



## Office of the Superintendent

Greg Rasmussen, Superintendent  
1432 N. Andover Road  
Andover, Kansas 67002  
Office: 316/218-4660  
Fax: 316/733-3604  
E-mail: [rasmusseng@usd385.org](mailto:rasmusseng@usd385.org)  
[www.usd385.org](http://www.usd385.org)

---

To: Senate Committee on Ways and Means / House Committee on Appropriations  
From: Greg Rasmussen, Superintendent of Schools  
Re: Special Session of the Legislature – School Equity Funding  
Date: June 22, 2016

As you are very aware, these are challenging financial times for K-12 education in Kansas. Today I was made aware of several proposals to address the Kansas Supreme Court's request to provide equity in school funding. It is important to honor a court order and I appreciate that the Legislature is acting responsibly under what must be difficult circumstances. As you work to develop a final proposal, please know that I would support a bill that addresses equity as long as it:

- Keeps schools open
- Restores equity for all schools and fully supports equalization of LOB and Capital Outlay
- Makes the extraordinary needs fund available with expanded criteria to support all schools in need
- Is a clean appropriation bill that has a single focus on funding equity

While considering proposals, I ask that you look for a solution that solves the equity problem without impacting other areas of K-12 funding. However, because closing schools would be costly and have long lasting consequences on our students, after exhausting all other alternatives, I would not object to addressing a portion of the equity issue by reallocating existing K-12 funds as long as the Legislature is cognizant that the same court is going to take up the adequacy issue later this year.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important matter.