

Know Kansas?



Quality Public Schools

Kansas parents and children want safe, welcoming and well-resourced schools for each community. Parents want their children to have highly qualified teachers in every classroom—teachers who are supported by Kansas leaders willing to do the right thing. Parents want their children to graduate with the opportunity to succeed, regardless of background. Every Kansas student, no matter his or her zip code, deserves all these things.



Affordable Health Care

Kansans need affordable healthcare that ensures no Kansas family is bankrupted by medical costs. Thirty-one states and Washington, DC, have chosen to expand Medicaid, and most are reporting substantial savings in their state budgets. According to the Alliance for a Healthy Kansas, the expansion of KanCare, our state's Medicaid program, would bolster our state's economy, protect and strengthen rural hospitals, and generate 3800 new Kansas jobs by 2020.

Grow Kansas!



Solid Infrastructure

Citizens and visitors of Kansas communities, whether rural or urban, deserve to travel safely on Kansas roads, bridges, and highways. Whether the cargo is school children, your loved ones, or the fruits of harvest, safe passage should not be left to chance. When \$280 million disappears from the Kansas highway fund, we all pay the price.



Thriving Communities

The needs of our communities have increased—but meanwhile the investment in our state workforce has not kept pace with increased costs and is below the level set prior to the tax cuts. Reinvestment by the Legislature in public schools, affordable healthcare and solid infrastructure would help ensure thriving and prosperous Kansas communities. Investment in our priorities would help repair the damage done by our state's experiment in trickle-down economics. It is an opportunity to promote broad economic growth across Kansas.

Kansas:
It's Time to **Reinvest**
in our **Future**



The working people of Kansas deserve our best efforts on the following priorities:

Funding Schools Kansas Children Deserve

Where we stand:

To create and maintain the top-quality schools that Kansas children deserve and that our state's economy and workforce depend on, the state should:

- Continue to build on the 2018 school funding increase
- Prioritize budget and tax policies that allow investment in Kansas public schools and provide ongoing revenue to fund public education.
- Fully fund of the costs of special education, early childhood and all-day kindergarten.
- Ensure that funding levels give Kansas students access to a well-rounded education both in the classroom and with extracurricular activities.
- Maintain the constitutional language that provides a check on the legislature's public school funding choices
- Oppose the diversion of funds from public schools to private and parochial schools through vouchers, tuition tax credits, or charter schools established outside of the control of the locally elected school board or not held accountable under the state's accreditation system.

KanCare Expansion for Health of Kansas Families

Where we stand:

- The legislature should act to finally expand health-care coverage to Kansans.

Privatization Undermines Public Good

Where we stand:

- Contractors should be held to the same standard of transparency and accountability as public entities
- If a contract is pursued by a state agency to out-source a service delivery, the agency/contractor must clearly demonstrate that such contract will save taxpayer money, accompanied by an economic impact statement that analyzes the following: possible loss of employment or income in a local area; impact on social services in the local area; impact on local businesses; possible loss or increased tax revenue for the local area; and any environmental impact that may result from the private contract. Any stated savings could not simply come from paying wages significantly lower than those paid to state employees.
- Service contracts for the state should be disclosed on an online database that is accessible, searchable, sortable, and downloadable for total spending on service contracts for the state. The information would be compiled in an annual service contractor expenditure budget.

Civil Service System That Works and Teacher Due Process

Where we stand:

- State policy makers should reinstate a classified system for public employees that provides real job protections and career pathways. Every effort should be made to repeal (2015) HB 2391 which decimated the rights of public employees.
- State policymakers should immediately pass legislation restoring teacher due process.

Fair Compensation and Staffing

Where we stand:

- State employees should be paid a competitive wage and have affordable quality healthcare
- State agencies should develop minimum safe staffing levels, report on progress towards reaching those levels, and disclose to the public risks of falling below those levels.
- Breaks and lunch periods for executive branch state employees should be mandatory and mandatory overtime should be capped for executive branch state employees.

Higher Education

Where we stand:

- Colleges and universities, including two-year and community college, should get a substantial investment to undo the deep cuts to higher education that resulted from failed tax policies
- State and local public employers should educate new and current employees about federal public service loan forgiveness programs.
- Student loan services should be required to get a state license and not be allowed to operate in the dark.

Safe and Secure Workplaces

Where we stand:

- Kansas needs a federally approvable occupational health and safety law for state and local government employees.
- State workers should have the same legal protections against workplace bullying the legislature afforded to students, teachers, and school workers in 2013.