

# 2016 Legislative Goals



Fulfill the constitutional requirement for the State of Kansas to provide “. . . **suitable provision for finance** of the educational interests of the state.” This includes rejecting any attempt to place more of the burden for funding education on local taxpayers, which would widen the education gap between wealthy communities and the rest of Kansas.

Ensure that school **funding in Kansas continues to be directly related to what it actually costs to educate specific students**, so that districts can continue to receive the funds they need to serve the students they serve. This includes advocating that at-risk funding continues to be based on family income.

Ensure that any increase in the **Local Option budget is equalized at 100%** without proration.

Ensure that any response to the current fiscal crisis does not negatively affect the solvency of the **KPERS** system.

Resist all attempts to take established revenues away from local governments in order to balance the state budget. Specifically, changes in **state tax policy should not occur at the expense of local governments** by shifting responsibilities and fiscal obligations from the state to cities and counties, K-12 education or higher education.

KCKPS is committed to the goal of graduating each student prepared for college and careers in a global society, and it is critically important that the legislature not do anything to hinder the district's focus. Specifically, the district urges the legislature to **reject any attempt to obstruct funding for the implementation of Kansas College and Career Ready Standards**.

Oppose the **use of public dollars and tax credits** to fund private schools, and support the requirement that any school that receives public funds must meet state and federal accountability standards and provide programs/services required of public schools. Also, maintain the constitutional requirement that public schools be operated by locally elected boards of education.

**Fully-fund full-day Kindergarten**, and provide **additional funding for early childhood education**.

Support continuing to have **non-partisan school board elections**.

**Oppose changing provisions in the expanded gaming statute** that would negatively impact current or proposed Hollywood Casino operations.