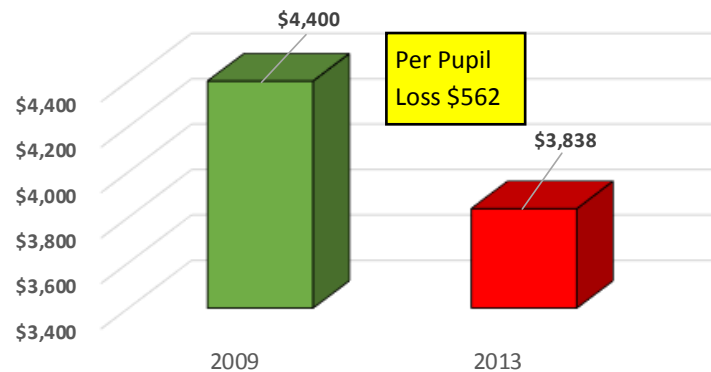


# K-12 Education Funding: The Clear Facts

Developed by Superintendents from the Southwest Plains Regional Service Center

## Reduction in Base State Aid per Pupil



Note: In 2008, legislators approved \$4,492 but this was never funded.

## National Comparison: Kansas Education Spending

- 4th deepest cut in per pupil state funding  
⇒ **down 16.5% (2008-2014) \***
- 3rd deepest cut in the nation  
⇒ **down 2.6% (2013-2014) \***
- Ranked 28th for spending per pupil  
⇒ **\$9,498; national average = \$10,560 (2011) \*\***

\*Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (<http://www.cbpp.org>)

\*\*National Center for Education Statistics

## Student Achievement

- Kansas continues to rank in top 10 states for student achievement!
- Kansas student National Assessment of Educational Progress scores continue to rank far above the national average.

## Funding Impact on Local Schools

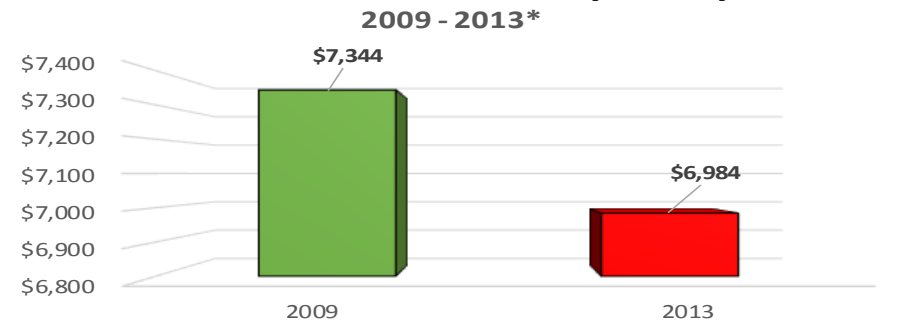
Total Kansas K-12 Education Funding has risen; but most increases cannot be used for classroom instruction, for example from 2009-2013:

- Kansas Public Employees Retirement System went up \$80 million resulting from 20+ years of underfunding
- Bond and Interest went up \$35 million

Local school districts have had to raise local property taxes and fees to offset some of the losses in state funding.

- **Average property tax increased from 47.9 mils to 51.7 mils (7.9%)**
- Increased fees including textbooks, athletics and driver's education

## Total State Aid Decline per Pupil

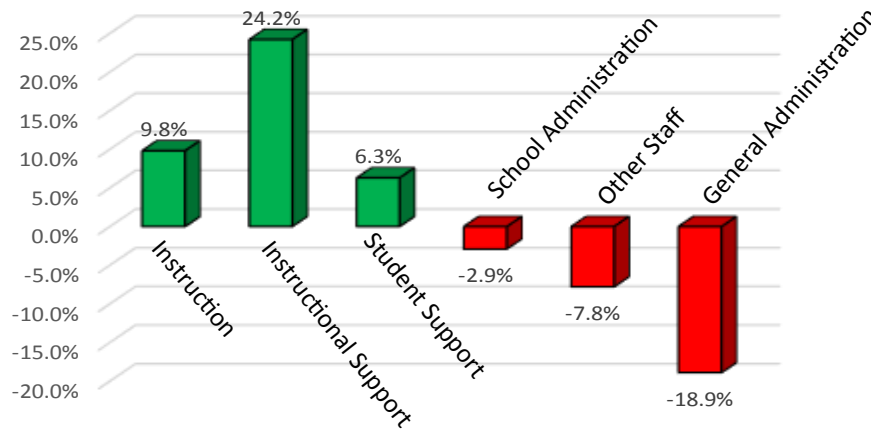


\*Kansas Department of Education

- District General Fund Budgets are over **\$200 million lower** than in 2009.
- Districts have offset a portion of this decline by **raising Local Option Budgets \$100 million, which has raised local property taxes.**
- Many districts have reached the maximum on their Local Option Budget and **cannot raise more local funding.**
- **Further cuts to educational programs and staff may be necessary.**

## Kansas School Staffing 2002 - 2013: The Clear Facts

School Employee Increase/Decrease  
2002 to 2013



Source: Kansas State Department of Education

### Funding Directly Supporting Students

- Instructional Positions (teachers)
- Student Support (counselors, health services, speech pathologists)
- Instructional Support (library, technology, aides, curriculum support)

### Non-Teaching Positions & Support

- General Administration (superintendents, central office staff)
- School Administration (building principals, office staff)
- Other Staff
  - Operations & Maintenance (utilities, custodial, security)
  - Transportation (bus drivers, vehicles, maintenance, fuel)
  - Food Service (cooks, food, food preparation)
  - Other support services (business manager and personnel)
  - Others

Contact your local Southwest Kansas Superintendent or  
Southwest Plains Regional Service Center for more information.

<http://www.swprsc.org> or (800) 728-1022

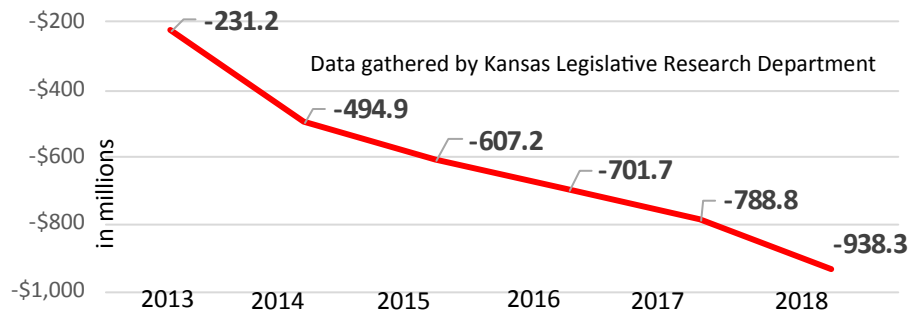
## Facts About Local School District Cash Reserves

- School districts, like most businesses and families, need to save for unexpected emergencies.
- School districts have used reserve funds to delay further cuts to local educational programs and staff.
- School districts have endured late state payments, have had mid-year cuts, and often have bills to pay before state funds are received.
- School districts must use reserve funds to offset funding cuts.
- The legislature has actually passed laws to encourage school districts to increase their reserves.
- Many reserve funds cannot be used for general operational expenses.
- General fund budget cuts have created the need to increase reserve funds when possible.

## Impact of State Revenue

### Projected State Revenue Reduction Due to Tax Changes

2013 - 2018



### Why Are Your Southwest Kansas Superintendents Concerned?

- Future cuts in State revenue increase the potential for additional cuts in education funding.
- Past and present cuts may not be restored.
- Local districts may be forced to further increase property taxes and fees.
- Kansas may become less competitive in recruitment of teachers which could affect quality of education available in its communities.