

KANSAS LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

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To: House Committee on Education and Senate Committee on Education

From: Kansas Legislative Research Department Staff

Re: Requested Information

Listed below are items various Committee members have requested recently. If we have missed providing a requested item, please let one of us know.

- A spreadsheet showing the percent each school district spent in the 2010-11 school year on instruction as a percent of operating expenditure (Attachment 1A). Operating expenditures are defined by the U.S. Census Bureau. Each state submits the data on an annual basis. Each function is defined by the National Center of Educational Statistics (NCES) handbook titled "Financial Accounting for Local and State School Systems." A one-page excerpt from this handbook is enclosed describing the "instruction" category and what can be included in that category (Attachment 1B). The handbook can be found at <http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2009325>.
- A spreadsheet showing the free meal headcount for each school district for school years 2006-07 through 2012-13 (Attachment 2). Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) staff indicated the free meal applications have increased as a result of recession and unemployment.
- A spreadsheet containing the number of students eligible for free lunch by school district for school year 2010-11 and the number of students receiving services from state at-risk funds for the same school year. KSDE staff noted some of the school district at-risk programs are more expensive than others depending upon the severity of at-risk. Recently, state statutes were changed to permit school districts to use at-risk funds to pay the half day of kindergarten not funded under the school finance law (Attachment 3).
- A copy of the "Eligibility Manual for School Meals" describing how eligibility is determined and verified (Attachment 4).
- One-page sheets showing the calculations leading to the three school districts having excess local effort in the 2011-12 school year. These are enclosed. In general, the Wolf Creek Power Plant provides increased valuation in USD 244 and oil and gas-related entities in USDs 209 and 507 (Attachment 5).

Enclosures