



Dear Representative _____ or Senator _____:

SUBJECT LINE: Put Kentucky Kids First in 2024!

As you work your way through the second half of the 2024 Legislative Session, I ask you to remember the children of the Commonwealth and those who shape their futures – teachers and school staff. ***We urge you to implement a funding plan to get P-12 Education Back on Track to the 2008 buying power over the next four years. To accomplish this, we are requesting a SEEK Base target of \$5,400 over the next four years.*** It is up to us to build a prosperous Kentucky and to launch an accountability system that is meaningful and useful to all learners. As your constituent and (**educator/parent/concerned citizen/principal/leader**), I ask you to support legislation that centers on these priorities:

Focus on Kentucky Public Education Funding

Kentucky public schools remain chronically underfunded. From student transportation to school safety needs, lawmakers need to make sure that Kentucky students, teachers and staff can be at their best in and outside the classroom. To that effect, the Kentucky Association of School Superintendents is calling on the 2024 Kentucky General Assembly to:

1. Improve SEEK Funding - the current formula is below the 2008 level (indexed for inflation).
2. Fully fund student transportation - remains below the 2008 level (indexed for inflation).
3. Guarantee schools have the resources to hire state-mandated student resource officers and mental health professionals.

Recruit & Retain High-Quality Teachers & Staff to Combat the Teacher Crisis

Kentucky public schools are facing a teaching and staffing crisis. Across the Commonwealth, people are leaving the teaching profession or choosing to forgo a career in public education all together. Kentucky needs to:

1. Fund competitive pay standards set by local community school boards for Kentucky teachers and support staff.
2. Increase professional development opportunities and “learn to earn” apprenticeship pathways for current and aspiring educators.
3. Identify the education career pathway as a high demand work sector.

UNLEASH LIFELONG LEARNING

The future is now. Growing the economy is dependent on ensuring generations of Kentucky kids develop into the next generation of leaders. To make it happen, Kentucky elected officials should:

1. Create more opportunities for innovative programs and more choice options in public schools.
2. Tailor education needs around every child in every county across the Commonwealth so that they are ready to succeed at school, home and in the workplace.
3. Provide more flexible certification options to empower educators to better meet the needs of their students, especially in science and math.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration. These priorities reflect what our educators and school staff should expect and the very least Kentucky children deserve.

Sincerely,

NAME

ADDRESS WITH ZIP CODE