



## Smoky Hill Education Service Center Honored with Trane Champions Award

[Salina, KS, June 1, 2024] — Smoky Hill Education Service Center (SHESC) is pleased to announce that it has been recognized by Trane, a global leader in building technologies and energy solutions, with a prestigious "Champions Award". This award acknowledges SHESC's outstanding commitment to innovation and leadership in advancing future-ready education initiatives across Kansas.

"We are honored to receive the Champions Award from Trane," said Chris Modellmog, Executive Director of Smoky Hill Education Service Center. "This recognition underscores Smoky Hill's dedication to fostering innovation in education and ensuring that our Kansas students are prepared for the future."

Trane's Champions Award is aimed at recognizing organizations that are at the forefront of implementing initiatives that prepare students for success in a rapidly evolving world. As a result of this work, more than 30 schools and 50 teachers in Kansas are equipped with the ability to offer industry-recognized certifications to their students.

"We look forward to partnering with United State Administrators of Kansas (USA-Kansas) to recognize schools in the state that are leading innovation and uplifting future-ready students," said Mariah Presley, Midwest Education and Industry Partnerships Lead for Trane. "We are honored to recognize the outstanding commitment SHESC has made to championing these initiatives that are critical to the workforce of the future in the state with a 'Champions Award' at the 53rd Annual Uniting Leaders Conference."

There are more than 150 job openings for Climate and Energy Controls Technicians in Kansas today. For the entire U.S., that number grows to more than 100,000. These positions are just one example of the many high-demand, high-wage career paths available to students who can demonstrate proficiency in the crucial skill of data analytics.

The award ceremony at the 53rd USA-Kansas Annual Uniting Leaders Conference will showcase SHESC alongside other notable recipients for their support of data analytics professional development and other initiatives as recommended by the Governor's Council on Education.

"We are grateful for this recognition and look forward to continuing our work with Trane in advancing educational excellence around the region," said Modellmog. "For nearly 20 years, Trane has been a valuable SHESC partner demonstrating time and again the company's dedication to students and educators in Kansas."

*Founded July 1, 1990, Smoky Hill Education Service Center is a cooperative consortium of more than 50 school districts across 25 counties, formed to provide cost and efficiency savings in a variety of educational services for its participating members. The service center's mission is: "In partnership with school districts, we promote success for learners by providing superior services." Through staff development classes and services, the service center supports more than 2,700 teachers and administrators – benefitting more than 31,000 students. In addition to educational institutions, any non-profit or governmental organization can benefit from Smoky Hill Education Service Center, either as a member or by selecting needed services.*

*For more information about Smoky Hill Education Service Center and its initiatives, visit*

*[www.smokyhill.org](http://www.smokyhill.org) for more details.*

*For more information, contact Chris Modellmog, SHESC Executive Director, at 785-825-9185.*

*Trane, by Trane Technologies – a global climate innovator, is the building technology and energy solutions company providing individualized, right-sized, and forward-looking solutions for commercial and industrial applications. Practicing at the height of digital and manufacturing excellence and quality, we're leading an ambitious movement to decarbonize the built environment for both the people and the planet.*

*Trane helps customers succeed by providing innovative solutions that optimize indoor environments through a broad portfolio of indoor environment and climate solutions, energy and sustainability services, and building automation systems.*

*For more information, please contact Mariah Presley, Trane Education and Industry Programming Lead, at [mariah.presley@tranetechnologies.com](mailto:mariah.presley@tranetechnologies.com)*