal, director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment, and as assistant principal.

Oliver holds a doctorate in educational leadership and administration from the University of Kansas.

He was named the 2026 Southwest Missouri High School Principal of

See **OLIVER** on A2



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A number of Soaring Heights Elementary School students line up behind teacher Heather Housh during Tuesday's Thanksgiving Parade at the school.

SOARING HEIGHTS STUDENTS HOLD PARADE FOR NOVEMBER FAMILY EVENT

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What better way to celebrate Thanksgiving than with a parade, and Soaring Heights Elementary students took the idea and ran with it on Tuesday.

Groups of Soaring Heights students gathered in their multigrade "family" groups and created posters and individual balloon floats and paraded them around the school track and playground, showing what they were celebrating in the month of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Some of the themes of the 35 different family groups included:

• Teacher Tracy Horton's family celebrated Spiderman and all things spiders.

• Teacher Ashley Kerr's family celebrated Santa Claus.

• Teacher Mary Metzker's family celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

• Teacher Heather Housh's family celebrated balloons.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

No print paper, Joplin Globe offices closed

Editor's note: *Because there is no mail delivery Thursday, Nov. 26, The Joplin Globe will not print a paper for that day. Breaking news and sports stories will continue to be posted to our website, joplinglobe.com. Globe offices are closed Thursday and Friday.*

Happy Thanksgiving!

Free Thanksgiving meals offered in Joplin area

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The Salvation Army of Jasper and Newton Counties and the Carthage Crisis Center are among area organizations that will serve Thanksgiving meals for the community this week.

See **MEALS** on A2

DNR removes access road from permit oversight at International Paper site

Site is south of proposed sports complex

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A request has been approved by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to modify an environmental permit so that International Paper can remove an access road from property east of Range Line Road that is being monitored.

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