

KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Budget Committee Report

KLRD Analyst: Light
KLRD Summary: Vol. 2, Pg. 593

DOB Analyst: Arpin
GBR Analysis: Vol. 2, Pg. 326

Executive Summary

Summary of Total Expenditures, FY 2023 – FY 2027					
	SGF	CIF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions
FY 2023 Actual	\$ 4,372,657,207	\$ 34,663,327	\$ 2,190,557,422	\$ 6,597,877,956	258.3
FY 2024 Actual	4,551,832,956	39,665,218	2,079,162,238	6,670,660,412	267.9
FY 2025 Actual	4,739,835,952	45,044,292	1,813,632,553	6,598,512,797	270.9
FY 2026					
Approved, with Reappropriations	\$ 5,017,454,823	\$ 43,856,922	\$ 1,658,920,480	\$ 6,720,232,225	270.9
Agency Revised Estimate	4,977,564,601	43,856,922	1,680,495,512	6,701,917,035	262.9
Special Committee on the State Budget	4,857,906,396	40,904,850	1,702,263,373	6,601,074,619	262.9
House Appropriations	4,858,494,881	40,904,850	1,705,426,186	6,604,825,917	262.9
Senate Ways and Means	4,858,494,881	43,207,888	1,702,474,114	6,604,176,883	262.9
Conference Committee*	-	-	-	-	-
Governor's Recommendation	4,858,494,881	43,856,922	1,702,474,114	6,604,825,917	262.9
FY 2027					
Approved, with Adjustments**	\$ 5,076,528,224	\$ 40,904,850	\$ 1,658,459,739	\$ 6,775,892,813	270.9
Agency Request	5,193,522,807	39,233,128	1,663,005,553	6,895,761,488	262.9
Special Committee on the State Budget	4,967,514,236	39,233,128	1,689,841,688	6,696,589,052	262.9
House Appropriations	4,982,485,676	-	1,683,609,615	6,666,095,291	255.3
Senate Ways and Means	4,972,478,144	-	1,683,609,615	6,656,087,759	255.3
Conference Committee*	-	-	-	-	-
Governor's Recommendation	5,028,817,774	-	1,702,474,114	6,708,148,728	255.3

* Note : This committee has not taken action on this agency's budget yet.

** Note : The approved budget includes expenditures in FY 2026 that are not included in the agency allocation for FY 2027. These expenditures are not included for FY 2027 as to better provide a point of comparison. For this agency, this adjustment includes only the Childcare Accelerator Grant. The Children’s Cabinet’s budget for FY 2026 includes \$1.25 million, with \$1.0 million SGF and \$250,000 CIF, for a public-private partnership for child care facility operations in southwest Kansas.

The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) is overseen by the ten-member elected State Board of Education (State Board), which is established by the Kansas Constitution. The State Board is responsible for the general supervision of public schools and educational interests of the State, except those under the jurisdiction of the Kansas Board of Regents. Its duties include accrediting schools, establishing standard courses of study in the public schools, licensing teachers and administrators, approving public and private teacher education programs, and administering a variety of state and federal aid programs.

The day-to-day administration of the agency is the responsibility of the Commissioner of Education. KSDE consists of three main offices: the **Office of the Commissioner**, the **Division of Fiscal and Administrative Services**, and the **Division of Learning Services**.

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FY 2026

Summary of Legislative Recommendations, FY 2026					
	SGF	CIF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions
Approved, with Reappropriations	\$ 5,017,454,823	\$ 43,856,922	\$ 1,658,920,480	\$ 6,720,232,225	270.9
Agency Revised Estimate	4,977,564,601	43,856,922	1,680,495,512	6,701,917,035	262.9
Special Committee on the State Budget (SBC)					
Change from Agency Revised Estimate	\$ (119,658,205)	\$ (2,952,072)	\$ 21,767,861	\$ (100,842,416)	-
TOTAL – Special Committee	\$ 4,857,906,396	\$ 40,904,850	\$ 1,702,263,373	\$ 6,601,074,619	262.9
House Committees					
K-12 Education Budget	\$ 588,485	\$ 2,952,072	\$ 210,741	\$ 3,751,298	-
Appropriations	-	-	-	-	-
Committee of the Whole*	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal – House Change from SBC	\$ 588,485	\$ 2,952,072	\$ 210,741	\$ 3,751,298	-
TOTAL – Current House Position	\$ 4,858,494,881	\$ 43,856,922	\$ 1,702,474,114	\$ 6,604,825,917	262.9
Senate Committees					
Education	\$ 588,485	\$ 2,303,038	\$ 210,741	\$ 3,102,264	-
Ways and Means	-	-	-	-	-
Committee of the Whole*	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal – Senate Change from SBC	\$ 588,485	\$ 2,303,038	\$ 210,741	\$ 3,102,264	-
TOTAL – Current Senate Position	\$ 4,858,494,881	\$ 43,207,888	\$ 1,702,474,114	\$ 6,604,176,883	262.9
Legislative Approved					
Conference Committee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Governor's Vetoes	-	-	-	-	-
Veto Overrides	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal – Approved Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
GRAND TOTAL – Final Approved	\$ 4,858,494,881	\$ 43,207,888	\$ 1,702,474,114	\$ 6,604,176,883	262.9

* Note : This committee has not taken action on this agency's budget yet.

Agency

The **agency** requests a revised estimate of \$6.7 billion, including \$5.0 billion SGF and \$43.9 million CIF, and 262.9 FTE positions in FY 2026. This is a decrease of \$18.3 million all funds, with a decrease of \$39.9 million SGF from the amount approved, with reappropriations, by the 2025 Legislature. The change from the approved is mainly due to the agency **adopting the Spring 2025 Education Consensus** estimate. The agency also decreased their FTE position count by eliminating those which were vacant for an extended period of time and/or funded by federal grants that have expired.

Special Committee on the State Budget

The **Special Committee** concurs with the agency's revised estimate in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

1. Adopt the Fall 2025 Education Consensus estimate in FY 2026. This is a decrease of \$97.1 million all funds, including a decrease of \$119.1 million SGF, on top of the agency's adjustment for the Spring 2025 Education Consensus estimate.

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2. Delete \$588,485 SGF in reappropriations for School District Juvenile Detention Facilities in FY 2026.
3. Delete \$3.0 million CIF in reappropriations in FY 2026. This includes the following:
 - Early Childhood Block Grant: \$1.6 million;
 - Early Childhood Infrastructure: \$649,034;
 - Imagination Library: \$443,276; and
 - Parents as Teachers Program: \$224,745.
4. Delete \$210,741, all from the Children’s Cabinet Administration fund, in reappropriations in FY 2026.

House Committees

House Committee on K-12 Education Budget

The **Budget Committee** concurs with the Special Committee’s recommendation in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$588,485 SGF in reappropriations for School District Juvenile Detention Facilities in FY 2026.
2. Add \$3.0 million CIF in reappropriations in FY 2026. This includes the following:
 - Early Childhood Block Grant: \$1.6 million;
 - Early Childhood Infrastructure: \$649,034;
 - Imagination Library: \$443,276; and
 - Parents as Teachers Program: \$224,745.
3. Add \$210,741, all from the Children’s Cabinet Administration fund, in reappropriations in FY 2026.

The **House Budget Committee** also includes the following notation:

1. The State's financial support for the Kansas State School for the Blind and the Kansas State School for the Deaf shall be recognized as state appropriations for the provision of special education and related services, and appropriate credit shall be given to such legislative appropriations when deliberating and acting on special education and related services funding in FY 2026.

House Committee on Appropriations

The **House Committee** concurs with the Budget Committee’s recommendation in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

1. Add language requiring the agency to update the SY 2025-2026 school district financial accountability reports to include a report on special education funding, including specific funding sources to be included in the report, in FY 2026.
2. Add language requiring the agency to report state assessment cut scores using the SY 2024-2025 cut scores and prohibiting the agency from using the new cut scores when reporting results of the state assessments for SY 2025-2026 in FY 2026.

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3. Add language requiring the agency to submit an Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority (IADA) application to the federal government, directing the agency to start an Innovative Assessment Pilot Program, and providing guidance on the number of school districts to be included in the pilot program in FY 2026.

Senate Committees

Senate Committee on Education

The **Senate Committee on Education** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation in FY 2026, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$588,485 SGF in reappropriations for School District Juvenile Detention Facilities in FY 2026.
2. Add \$2.3 million CIF in reappropriations in FY 2026. This includes the following:
 - Early Childhood Block Grant: \$1.6 million;
 - Imagination Library: \$443,276; and
 - Parents as Teachers Program: \$224,745.
3. Add \$210,741, all from the Children's Cabinet Administration fund, in reappropriations in FY 2026.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The **Senate Committee** concurs with the Senate Committee on Education's recommendation in FY 2026.

KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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FY 2027

Summary of Legislative Recommendations, FY 2027					
	SGF	CIF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions
FY 2026 Approved, with Adjustments**	\$ 5,076,528,224	\$ 40,904,850	\$ 1,658,459,739	\$ 6,775,892,813	270.9
Agency Request	5,193,522,807	39,233,128	1,663,005,553	6,895,761,488	262.9
Special Committee on the State Budget (SBC)					
Change from Agency Request	\$ (226,008,571)	\$ -	\$ 26,836,135	\$ (199,172,436)	-
TOTAL – Special Committee	\$ 4,967,514,236	\$ 39,233,128	\$ 1,689,841,688	\$ 6,696,589,052	262.9
House Committees					
K-12 Education Budget	\$ 10,136,532	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,136,532	-
Appropriations	4,834,908	(39,233,128)	(6,232,073)	(40,630,293)	(7.6)
Committee of the Whole*	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal – House Change from SBC	\$ 14,971,440	\$ (39,233,128)	\$ (6,232,073)	\$ (30,493,761)	(7.6)
TOTAL – Current House Position	\$ 4,982,485,676	\$ -	\$ 1,683,609,615	\$ 6,666,095,291	255.3
Senate Committees					
Education	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Ways and Means	4,963,908	(39,233,128)	(6,232,073)	(40,501,293)	(7.6)
Committee of the Whole*	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal – Senate Change from SBC	\$ 4,963,908	\$ (39,233,128)	\$ (6,232,073)	\$ (40,501,293)	(7.6)
TOTAL – Current Senate Position	\$ 4,972,478,144	\$ -	\$ 1,683,609,615	\$ 6,656,087,759	255.3
Legislative Approved					
Conference Committee	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
Governor's Vetoes	-	-	-	-	-
Veto Overrides	-	-	-	-	-
Subtotal – Approved Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-
GRAND TOTAL – Final Approved	\$ 4,972,478,144	\$ -	\$ 1,683,609,615	\$ 6,656,087,759	255.3

* Note : This committee has not taken action on this agency's budget yet.

** Note : The approved budget includes expenditures in FY 2026 that are not included in the agency allocation for FY 2027. These expenditures are not included for FY 2027 as to better provide a point of comparison. For this agency, this adjustment includes only the Childcare Accelerator Grant. The Children's Cabinet's budget for FY 2026 includes \$1.25 million, with \$1.0 million SGF and \$250,000 CIF, for a public-private partnership for child care facility operations in southwest Kansas.

Agency

The **agency** requests \$6.9 billion, including \$5.2 billion SGF and \$39.2 million CIF, and 262.9 FTE positions for FY 2027. This is an increase of \$119.9 million all funds, including an increase of \$117.0 million SGF, above the amount approved by the 2025 Legislature for FY 2026 (without reappropriations and with one-time adjustments). This is largely due to the following enhancement requests:

1. **Special Education State Aid.** \$92.2 million SGF. The agency requests this funding to increase the Special Education State Aid for FY 2027 to a total of \$703.2 million.
2. **Safe and Secure Schools Grant Program.** \$15.0 million SGF. The agency requests this funding to reinstate funding for the Safe and Secure Schools Grants program for FY 2027.
3. **Professional Development Program.** \$1.8 million SGF. The agency requests this funding to reinstate funding for the Professional Development Program for FY 2027.
4. **Mentor Teacher Program.** \$1.3 million SGF. The agency requests this funding to reinstate funding for the Mentor Teacher program for FY 2027.

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5. **E-Rate State Match.** \$500,000 SGF. The agency requests this funding to provide the 10.0 percent state match for the E-Rate Program for FY 2027.
6. **National Board Certification.** \$360,000 SGF. The agency requests this funding to reinstate funding for the National Board Certification program for FY 2027.
7. **State Board of Education Compensation.** \$129,000 SGF. The agency requests this funding to increase the compensation for the members of the Kansas State Board of Education for FY 2027.
8. **Rent.** \$99,073 SGF. The agency requests this funding to cover increased costs for the agency's office space in Landon State Office Building for FY 2027.
9. **Replace E-Rate Transfer from KBOR.** \$96,135 SGF. The agency requests this funding to replace a transfer from KBOR to cover the E-Rate system for FY 2027.
10. **Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission.** \$7,532 SGF. The agency requests this funding to help cover the increased costs for this compact for FY 2027.
11. **Other Legislative Requests.** The agency also requests continued authority for the following for FY 2027:
 - *Inter-Fund Transfers.* This would allow the Director of the Budget to transfer funds between the agency's SGF accounts for FY 2027.
 - *State Safety Fund Distribution.* This would allow the agency to distribute state aid from the State Safety Fund whenever funds are available for FY 2027, rather than by November 1.
 - *Income Tax Refund Donations.* This would allow the agency to distribute donations of income tax refunds made by Kansas taxpayers to all school districts when a specific school district is not chosen by the taxpayer donating funds.

Special Committee on the State Budget

The **Special Committee** concurs with the agency request for FY 2027, with the following adjustments:

1. Adopt the Fall 2025 Education Consensus Estimate for FY 2027. This is a decrease of \$87.8 million all funds, including a decrease of \$114.6 million SGF, on top of the agency's adjustment for the Spring 2025 Education Consensus estimate.
2. Delete \$92.2 million SGF for Special Education State Aid for FY 2027.
3. Delete \$15.0 million SGF for the Safe and Secure Schools Grant Program for FY 2027.
4. Delete \$1.8 million SGF for the Professional Development Program for FY 2027.
5. Delete \$1.3 million SGF for the Mentor Teacher Program for FY 2027.
6. Delete \$500,000 SGF for the E-Rate State Match for FY 2027.
7. Delete \$360,000 SGF for the National Board Certification program for FY 2027.
8. Delete \$129,000 SGF for an increase in compensation for the State Board of Education members for FY 2027.
9. Delete \$99,073 SGF for rent for FY 2027.

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10. Delete \$96,135 SGF and reinstate the transfer from KBOR to cover the E-Rate system for FY 2027.
11. Delete \$7,532 SGF for the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission for FY 2027.
12. Delete the language requests made by the agency, including language regarding inter-fund transfers, state safety fund distribution, and income tax refund donations for FY 2027.

House Committees

House Committee K-12 Education Budget

The **Budget Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation for FY 2027, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$10.0 million SGF for Special Education State Aid for FY 2027. This brings the total to \$621.0 million SGF.
2. Add \$4.2 million TANF and delete \$4.2 million CIF for the Pre-K Pilot Program for FY 2027.
3. Add \$129,000 SGF for an increase in compensation for the State Board of Education members for FY 2027.
4. Add \$7,532 SGF for the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission for FY 2027.
5. Add language directing the agency to use existing resources to provide funding for FY 2027 for the following programs, not to exceed more than the amount listed for each program:
 - Professional Development (\$1.8 million)
 - Fastbridge (\$1.8 million)
 - Sparkwheel (\$1.4 million)
 - Mentor Teacher Program (\$1.3 million)
 - JAG-K (\$800,000)
 - E-Rate State Match (\$500,000)
 - National Board Certification (\$360,000)
 - Youth Career Discovery Program (\$320,000)

Also add language for the Youth Career Discovery Program directing that expenditures for the pilot program shall require a match of nonstate or private moneys on the basis of \$1 nonstate or private funding to \$2 of state funding for FY 2027.

6. Add the language requests made by the agency, including language regarding inter-fund transfers, state safety fund distribution, and income tax refund donations for FY 2027. *Note:* This language will be ongoing in future fiscal years.

The **House Budget Committee** also includes the following notation:

1. The State's financial support for the Kansas State School for the Blind and the Kansas State School for the Deaf shall be recognized as state appropriations for the provision of special education and related services, and appropriate credit shall be given to such legislative appropriations when deliberating and acting on special education and related services funding for FY 2027.

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House Committee on Appropriations

The **House Committee** concurs with the Budget Committee's recommendation for FY 2027, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$5.0 million SGF to reinstate funding for the Kansas Safe and Secure Schools Grants program for FY 2027. Also, add language regarding the uses of the grant money and providing a \$1-for-\$1 match by school districts.
2. Delete \$45.5 million, including \$36,092 SGF and \$39.2 million CIF, and 7.6 FTE positions and transfer said funding and FTE positions to the new Office of Early Childhood for FY 2027. This is to move all funding for the Children's Cabinet from KSDE to the Office of Early Childhood.
3. Delete \$942,410 SGF from the operating expenditures account and add \$942,410 SGF to a new KSDE Innovative Assessments account for FY 2027. Add language directing money to be used for the 6 pilot school district and require a quarterly report from the agency. Also, add language requiring the agency to terminate the state assessment contract with KU and use no more than \$5.1 million to enter into a new contract with KU for state assessments.
4. Delete \$129,000 SGF which would have increased compensation for the members of the State Board of Education for FY 2027.
5. Add language for FY 2027 making the \$10.0 million in additional Special Education State Aid be contingent on the SY 2025-2026 financial accountability reports, including the report on special education funding, be posted by June 30, 2026 and that when publishing the SY 2026-2027 financial accountability reports, the special education funding report portion be published at the same time.
6. Add language requiring the agency to report state assessment cut scores using the SY 2024-2025 cut scores and prohibiting the agency from using the new cut scores when reporting results of the state assessments for SY 2025-2026 and SY 2026-2027 for FY 2027.
7. Delete language requiring a transfer of \$70,000 from KBOR to KSDE for FY 2027. The agency will still be able to use the remaining funds within the Education Technology Coordinator Fund for FY 2027.

Senate Committees

Senate Committee on Education

The **Senate Committee on Education** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

The **Senate Committee** concurs with the Senate Committee on Education's recommendation for FY 2027, with the following adjustments:

1. Add \$5.0 million SGF for Special Education State Aid for FY 2027. This brings the total to \$616.0 million SGF.
2. Add \$4.2 million TANF and delete \$4.2 million CIF for the Pre-K Pilot Program for FY 2027.
3. Delete \$45.5 million, including \$36,092 SGF and \$39.2 million CIF, and 7.6 FTE positions and transfer said funding and FTE positions to the new Office of Early Childhood for FY 2027. This is to move all funding for the Children's Cabinet from KSDE to the Office of Early Childhood.