



July 2026 Celebrations Update

DISTRICT

The **Blue Valley Today: Summer 2026** issue was delivered to district mailboxes:

- *Community investment, student impact: Bond 2023 projects come to life across Blue Valley district*
- *A life-changing project: Blue Valley Femineers help elementary student ride toward independence*
- *A legacy 60 years in the making: Blue Valley Schools celebrates 60 years as a school district*



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DISTRICT

July Recognition Dates & Holidays

- 7/4: Independence Day



STUDENT

Three former Blue Valley seniors were named 2026 National Merit College-Sponsored Merit Scholarship winners by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation.



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STUDENT

Lakewood Middle's **Yusuf Aziz** was selected to attend the 2026 Junior National Young Leaders Conference.



Envision by WorldStrides

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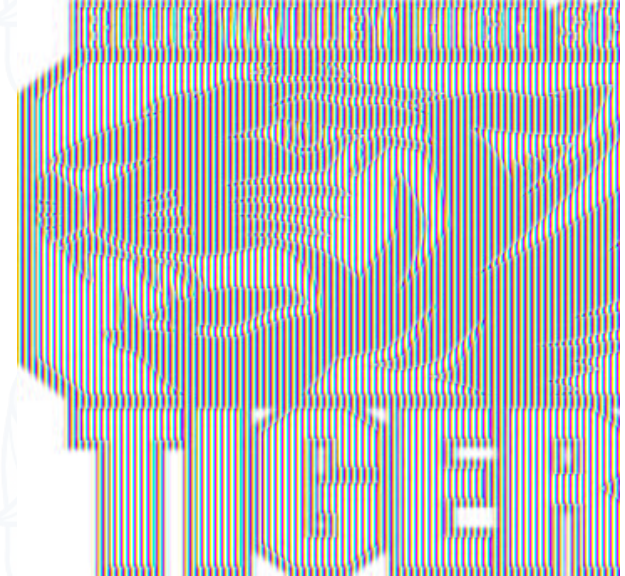
STAFF

Blue Valley's Communications department earned a 2026 Golden Achievement Award from the National School Public Relations Association.



ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

Blue Valley High's **Grant Westphal** was selected to compete in Major League Baseball's 2026 High School Home Run Derby. Westphal hit 13 home runs across two rounds of competition.



ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

Blue Valley West's **Carlie Pandjaris** was named a 2026 Kansas City Star Scholar-Athlete honoree.



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ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

Blue Valley High's **Matthew Gravitt**, Blue Valley Southwest's **Brock Bailey** and **Brayden Shannon**, and Blue Valley West's **Cole Ryherd** won the 2026 High School Baseball National Championship Series with Team Kansas. Bailey was named the championship MVP.



High School Series

ALUMNI

Hayley Podschun, graduate of Blue Valley High, was cast in the starring role of Elle Woods in New Theatre's production of Legally Blonde.



New Theatre & Restaurant

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ALUMNI

Anson Seibert, graduate of Blue Valley Southwest, was drafted by the Washington Nationals in the 20th round of the 2026 Major League Baseball Draft.



Sports in Kansas



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