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Education

C-1 Career Technical Education (CTE) in Kansas

In 2012, legislation (SB 155) launched a new plan to enhance career technical education (CTE) in Kansas with the purpose of better preparing high school students for college and careers. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, Kansas high school students could qualify for free college tuition in approved technical courses offered at Kansas technical and community colleges. The program also initially provided school districts with a \$1,000 incentive for each high school student who graduated from that district with an industry-recognized credential in a high-need occupation.

The 2015 Legislature changed the incentive to a prorated amount not to exceed \$750,000 in total. During the 2016 Session, the appropriated amount decreased from \$750,000 to \$50,000 for FY 2016 and FY 2017, which was estimated to cover the cost of the certification examinations only.

The 2017 Legislature moved the \$50,000 incentive funds from the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) to the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) for FY 2018 and FY 2019.

The appropriated amount for tuition was prorated in FY 2016 and FY 2017, as there was no increase in appropriations and the amount did not cover all participants in the program. The program was fully funded in FY 2018 and FY 2019.

Occupations on the qualifying credential incentive list can be found on the KBOR website. The list currently includes, but is not limited to, the following occupations:

- Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers;
- Computer support specialists;
- Nursing assistants;
- Automotive service technicians and mechanics;
- Machinists;
- Farm equipment mechanics;
- Firefighters;
- Carpenters;
- Welders;
- Electricians;

- Plumbers and pipe-fitters;
- Sheet metal workers; and
- Heating, air-conditioning, and refrigeration mechanics and installers.

technical education has grown significantly, resulting in a growth of college credit hours generated and credentials earned by high school students. The table published on the KBOR website summarizes the increase in participation over time.

Student Participation

Since the program’s inception, the number of students participating in postsecondary career

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018*
Participating Head Count	3,475	3,870	6,101	8,440	10,275	10,023	10,600	11,690
College Credit Hours Generated	28,000	28,161	44,087	62,195	76,756	79,488	85,150	92,093
Credentials Earned		548	711	1,419	1,682	1,224	1,459	1,503
* preliminary numbers								

National Recognition

In 2013, the Career Technical Education Initiative received national recognition as one of the “Top Ten Innovations to Watch” from The Brookings Institution. The same year, Martin Kollman of KSDE and Lisa Beck of KBOR published the article “Free CTE College Tuition and Certification

Funding: KS SB 155 at Work” in the September issue of *Techniques*, a national monthly magazine published by the Association for Career and Technical Education.

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Education

C-2 Mental Health Intervention Team Pilot Program

2018 Legislation

In Sub. for SB 423 and House Sub. for SB 61, the 2018 Legislature created the Mental Health Intervention Team Pilot Program (Program) for FY 2019 “to improve social-emotional wellness and outcomes for students by increasing schools’ access to counselors, social workers and psychologists statewide” (2018 Sub. for SB 423, Sec. 1(a)). The legislation requires school districts and community mental health centers (CMHCs) to enter into partnerships through memorandums of understanding (MOUs) to implement the Program. Additionally, the legislation requires mental health intervention teams to consist of school liaisons employed by the participating school districts, and clinical therapists and case managers employed by the participating CMHCs. The legislation specifies the minimum number of schools from the following school districts that would participate in the Program:

- 23 schools in the Wichita school district (USD 259);
- 28 schools in the Topeka school district (USD 501);
- 10 schools in the Kansas City school district (USD 500);
- 5 schools in the Parsons school district (USD 503);
- 4 schools in the Garden City school district (USD 457); and
- 9 schools served by the Abilene school district (USD 435) as the fiscal agent.

The Legislature appropriated \$10.0 million, all from the State General Fund, to the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) to fund the Program for FY 2019. The appropriations include \$4.2 million to cover treatment costs for participating students. This includes \$2.6 million for Medicaid costs and \$1.5 million for CMHCs. In addition, the appropriations include \$3.3 million to cover the costs associated with the school liaisons hired by participating school districts. Finally, \$2.5 million is included to create an online database to be used for the Program.

Program Overview

Scope of Program

As implemented by KSDE, the Program will focus on providing care to two groups of students. The “alpha group” consists of youth who are Children in Need of Care (CINC) and are in state custody. These students have experienced multiple placements and move school districts multiple times throughout the school year. The “beta group” consists of youth who may move from time to time, but are also likely to reside in one school district throughout their education.

Duties of Intervention Team Members

The duties of school liaisons employed by participating school districts include, but are not limited to:

- Identifying appropriate referrals;
- Acting as a liaison between the school district and the CMHC;
- Helping the CMHC prioritize interventions for identified students;
- Facilitating connections between identified students’ families and the CMHC staff;
- Communicating with child welfare contacts to get educational history of a student who has moved schools; and
- Gathering outcomes to monitor the effectiveness of the program.

The duties of clinical therapists employed by participating CMHCs include, but are not limited to:

- Helping the school liaison identify and prioritize students for treatment interventions;
- Conducting a clinical assessment of the identified student and making appropriate treatment recommendations;
- Providing individual and family therapy;
- Communicating with school personnel to help them understand a student’s

diagnosis, family circumstance, and suggested interventions; and

- Gathering outcome data to monitor the effectiveness of the Program.

The duties of case managers employed by participating CMHCs include, but are not limited to:

- Working with the school liaison and clinical therapist to identify and prioritize students for treatment interventions;
- Providing outreach to students, families, and child welfare contacts to help engage in treatment;
- Helping maintain communication between all entities involved, including family, student, school, clinician, child welfare, and community;
- Making referrals to appropriate community resources; and
- Helping to reconnect students and families when they are not following through with the treatment process.

Memorandums of Understanding

Participating school districts are required to enter into three MOUs for the Program. The first MOU is with KSDE, which outlines the basic requirements of the Program and specifies how funding received for the Program is to be spent. The second MOU is between the school district and its partner CMHC. This MOU outlines how the school district and CMHC will cooperate in the implementation of the Program. KSDE produced and distributed a standard memorandum for this agreement, but did not require school districts to use it. The final MOU is between the participating school districts and the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), which covers payments made by the school district to KDHE for Medicaid-related costs.

Breakdown of Funding

All funding for the Program flows through the participating school districts. Following is a description of the three different grant payments.

School Liaison Grant. This grant is distributed to school districts on a monthly basis. School districts submit requests each month to cover anticipated expenditures. Allowable expenditures for this grant include salary, fringe benefits, travel expenses, and a computer that must be used exclusively by the school liaison. The anticipated distribution of funds for school liaisons can be seen in Table 1.

Abilene (USD 435)	\$ 150,000
Garden City (USD 457)	112,500
Kansas City (USD 500)	839,410
Parsons (USD 503)	75,000
Topeka (USD 501)	560,000
Wichita (USD 259)	1,526,200
TOTAL	\$3,263,110

CMHC. This grant will be distributed quarterly to school districts. School districts must forward all payments to the participating CMHC to cover the cost for treatment and services for students who are uninsured or underinsured. The distribution of funding for the CMHC grants can be seen in Table 2.

Abilene (USD 435)	\$ 125,750
Garden City (USD 457)	55,500
Kansas City (USD 500)	74,800
Parsons (USD 503)	48,000
Topeka (USD 501)	208,000
Wichita (USD 259)	1,029,000
TOTAL	\$1,541,050

KDHE Grant. This grant will be distributed quarterly to school districts. School districts must forward all payments to KDHE to cover Medicaid costs related to the Program. The distribution of funding for the KDHE grants can be seen in Table 3.

Abilene (USD 435)	\$ 216,290
Garden City (USD 457)	95,460
Kansas City (USD 500)	128,656
Parsons (USD 503)	82,560
Topeka (USD 501)	357,760
Wichita (USD 259)	1,769,000
TOTAL	\$2,649,726

Reporting Requirements

KSDE requires participating school districts to submit, in conjunction with their partner CMHC, three reports during the fiscal year. A report covering the period July 1, 2018, through October 31, 2018, is due November 15, 2018. The second report covering November 1, 2018, through February 28, 2019, is due March 15, 2019. Finally, the year-end report is due July 1, 2019.

These reports track the number of students served and various academic performance measures, including attendance, behavior, and graduation. Additionally, the year-end report will include a financial report on program expenditures for the fiscal year.

Participating Schools

There are 22 schools participating in the Wichita school district (USD 259), 28 schools participating in the Topeka school district (USD 501), 10 schools participating in the Kansas City school district (USD 500), 5 schools participating in the Parsons school district (USD 503), and 5 schools participating in the Garden City school district (USD 457). The Abilene school district (USD 435), in addition to having 3 participating schools, is serving as the fiscal agent for the following school districts, which have a total of 6 schools participating in the Program:

- Solomon (USD 393);
- Chapman (USD 473); and
- Herington (USD 487).

(Note: The original list of Wichita schools submitted to the legislative committee named 23 schools; however, it was determined a school was listed twice. Therefore, Wichita has 22 schools participating in the Program.)

Table 4 includes a list of all schools participating in the Program during FY 2019.

Table 4 – Participating Schools		
Wichita (USD 259)		
Allen Elementary School	Hamilton Middle School	Sowers Alternative High School
Bryant Opportunity Academy (ES)	Jardine STEM and Career Explorations Magnet Middle Academy	Wichita Heights High School
Cessna Elementary School	Marshall Middle School	Wichita North High School
Dodge Literacy Magnet Elementary School	Mead Middle School	Wichita South High School
Gardiner Elementary School	Stucky Middle School	Wichita Southeast High School
Greiffenstein Alternative Elementary School	Truesdell Middle School	Wichita West High School
Isely Traditional Magnet Elementary School	Wells Alternative Middle School	Gateway Alternative Program (MS/HS)
OK Elementary School		
Topeka (USD 501)		
Highland Park Central Elementary School	Ross Elementary School	Marjorie French Middle School
Jaguar Academy (ES)	Scott Dual Language Magnet School (ES)	Robinson Middle School
Jardine Elementary School	State Street Elementary School	Avondale Academy (MS/HS)
Lowman Hill Elementary School	Stout Elementary School	Capital City High School
McCarter Elementary School	Whitson Elementary School	Highland Park High School
McClure Elementary School	Williams Science and Fine Arts Magnet School (ES)	Hope Street Charter Academy (HS)
McEachron Elementary School	Chase Middle School	Topeka High School
Meadows Elementary School	Eisenhower Middle School	Topeka West High School
Quincy Elementary School	Jardine Middle School	
Randolph Elementary School	Landon Middle School	
Kansas City (USD 500)		
Bertram Caruthers Elementary School	Parker Elementary School	Argentine Middle School
Eugene Ware Elementary School	Quindaro Elementary School	D.D. Eisenhower Middle School
Hazel Grove Elementary School	Welborn Elementary School	F.L. Schlagle High School
New Chelsea Elementary School		
Parsons (USD 503)		
Garfield Elementary School	Lincoln Elementary School	Parsons High School
Guthridge Elementary School	Parsons Middle School	

Garden City (USD 457)		
Alta Brown Elementary School	Georgia Matthews Elementary School	Garden City Alternative Education Center
Florence Wilson Elementary School	Horace Good Middle School	
Abilene (USD 435)		
Eisenhower Elementary School	Abilene Middle School	Abilene High School
Chapman (USD 473)		
Chapman Elementary School	Chapman Middle School	
Herington (USD 487)		
Herington Elementary School	Herington Middle School	Herington High School
Solomon (USD 393)		
Solomon Jr./Sr. High School		

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Education

C-3 School Finance—Recent Legislative Changes

The 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 Legislatures enacted major changes to school finance.

2015

Legislation in 2015 repealed the School District Finance and Quality Performance Act (SDFQPA) that was passed in 1992 and, in its place, created the Classroom Learning Assuring Student Success (CLASS) Act. The CLASS Act provided a block grant of funding for each school district for school years 2015-2016 and 2016-2017.

2016

The 2016 Legislature, in both its regular session and its special session, altered the formula for providing Supplemental General State Aid for FY 2017 and amended laws related to virtual school state aid, the Extraordinary Need Fund (ENF), and federal funding for certain pre-kindergarten programs.

Legislation passed in the 2016 Special Session reinstated the Supplemental General State Aid and Capital Outlay State Aid formulas in effect prior to the enactment of the CLASS Act, which the 2016 Legislature fully funded. In addition, the 2016 Special Session legislation reduced from \$5,600 to \$5,000 the amount of funding school districts were entitled to receive under the block grant for full-time virtual school students for FY 2017.

Legislation directed the State Board of Education (State Board) to review applications for funds from the ENF. In determining a district's need, the State Board must consider:

- Any extraordinary increase in enrollment for the current school year;
- Any extraordinary decrease in assessed valuation for the current year;
- Any other unforeseen acts or circumstances substantially impacting a district's general fund budget for the current year; and
- In lieu of any of the above, whether the district has reasonably equal access to substantially similar

educational opportunities through similar tax effort.

Special Session legislation set expenditure limits on the ENF at \$13.0 million and provided no moneys could be expended from the ENF in FY 2017 until the sale or merger of the Kansas Bioscience Authority was complete. The legislation directed the first \$25.0 million in proceeds from the sale or merger to be deposited in the State General Fund. If the remaining proceeds were less than \$13.0 million, the amount of money appropriated to the ENF was to be reduced by the amount of the shortfall.

2017

The 2017 Legislature passed the Kansas School Equity and Enhancement Act, which reinstated a weighted enrollment formula similar to the SDFQPA. Weightings include at-risk students, declining enrollment, high-density at-risk students, bilingual students, low enrollment, high enrollment, new school facilities, ancillary

school facilities, cost of living, career technical education, and transportation.

The weighted enrollment of a school district is once again multiplied by a coefficient to determine the aid the district receives in its general fund. This multiplier—formerly known as base state aid per pupil—is now referred to as base aid for student excellence (BASE).

2018

The 2018 Legislature increased the BASE over a five-year period to arrive at an amount of \$4,713 by school year 2022-2023. The legislation also made changes to weightings associated with transportation, at-risk students, career and technical education, and bilingual students. Finally, the legislation added aid for special education, early childhood education, student mental health, and college and career entry exams.

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C-4 School Safety and Security

House Sub. for SB 109 (2018) included provisions regarding school safety and security. These provisions included school safety grants, statewide standards for securing schools, school safety plans, and emergency preparedness drills.

School Safety and Security Grants

SB 109 created the School Safety and Security Grant Fund (Fund) in the Kansas State Department of Education and transferred \$5.0 million from the State General Fund (SGF) to the Fund for FY 2019. The Fund is controlled by the State Board of Education (State Board) and is designed to provide grant moneys to school districts for school safety and security improvements. School districts are required to match the amount of the grant on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

For FY 2019, the State Board awarded grants to 156 of the state's 286 school districts. The average grant was \$32,268. The smallest grant was awarded to Healy (USD 468) for \$1,043, and the largest was awarded to Wichita (USD 259) for \$922,613.

Statewide Standards for Securing Schools

The State Board is required to develop and adopt statewide standards for making all public schools safe and secure. SB 109 requires those standards to include, but not be limited to, the infrastructure of school buildings, security technology utilized in schools, and communication systems. When developing these standards, the State Board must consult with the Adjutant General's Department, Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI), Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), and the State Fire Marshal. The State Board may also consult with other state or local agencies or school districts if deemed necessary. The standards must be developed by January 1, 2019.

School Safety Plans

The State Board is also required to adopt statewide standards for school safety and security plans by January 1, 2019. These standards must include, but are not limited to:

- Evaluation of school building infrastructure;
- Training of school district employees on safety policies;
- Procedures for notification, securing a building during an emergency, emergency evacuation, and recovery after an emergency;

- Incorporation of school safety plans into existing emergency response plans;
- Distribution of school safety plans to pertinent local agencies; and
- Procedures to ensure school safety plans are implemented.

When developing these standards, the State Board is required to consult with the Adjutant General's Department, KBI, KDHE, and the State Fire Marshal. The State Board may also consult with other state or local agencies or school districts if deemed necessary.

Local boards of education are required to adopt a comprehensive school safety plan based on the standards adopted by the State Board. School districts must consult with local law enforcement and emergency management agencies to review school infrastructure and existing emergency response plans. Adopted school safety plans must be sent to the State Board and each local agency the school district consulted with during the creation of the plan.

Emergency Preparedness Drills

SB 109 requires the State Fire Marshal to expend moneys to require administrators of public and private schools to conduct at least 16 emergency preparedness drills during the school year and to prescribe the manner in which such drills are to be conducted. The drills must include:

- Four fire drills;
- Three tornado drills; and
- Nine crisis drills, such as intruder response drills and lock-down drills.

Expiration of Provisions

Since these school safety provisions were included in the budget bill in the 2018 Session, they only apply to the current school year (2018-2019) and will expire after June 30, 2019.

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