



Superintendent
Dr. Justin B. Henry
Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Teresa L. San Martin
Assistant Superintendent
George V. Tignor
Director of Community Relations
Annette Singletary
Director of Facilities
Craig Phelps
Director of Finance
Doug Maxwell
Director of Nutrition Services
Marianne Fenili

Director of Police Operations
Ronny Lieurance
Director of Technology
Mitch Krueger
Director of Transportation
Tom Weppeler
Board of Education
Jeff A. Blubaugh
Lisa J. Farris
Douglas A. Griswold
Gail A. Jamison
Sara P. McDonald
Kevin R. McWhorter
Robert J. Merritt

Senate Education Committee

Testimony on SB 224
Dr. Justin B. Henry, Superintendent USD #265 Goddard Public Schools
March 12, 2013

Senator Abrams and Committee Members:

My name is Justin Henry and I have the privilege to serve as Superintendent of Schools for Goddard Public Schools. Our current district enrollment is approximately 5400 students and we have had an increase in student enrollment for 28 consecutive years. During this time, the district has experienced many changes, including adding a second high school in 2011. This year we have had the honor to have schools in our district earn the Blue Ribbon School Award and Governor's Achievement Award.

Under SB 224, our district would project to have a budget increase of over \$1.5 million dollars by the increase of the base to \$4492, the elimination of some funding formula weightings and a significant decrease in at-risk funding. However, I come here today as an opponent of this bill.

Our district strongly believes in additional resources added to our budget, as we have experienced almost a 30% increase in board approved local taxes the last two years due to the continued creation of an unequalized funding formula across Kansas. Despite this, we don't believe an increase in our funding should come at the expense of other Kansas students.

Our district strongly believes all Kansas students should have access to the same fair and equalized resources statewide and the funding formula should acknowledge the unique needs of each Kansas school district. The proposed elimination of weightings and greatly reduced at-risk funding in an effort to increase the base without adding additional resources is the wrong direction.

We greatly appreciate the service each of you provides to the students of Kansas and look forward to future opportunities to partner with you in this mission.

To Better Education,

Dr. Justin B. Henry
USD 265, Superintendent of Schools

Senate Education Committee
Date 3-12-13
Attachment 6