



2018 KSSA Legislative Priorities

Kansas Superintendents are committed to providing excellent and equitable education for each and every student throughout the State. To achieve this outcome, we support:

School Funding

- a school finance formula based on individual student needs, which provides adequate and equitable funding for public schools, and is funded through a balanced tax policy at both the state and local levels.
- fully funding a school finance formula designed to address the needs of students and ensure each student and school have the capacity to meet the college and career standards, vision, and accreditation established by the state board.
- additional funding for full-day Kindergarten and Early Childhood Education, as required by the Kansans Can initiative.
- fully funding the excess costs of special education.
- establishing statewide financial incentives to encourage teachers to both enter and stay in the profession.
- equitable state aid for school bonds that is not arbitrarily capped or dependent on other districts.

School Efficiency

- efforts to leverage resources to meet the needs of individual districts and the students they educate.
- local, not state, control of districts' health insurance.
- local, not state control of districts' purchasing programs.
- fully funding legislative mandates.
- accurate accounting of funding that directly impacts classroom instruction.

KPERS

- long-term, sustained commitment towards the funding of KPERS.
- allowing retirees to continue to work after retirement.
- local boards of education right to hire the most qualified candidate and, if necessary to pay any additional actuarial cost established by KPERS.
- equitable working after retirement provisions for all public employees.

Educational Governance

- a system that abides by the Kansas Constitutional requirement that public schools must be operated by locally elected boards of education.
- the self-executing powers of the State Board of Education.
- use of public dollars and tax credits to fund public schools, and oppose any public funding for private schools.
- incentives for local boards to consider consolidation, if in the best interest of the communities involved, and oppose any mandated consolidation.
- teacher due process procedures established at the local level.
- the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), which requires an Individual Education Program (IEP) team to adapt as appropriate the content, methodologies or delivery of instruction based upon the unique needs of a child that result from the child's disability.