



# Schools for Quality Education

345 Bluemont Hall, 1114 Mid-Campus Drive North, Manhattan, KS 66506 • (785) 532-5886 • [www.schoolsforqualityeducation.com](http://www.schoolsforqualityeducation.com)

## House K-12 Education Budget Committee

### Senate Bill 142

Submitted by

**Jeff Travis, Superintendent, USD 273 Beloit Schools, a member of  
Schools for Quality Education**

Honorable Chair Williams and committee members. Thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony today on the topic of school funding.

I am Jeff Travis, Superintendent of USD 273 Beloit Schools, and a Board Member of Schools for Quality Education. I appear on behalf both entities as a **proponent** of **Senate Bill 142**.

This is a moment in time when the funding of Kansas schools can completely be solved. The new funding will create consistency, opportunities for innovation, end the ongoing debate that drains our resources, and legitimize the excellence to which we must all aspire for the students of Kansas.

Opportunity to innovate for the students of Kansas is a must.

- 1 Consistent Budget can allow for the necessary planning as school districts across Kansas prepare for the future.
- 2 School Redesign can flourish when the budget is stable. The why, the what, and the how can grow.
- 3 Early Childhood programming can be expanded and catch At-Risk students at a much earlier stage of their lives. This can become the critical and initial step for post-secondary and career ready success.

- 4 STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Math) skills are a necessity for our Kansas students as they grow to become future ready. 68% of careers in 2025 do not exist as we currently speak.
- 5 Social Emotional needs across the state of Kansas for all students have grown in massive proportions. The time is now; schools must step up and integrate this important work into the daily routine of the delivery of excellent teaching.
- 6 Alternatives are needed to keep students in schools and ensure that they graduate. As we have learned, not every student can be successful with one type of instruction, differentiation and personalization must become the norm.

In summary, the students of Kansas deserve our best leadership. It is time to end the debate and move forward with action. **Senate Bill 142's** plan to fund education for Kansas does just that. We will be able to make legitimate plans for academics, facilities, and staff. We will finally be in a financial position to recruit and retain highly qualified teachers. As I previously stated, careers are changing across our nation. This will allow the design and delivery of education to keep pace with needs in the work place. We cannot be stagnant with education. **Senate Bill 142**, as passed by the Kansas Senate that endorsed the State Board of Education's budget request and Governor Kelly's recommendation to the legislature will allow for the equalization of educational opportunities for all Kansas students, regardless of zip code. Please consider **Senate Bill 142** as a positive measure to make the Redesign of Kansas education a reality. We all know that most precious resource in Kansas are the children that attend our schools in EVERY DISTRICT, EVERY BUILDING, EVERY CLASSROOM, EVERY DAY.

Thank you for allowing me to provide written testimony in support of Senate Bill 142 on behalf of the students of Kansas.

Jeff Travis, Superintendent  
USD 273 Beloit Schools