



Students Prepared for *Their* Future!

LEGISLATIVE STATEMENTS for 2021-2022

(Approved 1.13.22)

Setting high expectations for Olathe students

- We support robust educational programs and services to ensure all students acquire the intellectual, vocational, and interpersonal skills to be college and/or career ready upon graduation.
- We support investing in early childhood and school readiness programs and services to meet the academic and social needs of young children.
- We believe schools receiving public funding should be required to meet state accreditation requirements, provide information about students, and accept/include all students on an equal, non-selective basis.

Supporting the well-being of Olathe students

- We strive to ensure the safety and well-being of all students in our schools. We celebrate our community's diversity and work to create an inclusive environment that treats students equitably, respectfully, and with dignity.
- We support increasing access to mental health and behavioral health services for students and families.
- We support reducing the consumption of tobacco and vaping products among students, including but not limited to raising the statewide minimum age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21, implementing policies that deter the use of such products, and support for cessation programs.

Providing the resources necessary to provide *all* students the opportunity to succeed

- We support increasing special education funding to attain the statutory goal of funding 92 percent of statewide excess cost, to support programs and services for those students with special needs.
- We support amending the capital improvement state aid calculation to allow for continued investments in technology and high-quality learning environments that allow students to participate in experiential learning and workforce programs.
- We believe that changes in the federal free lunch program should not adversely impact at-risk funding that provides critical resources for programs and services that support students in poverty, those who may be homeless, and/or are struggling academically.
- We support amending the virtual education funding formula to provide support for expanded student learning opportunities made available through both full-time and integrated virtual education programs/courses offered by local school districts.
- We support efforts to recruit and retain high-quality professionals into the education workforce.