School Finance and Legislative Priorities

November 14, 2016
Board of Education Meeting
Background

• In 2015, the Kansas Legislature repealed the 1992 school finance formula and replaced it with a block-grant system for two years. The block-grant system expires in 2017, so the Legislature will be developing a new funding system in the upcoming legislative session.

• The Lawrence Board of Education will have a discussion on what input they wish to provide to the Governor, Kansas Legislature and Kansas Association of School Boards related to school finance and other legislative priorities for the coming session.

• The Governor’s Office is also accepting direct input, from any interested party, on school finance by emailing StudentsFirst@ks.gov by November 30, 2016.
Timeline

• School Finance Framework Input
  • 10/20/2016 A draft outline of input for a School Finance Framework shared with Finance Advisory Council (FAC) input requested.
  • 11/4/2016 A three question online survey for school finance priorities
  • 11/14/2016 Board Discussion on draft outline of input for a School Finance Framework
  • 11/17/2016 FAC discussion on School Finance Framework, including BOE input from Nov 14
  • 11/28/2016 Board of Education approves School Finance Framework input for submission to the Governor’s Office by November 30, 2016 StudentsFirst@ks.gov

• Legislative Priorities
  • 11/14/2016 Review and discuss input for the District’s 2017 Legislative Priorities
  • 11/28/2016 Board of Education approves District’s 2017 Legislative Priorities
Survey Questions

• What will it take financially for Kansas to lead the world in the success of each student?
  • Equitable and Adequate funding (more funding)

• What Programs or educational components do you believe the State of Kansas should fund, eliminate or change?
  • Much of this mirrored the top public school funding priorities

• What are your top public school funding priorities?
Question 3: What are your top public school funding priorities?

The General Categories the survey results suggested were funding priorities (no particular order or priority) by staff and community:

- Libraries
- Academic Core Classes
- Arts Programs
- Special Education
- ESOL
- Intensive and Extended Reading and Math
- JAG
- AVID
- Early Childhood
- Literacy
- Student Health and Wellness
- Teacher Salaries and Benefits
- Healthy Lunches
- Full Day Kindergarten
- Technology
- Equalize mill levies for property poor districts
- Career and Technical Courses

- Infrastructure/Updated Facilities
- Safety and wellbeing of Students
- Nursing Services
- Adequate Staffing/High Quality
- Mental Health Services
- Student Teacher/Ratio/Class Size
- STEM
- Gifted Programs
- Developmentally appropriate standards and curriculum/classroom Materials
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- Common Core Standards
- Civic Engagement
- Emotional Intelligence
- Equity for all students
- Transportation/fund for students 1 mile or further
- Professional Development/Training
Resource Documents

USA-Kansas  “Framework for a New School Finance Formula”
USA Kansas Framework.pdf

KASB “Key Facts About Kansas Education”
http://kasb.org/wcm/_NB/16/NB1019a.aspx

KASB (Kanas Association of School Boards) Legislative Committee Report
KASB Final2016CommitteeRpt.pdf

Lawrence USD#497  Finance Advisory Council and Online Survey

Lawrence USD#497 Draft Input for School Finance Framework
11 11 16 Draft Finance Formula Position2.docx
2017 Legislative Priorities

• 2016 Legislative Priorities
  • 2016USD497LegisPrior.docx

• 2017 Legislative Priorities
  • Working Document for updating
  • 2017 Draft USD497LegisPrior.docx