

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Budget Committee Report

KLRD Analyst: Light
KLRD Summary: Vol. 2, Pg. 763

DOB Analyst: Arpin
GBR Analysis: Vol. 2, Pg. 346

Executive Summary

Summary of Total Expenditures, FY 2023 – FY 2027						
	SGF	SIBF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	
FY 2023 Actual	\$ 6,078,956	\$ 1,489,650	\$ 2,038,598	\$ 9,607,204	83.5	
FY 2024 Actual	6,926,257	2,727,977	2,861,791	12,516,025	89.5	
FY 2025 Actual	8,363,172	3,487,554	1,856,651	13,707,377	89.5	
FY 2026						
Approved, with Reappropriations	\$ 8,255,830	\$ 3,047,560	\$ 2,897,631	\$ 14,201,021	89.5	
Agency Revised Estimate	8,255,830	3,047,560	2,897,181	14,200,571	89.5	
Special Committee on the State Budget	8,255,830	3,047,560	2,897,181	14,200,571	89.5	
House Committee of the Whole	8,255,830	3,047,560	2,897,181	14,200,571	89.5	
Senate Committee of the Whole	8,482,975	3,047,560	2,897,181	14,427,716	89.5	
Legislative Approved	8,457,816	3,047,560	2,897,181	14,402,557	89.5	
Governor's Recommendation	8,255,830	3,047,560	2,897,181	14,200,571	89.5	
FY 2027						
FY 2026 Approved, with Adjustments*	\$ 8,255,830	\$ 2,597,560	\$ 2,897,631	\$ 13,751,021	89.5	
Agency Request	8,556,259	3,605,687	3,251,510	15,413,456	89.5	
Special Committee on the State Budget	8,545,773	2,799,665	3,251,510	14,596,948	89.5	
House Committee of the Whole	8,545,773	3,605,687	3,251,510	15,402,970	89.5	
Senate Committee of the Whole	8,829,518	3,518,415	3,251,510	15,599,443	89.5	
Legislative Approved	8,745,654	3,605,687	3,256,142	15,607,483	89.5	
Governor's Recommendation	8,545,773	3,518,415	3,251,510	15,315,698	89.5	

* 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, these adjustments include two capital improvement projects that will be completed in FY 2026, totaling \$450,000 SIBF.

The Kansas State School for the Blind (KSSB) is located in Kansas City, Kansas. KSSB's mission is to serve as a catalyst and leader in the development of exemplary programs and practices in vision services for students up to age 21. It aims to build local capacity throughout the state via partnerships with local schools, parents, and communities to ensure learners with visual impairments are able to assume responsible roles in society and lead fulfilling lives.

KSSB is a state agency and an accredited elementary and high school, under the control and supervision of the State Board of Education, serving as the center of education for Kansas children who are either blind or visually impaired. In addition to on-campus direct services, KSSB has an extensive outreach program that includes providing direct support in public schools. Although a student might never set foot on the KSSB campus, they may receive adapted materials and braille books from the school's Kansas Instructional Resource Center (KIRC), acquire low-vision aids from a partnering optometrist at a low-vision clinic, or be taught in their home district by a certified KSSB teacher.

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Budget Committee Report

FY 2026

Summary of Legislative Recommendations, FY 2026						
	SGF	SIBF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	
Approved, with Reappropriations	\$ 8,255,830	\$ 3,047,560	\$ 2,897,631	\$ 14,201,021	89.5	
Agency Revised Estimate	8,255,830	3,047,560	2,897,181	14,200,571	89.5	
Special Committee on the State Budget (SBC)						
Change from Agency Revised Estimate	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
TOTAL – Special Committee	\$ 8,255,830	\$ 3,047,560	\$ 2,897,181	\$ 14,200,571	89.5	
House Committees						
K-12 Education Budget	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
Appropriations	-	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – House Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	
TOTAL – Current House Position	\$ 8,255,830	\$ 3,047,560	\$ 2,897,181	\$ 14,200,571	89.5	
Senate Committees						
Education	\$ 227,145	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 227,145	-	
Ways and Means	-	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – Senate Change from SBC	\$ 227,145	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 227,145	-	
TOTAL – Current Senate Position	\$ 8,482,975	\$ 3,047,560	\$ 2,897,181	\$ 14,427,716	89.5	
Legislative Approved						
Conference Committee	\$ 227,145	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 227,145	-	
Governor's Vetoes	-	-	-	-	-	
Veto Overrides	-	-	-	-	-	
Certifications	(25,159)	-	-	(25,159)	-	
Subtotal – Approved Change from SBC	\$ 201,986	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 201,986	-	
GRAND TOTAL – Final Approved	\$ 8,457,816	\$ 3,047,560	\$ 2,897,181	\$ 14,402,557	89.5	

Agency

The **agency** requests a revised estimate of \$14.2 million, including \$8.3 million SGF, and 89.5 FTE positions in FY 2026. This is a decrease of \$450, all in federal funds, from the amount approved by the 2025 Legislature.

The request includes no reappropriations and no supplemental requests. The agency request includes capital improvement projects approved by the 2025 Legislature, including funding for the three standard project groups (**Rehab and Repair**, **HVAC Maintenance and Repair**, and **Safety and Security Systems**) as well as projects to **abate hazardous material** and a **gas service line upgrade**.

Special Committee on the State Budget

The **Special Committee** concurs with the agency's revised estimate in FY 2026.

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Budget Committee Report

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 language allowing the agency to purchase under the statutes for procurement for school districts rather than those of state agencies in FY 2026.

Also add language to grant State Board of Education authority to authorize purchase, to not require competitive bids in certain situations, and that the State Board may authorize the school's superintendent the authority to make purchases without State Board approval under certain circumstances in FY 2026.

House Committee on Appropriations

The **House Committee** concurs with the Budget Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

House Committee of the Whole

The **House Committee of the Whole** concurs with the House Committee's recommendation 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 adjustment:

1. Add \$227,145 SGF for additional pay for certified teachers for the school year and for pay for support staff salaries for an additional 6 days of instruction in FY 2026.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

Senate Committee of the Whole

The **Senate Committee of the Whole** concurs with the Senate Committee's recommendation in FY 2026.

Conference Committee

The **Conference Committee** concurs with the Special Committee's recommendation in FY 2026, with the following adjustment:

1. Add \$227,145 SGF for additional pay for certified teachers for the school year and for pay for support staff salaries for an additional 6 days of instruction in FY 2026.
2. Add language allowing the agency to purchase under the statutes for procurement for school districts rather than those of state agencies in FY 2026.

Also add language to grant State Board of Education authority to authorize purchase, to not require competitive bids in certain situations, and that the State Board may authorize the school's superintendent the authority to make purchases without State Board approval under certain circumstances in FY 2026.

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Budget Committee Report

Legislative Approved

HB 2513 authorized the following statewide adjustments which were certified following the conclusion of the 2026 Session:

1. Delete \$25,159 SGF to eliminate funding for positions which have been vacant for at least 60 calendar days in FY 2026.

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Budget Committee Report

FY 2027

Summary of Legislative Recommendations, FY 2027						
	SGF	SIBF	All Other Funds	Total	FTE Positions	
FY 2026 Approved, with Adjustments*	\$ 8,255,830	\$ 2,597,560	\$ 2,897,631	\$ 13,751,021	89.5	
Agency Request	8,556,259	3,605,687	3,251,510	15,413,456	89.5	
Special Committee on the State Budget (SBC)						
Change from Agency Request	\$ (10,486)	\$ (806,022)	\$ -	\$ (816,508)	-	
TOTAL – Special Committee	\$ 8,545,773	\$ 2,799,665	\$ 3,251,510	\$ 14,596,948	89.5	
House Committees						
K-12 Education Budget	\$ -	\$ 806,022	\$ -	\$ 806,022	-	
Appropriations	-	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – House Change from SBC	\$ -	\$ 806,022	\$ -	\$ 806,022	-	
TOTAL – Current House Position	\$ 8,545,773	\$ 3,605,687	\$ 3,251,510	\$ 15,402,970	89.5	
Senate Committees						
Education	\$ 283,745	\$ 718,750	\$ -	\$ 1,002,495	-	
Ways and Means	-	-	-	-	-	
Committee of the Whole	-	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal – Senate Change from SBC	\$ 283,745	\$ 718,750	\$ -	\$ 1,002,495	-	
TOTAL – Current Senate Position	\$ 8,829,518	\$ 3,518,415	\$ 3,251,510	\$ 15,599,443	89.5	
Legislative Approved						
Conference Committee	\$ 283,745	\$ 806,022	\$ -	\$ 1,089,767	-	
Governor's Vetoes	-	-	-	-	-	
Veto Overrides	-	-	-	-	-	
Certifications	(83,864)	-	4,632	(79,232)	-	
Subtotal – Approved Change from SBC	\$ 199,881	\$ 806,022	\$ 4,632	\$ 1,010,535	-	
GRAND TOTAL – Final Approved	\$ 8,745,654	\$ 3,605,687	\$ 3,256,142	\$ 15,607,483	89.5	

* 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, these adjustments include two capital improvement projects that will be completed in FY 2026, totaling \$450,000 SIBF.

Agency

The **agency** requests \$15.4 million, including \$8.6 million SGF, and 89.5 FTE positions for FY 2027. This is an increase of \$1.6 million, or 12.1 percent, 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:

- **Edlund Dorm/Dining Hall Roof Replacement.** The agency requests \$718,750, all from the SIBF, to replace the roof of the Edlund dormitory and adjacent dining hall buildings for FY 2027. The agency states that the roofs are 30 years old and are suffering leaks and related damage.
- **Capital Improvements R&R Base Increase.** The agency requests an additional \$87,272, all from the SIBF, for capital improvement rehab and repair for FY 2027. This would bring the

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Budget Committee Report

amount from \$872,718 SIBF to \$959,990 SIBF. The agency indicates that this is to account for inflation within capital improvement projects.

Special Committee on the State Budget

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

1. Delete \$718,750 SIBF to replace the roof of the Edlund Dorm and adjacent dining hall buildings for FY 2027.
2. Delete \$87,272 SIBF to increase the base for rehab and repair capital improvements projects due to inflation for FY 2027.
3. Delete \$10,486 SGF to match pay parity with USD 233 Olathe for FY 2027.

House Committees

House Committee on K-12 Education Budget

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

1. Add \$718,750 SIBF to replace the roof of the Edlund Dorm and adjacent dining hall buildings for FY 2027.
2. Add \$87,272 SIBF to increase the base for rehab and repair capital improvements projects due to inflation for FY 2027.
3. Add language allowing the agency to purchase under the statutes for procurement for school districts rather than those of state agencies for FY 2027.

Also add language to grant State Board of Education authority to authorize purchase, to not require competitive bids in certain situations, and that the State Board may authorize the school's superintendent the authority to make purchases without State Board approval under certain circumstances for FY 2027.

Furthermore, add language requiring a report on this matter be presented to the House Committee on K-12 Education, Senate Committee on Education, House Committee on Appropriations, and Senate Committee on Ways and Means on or before January 11, 2027.

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

1. The State's financial support for the Kansas State School for the Blind shall be recognized as a state appropriation 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.

House Committee on Appropriations

The **House Committee** concurs with the Budget Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

House Committee of the Whole

The **House Committee of the Whole** concurs with the House Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Budget Committee Report

Senate Committees

Senate Committee on Education

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

1. Add \$718,750 SIBF to replace the roof of the Edlund Dorm and adjacent dining hall buildings for FY 2027.
2. Add \$283,745 SGF for additional pay for certified teachers for the school year and for pay for support staff salaries for an additional 6 days of instruction for FY 2027.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means

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

Senate Committee of the Whole

The **Senate Committee of the Whole** concurs with the Senate Committee's recommendation for FY 2027.

Conference Committee

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

1. Add \$718,750 SIBF to replace the roof of the Edlund Dorm and adjacent dining hall buildings for FY 2027.
2. Add \$283,745 SGF for additional pay for certified teachers for the school year and for pay for support staff salaries for an additional 6 days of instruction for FY 2027.
3. Add \$87,272 SIBF to increase the base for rehab and repair capital improvements projects due to inflation for FY 2027.
4. Add language allowing the agency to purchase under the statutes for procurement for school districts rather than those of state agencies for FY 2027.

Also add language to grant State Board of Education authority to authorize purchase, to not require competitive bids in certain situations, and that the State Board may authorize the school's superintendent the authority to make purchases without State Board approval under certain circumstances for FY 2027.

Furthermore, add language requiring a report on this matter be presented to the House Committee on K-12 Education, Senate Committee on Education, House Committee on Appropriations, and Senate Committee on Ways and Means on or before January 11, 2027.

Legislative Approved

HB 2513 authorized the following statewide adjustments which were certified following the conclusion of the 2026 Session:

1. Add \$38,801, including \$34,169 SGF, to implement the Executive Branch pay plan approved by the 2026 Legislature and certified by the State Finance Council for FY 2027.

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Budget Committee Report

2. Delete \$118,033 SGF to lapse 1.5 percent of state operations funded from the SGF for FY 2027. This lapse does not apply to SGF-financed operating expenditures for authorized contractual services, specific projects, or an identified program or entity.