

VOTE COUNT

July 2016
Kansas PTA[®]

everychild.one voice.
Advocacy

Education Policy Votes: Johnson County

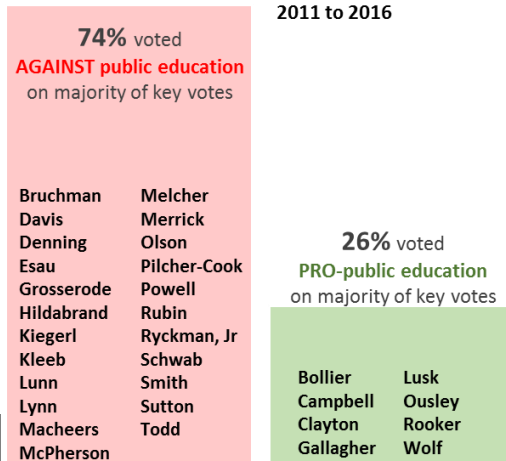
THE BILLS & PTA POSITION. Key votes are reviewed to profile current Kansas legislators' positions on public education policy. The past several legislative sessions have been alarming, in part, for their repeated attempts to diminish the K-12 public school system, often in the name of *reform*.¹ This Vote Count reflects the scope of policy positions pushed by legislative leadership, which run in opposition to nearly all of Kansas PTA Legislative Priorities² and often originate from the pool of ALEC³ free-market template bills. Over a dozen votes since 2011 are presented here, though not intended to be a comprehensive list. Half of the bills were worked through both chambers, but a number of critical single-chamber votes are included as well.

This Vote Count profile starts with PTA Legislative Priority 1 and the *block grant* vote to repeal the 1992 school finance formula and ends with our Priority 10 and the vote to prohibit local schools boards from establishing their own weapons policies to keep schools safe. A green ✓ indicates a vote in alignment with Kansas PTA's pro-public education legislative platform and a red ✗ indicates a vote against PTA pro-public education positions.

PTA Legislative Priorities & Key Votes

- 1: Equitable & Adequate School Finance Formula
 - 2015 H Sub SB 7 Repealed the constitutionally sound 1992 school finance formula and replaced with the unconstitutional block grants, freezing public education state aid for three years.⁴
- 3: Uphold Article 6 of the Kansas Constitution
 - 2015 HB 2104 Moved local school board elections to the partisan fall cycle, in opposition to educators and local communities.⁵
 - 2012 HCR 5006 (*House only*) | 2016 SCR 1602 (*Senate only*) Attempted to restrict the Kansas judicial branch from holding the legislative branch accountable to their constitutional obligation.⁶
- 4: Support State Education Standards
 - 2016 Sub Sub HB 2292 (*House only*) Attempted to ban Common Core education standards, including a ban on advanced academics (IB, AP, ACT) and Kansas College & Career Ready Education Standards.⁷
- 5: Oppose Vouchers, Tax Credit Scholarships
 - 2014 S Sub HB 2506 | 2015 S Sub HB 2109 Established the voucher-like Tax Credit *Scholarship* program, diverting public funds with a 70% tax credit for payment into a *scholarship* for private school tuition and then expanded the program to include higher income students and tax credit for tithing.⁸
 - 2016 SB 410 (*Senate only*) Attempted to establish a voucher program via foster care, transferring public funds with no accountability mandate, to private schools who can reject students at will.⁹
- 7: Maintain Quality Charter School Guidelines
 - 2013 HB 2319 Established the Innovative School Districts program, essentially chartering school districts all at once, using a partisan approval process and teacher licensure waivers.¹⁰
- 8: Promote Professional Teaching Communities, Recruitment & Retention of Educators
 - 2011 Sub HB 2229 (*House only*) | 2013 HB 2221 | 2016 SB 469 (*Senate only*) Attempted to undermine the Professional Negotiations Act (PNA) by hindering the process for teacher representation.¹¹
 - 2014 S Sub HB 2506 Eliminated the protection of teacher due process, several teacher licensure requirements, and mandated the cost-cutting *K-12 Efficiency* study.¹²
 - 2015 S Sub HB 2353 Adopted the collaborative agreement among education stakeholders to amend terms to the PNA.¹³
 - 2015 SB 56 (*Senate only*) Attempted to repeal educator's affirmative defense, such that teachers could be criminally prosecuted for instructing students on materials parents deem offensive.¹⁴
- 10: Promote Safe School Communities
 - 2015 SB 45 Legalized conceal and carry of guns on college campuses, effective 2017, overruling local weapons policies.¹⁵
 - 2016 HB 2502 Restricted local school board control over district weapons policies, prohibiting school districts from adopting policies preventing possession or use of air guns on school property.¹⁶

Johnson County Kansas Legislators' Voting Records on Education Policy 2011 to 2016



Advanced Voting for Primaries begins July 13 thru Aug 2

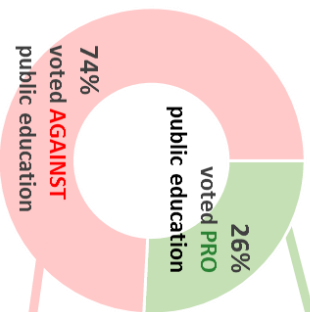
Kansas PTA[®]
 everychild.one voice.
 Regions 8 & 6

www.kansas-pta-legislative.org

Publication of Kansas PTA Advocacy Team (2016). Denise Sultz, Josh Halperin, Devin Wilson, Mary Sinclair, PhD

THE VOTE COUNTS. Only a quarter of Johnson County legislators supported pro-public education policies, in alignment with Kansas PTA legislative platform and priorities, over the past six years:

Johnson County KS PTA Region 8 & 6 Legislators' Voting Records on Public Education Positions | 2011 to 2016



Home City	Dist	Office	Name	2015	2015	2012 / 2016	2016	2014	2015	2016	2013	2011 / 2016	2013	2014	2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	First Party Term
Fairway	25	House	Rooker, Melissa	SB 7	HB 2104	HCR 5006 / SCR 1602	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Lenexa	23	House	Gallagher, Linda	✓	✓	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2015
Merriam	24	House	Ousley, Jarrod	✓	✓	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2014
Mission Hills	21	House	Bollier, Barbara	✓	✓	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2010
Olathe	26	House	Campbell, Larry	✗	✓	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	1997*
Overland Park	19	House	Clayton, Stephanie	✓	✓	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Overland Park	22	House	Lusk, Nancy	✓	✓	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Prairie Village	7	Senate	Wolf, Kay +	✗	✓	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2006

Home City	Dist	Office	Name	2015	2015	2012 / 2016	2016	2014	2015	2016	2013	2011 / 2016	2013	2014	2015	2015	2015	2015	2016	First Party Term
Gardner	43	House	Sutton, William	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2012
Leawood	20	House	Bruchman, Rob	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2011
Leawood	11	Senate	Melcher, Jeff	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Lenexa	16	House	Grosserode, Amanda	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2011
Olathe	15	House	Davis, Erin	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2014
Olathe	14	House	Esau, Keith	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Olathe	121	House	Kiegehl, Mike	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2005*
Olathe	9	Senate	Lynn, Julia	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2006
Olathe	23	Senate	Olsen, Robert	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2011
Olathe	30	House	Powell, Randy	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2015
Olathe	78	House	Ryckman, Ron	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Olathe	49	House	Schwab, Scott	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2003
Overland Park	8	Senate	Denning, Jim	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2011
Overland Park	48	House	Kleeb, Marlin	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2009
Overland Park	28	House	Lunn, Jerry	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Overland Park	8	House	McPherson, Craig	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Overland Park	21	Senate	Smith, Greg	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2011
Overland Park	29	House	Todd, James	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Shawnee	17	House	Hildebrand, Brett	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2011
Shawnee	39	House	Machens, Charles	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2013
Shawnee	10	Senate	Pilcher-Cook, Mary	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2009
Shawnee	18	House	Rubin, John +	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2011
Stillwell	27	House	Merrick, Ray +	✗	✗	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	2000*

- KEY**
- ✓ voted PRO-public education
 - ✗ voted AGAINST public education
 - na absent or abstaining
 - not applicable, legislator had not yet taken office
 - * break in service from either House or Senate
 - + not running for re-election in 2016

www.kansas-pta-legislative.org

Publication of Kansas PTA Advocacy Team (2016) ■ Denise Sultz, Josh Halprin, Devin Wilson, Mary Sinclair, PhD ■ kansaspta@gmail.com

- 1 Kansas City Star (Rose, July 2, 2016); Wichita Eagle (Erveld, April 5, 2016).
- 2 Kansas PTA Legislative Platform and Priorities (2015-16).
- 3 American Legislative Exchange Council, (retrieved, 2016); ALEC, KPI and Education "Reform" (Game On for Kansas Schools, retrieved 2016).
- 4 Kansas Legislature, H Sub SB 7, (2015); ALEC Student Center Funding Act (2010).
- 5 Kansas Legislature, HB 2104, (2015); ALEC American City County Exchange (2015).
- 6 Kansas Legislature, HCR 5006 (2012, House only); SCR 1602 (2016, Senate only).
- 7 Kansas Legislature, Sub Sub HB 2292, (2016).
- 8 Kansas Legislature, S Sub HB 2506, (2014); S Sub HB 2109, (2015); ALEC Great Schools Tax Credit Program (2009).
- 9 Kansas Legislature, SB 410, (2016, Senate only); ALEC Foster Child Scholarship Program Act (2014).
- 10 Kansas Legislature, HB 2319, (2013); ALEC Innovation Schools and School Districts Act (retrieved 2016).
- 11 Kansas Legislature, Sub HB 2229, (2011, House only); HB 2221, (2013); SB 469, (2016, Senate only); ALEC Public Employee Freedom Act (1999).
- 12 Kansas Legislature, S Sub HB 2506, (2014); ALEC Council on Efficient Government Act (2014).
- 13 Kansas Legislature, S Sub HB 2353, (2015); KASB, KNFA, KSSA and USA Kansas agree on proposed changes to PNA, (2015).
- 14 Kansas Legislature, SB 56 (2015, Senate only).
- 15 Kansas Legislature, SB 45, (2014).
- 16 Kansas Legislature, HB 2502, (2016).