



Renwick USD 267
600 West Rush
P.O. Box 68
Andale, KS 67001
Phone (316)444-2165
Fax (316)445-2241
www.usd267.com

Re: Testimony for HB 2504 – Greg Tice, USD 267 School Board President

Dear Chairman Highland and Education Committee Members,
Thank you for allowing me to testify on HB 2504. I am the School Board President for USD 267 Renwick. There are lessons that can be learned from my school district, and thirteen others, relative to the impact this bill would have on other school districts. There are currently fourteen school districts that operate similar to how this bill would consolidate existing school districts. These school districts have a central administration that covers two high schools and have an enrollment of under 3,244 students. That number is significant because that is the number that has previously been used for high/low weightings. Even though we are currently under a block grant system, the funding was established based on these weightings. This information was tabulated based on the 2013 school year. I have attached a breakdown of each district.

School District	Negative funding
1. Renwick USD 267	(\$1,196,112)
2. Prairie Hills USD 113	(\$1,154,625)
3. Kaw Valley USD 321	(\$ 830,274)
4. Clay Center USD 379	(\$ 829,084)
5. Kingman/Norwich USD 331	(\$ 580,075)
6. Rural Vista USD 481	(\$ 464,781)
7. Chetopa-St. Paul USD 505	(\$ 419,993)
8. Central Plains USD 112	(\$ 384,107)
9. Lebo-Waverly USD 243	(\$ 382,304)
10. Twin Valley USD 240	(\$ 373,630)
11. Vermillion USD 380	(\$ 349,833)
12. Southern Lyon County USD 252	(\$ 330,797)
13. Barnes USD 223	(\$ 281,555)
14. Southern Cloud USD 334	(\$ 268,085)

This has led to some very trying times for my school district. We have had to do four things.

1. Close a building
2. Cut staff
3. Pay our staff lower than surrounding districts
4. Make serious cuts to our budget
5. Max out our LOB

USD 267 is a district with 1901 students. We have two high schools, Andale 4A and Garden Plain 3A, and four K-8 elementary schools. Our annual budget is about \$23,000,000. Here is what we have done.

1. Close a building

In 2003-04, we closed St. Joe Elementary thinking this would save us a significant amount of money. When we did this, the St. Joe parish formed a private school. The loss of the 80 students negated any savings we would have seen. Additionally, since our bus route goes by the school, state law makes us bus some students to their school at our expense.

2. Cut staff

1. We have cut all of our reading specialist positions.
2. We have one librarian for our six buildings. We use one library aide in each building.
3. We have 1 counselor at Garden Plain High School, 1.6 counselors at Andale High School and a .2 social worker that covers all four elementary schools.
 - a. That is a ratio of 1 counselor per 663 students. The recommended ratio is 1:250 students. The state average is 1:400 students.
4. For the past three years we have had either our Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent also serve as a Principal. This has not been a good long term solution and we have realized that we cannot continue to do this.
5. We have chosen to add two counselors and two career/tech ed staff which is the direction the state is suggesting, but at current levels of funding, these positions are not likely sustainable without cutting something else in the future.

3. Pay our staff lower than other districts.

Our staff was willing to take these cuts for a few years, but we have seen attrition to other districts in the past few years. Here is our base pay relative to that of other districts near us.

2015-16 As Compared

Base to Renwick	Base	Difference
Maize	\$40,700	\$6,350
Derby	\$39,727	\$5,377
Wichita	\$39,146	\$4,796
Valley Center	\$38,880	\$4,530
Mulvane	\$38,642	\$4,292
Andover	\$38,439	\$4,089
Goddard	\$7,050	\$2,700
Cheney	\$36,500	\$2,150
Clearwater	\$34,500	\$ 150
Renwick	\$34,350	

We calculated that it would add \$836,850 for us to increase our salaries an additional \$4,000. For our district, 2.5% salary increase equates to \$205,000 per year. Over a five year period this obviously increases our budget by over \$1 million dollars.

A KASB study has shown a scenario that USD 267 would include the Cheney school district. As you can see above, Cheney's base pay is \$2,250 higher than ours currently. If we were to have to raise our base by the \$2,250, it would raise our budget by about \$450,000. We could not do that without cutting services or closing buildings.

4. Make serious cuts to our budget.

I have attached a list of cuts we have made since 2008. Here is a summary

2008-2009		(\$217,302)
2009-2010	Phase I	(\$915,331)
	Phase II	(\$207,856)
2010-2011		(\$661,900)
		(\$41,078)
2011-2012		(\$1,416,000)
2012-2013		None
2013-2014		(\$729,750)

6. Max out our LOB

Our patrons voted to increase our LOB to the 33% level.

7. 65% classroom threshold

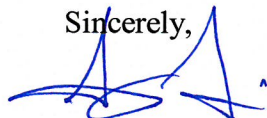
We do meet the 65% threshold for spending in the classroom. Because of our configuration we have more staff that, as shown above, we pay less. Another way to do this is have less staff in larger classrooms that are paid higher salaries. However, when teacher salaries are over 50% of our budget, it is not possible to put more money into the classroom without significantly raising our funding levels.

Savings

I think we would agree that there are some savings that can be realized by consolidating school districts. We think we save between \$200,000 and \$400,000 per year by saving an administrator and some transportation costs. However, will the unintended consequences of this bill affect school districts similar to how they have affected my school district during the past several years? If this were to happen I think you would see local taxes increase, buildings closed which will affect smaller communities, and a reduction in teacher compensation because school districts will not have the money to increase salaries. The state will save some money, but it will cause local taxes to rise and teacher pay to stagnate or decrease, at least this has been the experience in USD 267.

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. If I can be of any additional help I would be glad to contribute. I hope you will consider the impact this has had on our district and the thirteen other districts as you consider this bill and also as you discuss a new funding formula. It would be great if there could be an incentive shared by the state and the school districts for districts to be more efficient, rather than being penalized due to this configuration as is currently the case.

Sincerely,



Greg Tice, School Board President USD 267

ANDALE HIGH SCHOOL-GARDEN PLAIN HIGH SCHOOL-ANDALE ELEMENTARY
COLWICH ELEMENTARY-GARDEN PLAIN ELEMENTARY--ST. MARK'S SCHOOL

Low/High Enrollment Examples - from KSDE Legal Max data spreadsheet dated 10/30/13

Adjusted enrollment	Factor/Formula	BSAPP
0 - 99.9	1.04331	\$ 3,838.00
100 - 299.9	$((7337-9.655(E-100))/3642.4)-1$	
300 - 1,621.9	$((5406-1.2375(E-300))/3642.4)-1$	
1,622 +	0.03504	

Examples of fur

USD #	Class	District	Adj. FTE	Factor	Weighting	State Aid Adjustment	Adj per FTE
267		Renwick	1,856.9	0.03504	65.07	\$ 249,739	\$ 134
	4A	Andale	1,358.9	0.12443	169.09	\$ 648,967	
	3A	Garden Plain	498	0.41692	207.63	\$ 796,884	
Additional Funding						\$ 1,196,112	\$ 644
331		Kingman/Norwich	958.8	0.26036	249.63	\$ 958,080	\$ 999
	3A	Kingman*	730	0.33809	246.81	\$ 947,257	
	1A	Norwich*	228.8	0.67292	153.96	\$ 590,898	
Additional Funding						\$ 580,075	\$ 605
113		Prairie Hills	1,125.3	0.20379	229.32	\$ 880,130	\$ 782
	3A	Sabetha*	790	0.31771	250.99	\$ 963,300	
	1A	Axtell*	180	0.80227	144.41	\$ 554,246	
	1A	Wetmore*	155.3	0.86775	134.76	\$ 517,209	
Additional Funding						\$ 1,154,626	\$ 1,026
223		Barnes	374.8	0.45877	171.95	\$ 659,944	\$ 1,761
	1A	Hanover*	192	0.52088	100.01	\$ 383,838	
	1A	Linn*	182.8	0.79485	145.30	\$ 557,661	
Additional Funding						\$ 281,555	\$ 751
240		Twin Valley	582.5	0.38821	226.13	\$ 867,887	\$ 1,490
	2A	Bennington*	425	0.44172	187.73	\$ 720,508	
	1A	Tescott*	157.5	0.86191	135.75	\$ 521,009	
Additional Funding						\$ 373,630	\$ 641
243		Lebo-Waverly	491	0.41929	205.87	\$ 790,129	\$ 1,609
	1A	Lebo*	270	0.56371	152.20	\$ 584,144	
	1A	Waverly*	221	0.69359	153.28	\$ 588,289	
Additional Funding						\$ 382,304	\$ 779
252		Southern Lyon Cc	518	0.41012	212.44	\$ 815,345	\$ 1,574
	2A	Olpe*	299	0.48684	145.57	\$ 558,698	
	1A	Hartford*	219	0.69889	153.06	\$ 587,444	
Additional Funding						\$ 330,797	\$ 639
321		Kaw Valley	1,128.5	0.20270	228.75	\$ 877,943	\$ 778
	3A	Rossville*	565	0.39415	222.69	\$ 854,684	
	3A	St. Mary's*	563.5	0.39466	222.39	\$ 853,533	
Additional Funding						\$ 830,274	\$ 736
334		Southern Cloud	229.8	0.67027	154.03	\$ 591,167	\$ 2,573
	1A	Glasco*	120	0.96132	115.36	\$ 442,752	
	1A	Miltonvale*	109.8	0.98835	108.52	\$ 416,500	
Additional Funding						\$ 268,085	\$ 1,167
270		Clay Center	1,346.3	0.12871	173.28	\$ 665,049	\$ 494

USD #	Class	D
247	3A	Ci
248	4A	
		Cc
440	3A	H
439	3A	S
		Ci
480	3A	I
423	2A	Mc
		C
264	4A	C
356	3A	Com
		C
382	4A	
438	2A	
		C
396	3A	I
463	1A	
		C
405	3A	
401	1A	
		C
357	3A	Br
358	2A	
		C
257	4A	
258	3A	
		C
481	3A	I

379	Clay Center	1,346.3	0.12871	173.28	\$	665,049	\$ 494
4A	Clay Center*	1070	0.22258	238.16	\$	914,058	
2A	Wakefield*	276.3	0.54701	151.14	\$	580,075	
Additional Funding						<u>\$ 829,084</u>	\$ 616
380	Vermillion	527	0.40706	214.52	\$	823,328	\$ 1,562
1A	Centralia*	273	0.55576	151.72	\$	582,301	
1A	Frankfort*	254	0.60612	153.95	\$	590,860	
Additional Funding						<u>\$ 349,833</u>	\$ 664
481	Rural Vista	336.8	0.47168	158.86	\$	609,705	\$ 1,810
1A	White City*	179	0.80492	144.08	\$	552,979	
1A	Hope*	157.8	0.86112	135.88	\$	521,507	
Additional Funding						<u>\$ 464,781</u>	\$ 1,380
505	Chetopa-St. Paul	458	0.43051	197.17	\$	756,738	\$ 1,652
1A	St. Paul*	245	0.62998	154.35	\$	592,395	
1A	Chetopa*	213	0.71480	152.25	\$	584,336	
Additional Funding						<u>\$ 419,993</u>	\$ 917
112	Central Plains	469	0.42677	200.16	\$	768,214	\$ 1,638
2A	Central Plains*	274	0.55311	151.55	\$	581,649	
1A	Wilson*	195	0.76251	148.69	\$	570,672	
Additional Funding						<u>\$ 384,107</u>	\$ 819

*estimate

TOTAL ADDITIONAL FUNDING

\$ 7,845,255

USD 267 RENWICK BUDGET CUTS - 2008 TO PRESENT

2008-2009

Item	Dollar Amount
Reduce school length to 1116 hours, move up last day.	\$21,663.79
Cut Building Budgets by 10%	\$40,941
No stripping or waxing of floors	\$35,100
Don't replace tech integrationist	\$34,000
Don't replace GPE Reading specialist	\$26,000
Freeze all Vocational Education purchases	\$16,495
Cut 2 hourly positions	\$8,131.20
Reduce trash service	\$7,987.50
Tighten HVAC Schedule	\$6,250
Difference between resigned teachers salary and long term substitute pay	\$6,082.59
Reduce custodial coverage for district office	\$3,752.16
Electronic printing of all newsletters	\$3,318
No employee meals paid	\$3,300
District will not pay for field trip mileage	\$1,920
Reduce number of district cell phones	\$1,312.08
Reduce hall lights during the school day	\$800
Eliminate snacks for staff	\$250
TOTAL	\$217,303.32

2009-2010 Phase 1 Budget Cuts

Item	Dollar Amount
Reduce Staff	\$318,304
Postpone curriculum adoption	\$100,000
Lengthen school days by 35 minutes	\$82,740
Optimize cleaning services	\$23,167
Reduce technology budget	\$50,000
Replace middle school labs with N-Computing	\$48,000
Postpone hiring tech integrationist	\$45,000
Reduce professional development	\$30,000
Tighten occupied schedule for HVAC	\$25,000
Increase lunches by 10 cents	\$23,783
Pay all Vocational Funds from VE II funds	\$20,300
Reduce trash pick-up by 50%	\$19,100
Admit additional out-of-district students	\$20,000
Do not pay for staff meals	\$13,200
Eliminate early release days and replace with two full professional days	\$13,150
Eliminate PLC facilitators	\$12,000

Eliminate personal appliances	\$10,000
Eliminate United streaming	\$10,000
Electronic publication of all district and building newsletter	\$10,995
Eliminate snacks and beverages at all meetings	\$9,000
Reduce supplemental contracts	\$8,462
Reduce summer custodial staff	\$5,000
Reduce number of district vehicles traveling to student activities	\$2,230
Reduce number of cell phones	\$4,000
Reduce staff travel	\$4,000
Eliminate two copiers at Central Office	\$3,650
Reduce light fixtures in common areas	\$3,000
Reduce BOE travel	\$1,250
TOTAL	\$915,331

2009-2010 Phase 2 Budget Cuts

Item	Dollar Amount
Building Budget	\$58,157
Activity and Consumable Fee	\$37,440
Supplemental List	\$28,565
Summer School	\$24,647
Zero-Hour Classes not offered	\$15,875
Technology Department reduction	\$10,017
Overnight Conferences	\$10,000
Administrative Pay	\$7,853
Athletic Budget reduced 10% at high school	\$7,802
Odyssey of the Mind World Trip	\$7,500
TOTAL	\$207,856

2010-2011 Budget Cuts

Item	Dollar Amount
Reduce staff	\$353,600
Activities/Supplemental cuts	\$40,000
New Fee for All Day Kindergarten	\$43,650
Maintenance Budget	\$77,650
Utilize capital outlay to fund technology purchases	\$100,000
Do not replace payroll clerk	\$17,000
.5 GPHS business teacher	\$20,000
Reduce one bus route	\$10,000
TOTAL	\$661,900

2010-2011 Activity Budget Cuts

Item	Dollar Amount
Limit middle school volleyball coaches to 2	\$0
Limit middle school basketball coaches to 2	\$1,686
Eliminate high school drama assistant	\$1,000
Teachers that teach extra preps will be paid from VE11	\$3,200
Cut middle school yearbook supplemental	\$595
Cut sponsor of KAYS and SADD	\$200
CUT GPHS cross country	\$3,857
Cut high school yearbook supplemental	\$3,438
Bowling coaches cut to 1	\$1,653
Eliminate middle school robotics	\$926
Eliminate high school JV Golf	\$1,523
Reduce extra duty pay from \$11 to \$10 per hour	\$6,000
Eliminate all overnight trip funding	\$2,000
Reduce high school athletic budgets by 15%	\$15,000
TOTAL	\$41,078

2011-2012 Budget Cuts

Item	Dollar Amount
Eliminate 4 x 4 Block-staff reductions	\$156,000
Increase elementary class size to 29-staff reductions	\$326,000
Use contingency	\$400,000
All Day Kindergarten Fee increase	\$117,000
Restructured enrollment fee/pay to play	\$54,000
Increase lunch price by \$.15	\$20,000
Reduce substitution pay to \$85/day	\$8,000
Reduce building budgets by 20%	\$97,000
Curriculum Fund	\$100,000
Custodian Furlough	\$20,000
Eliminate Math Specialist	\$45,000
Reduce AHS counselor to part-time	\$28,000
Reduce Extra duty Pay to \$8/hr.	\$10,000
Administrative Pay Cut	\$17,000
IT Cut	\$18,000
TOTAL	\$1,416,000

2012-2013 Budget Cuts

Item	Dollar Amount
NONE this year	

2013-2014

Item	Dollar Amount
Reading Specialists	\$132,600
Reading Specialist Extra days	\$14,000
Librarians	\$133,600
1 counselor	\$41,800
Administrative reduction	\$60,000
Class Size Reduction	\$35,000
Health Science Position	\$27,000
.5 Spanish	\$17,500
Building Budgets	\$60,000
GPHS FACS position	\$19,350
GP teacher savings	\$70,000
AHS teacher savings	\$70,000
Combining secretary/bookkeepers	\$15,000
Reduction in days worked at central office	\$16,900
Pay to play \$50	\$17,000
TOTAL	\$729,750