Blue Valley’s 2023 Legislative Priority Position

Fully Fund Special Education

Benefits of Fully Funding Special Education

- Improved student programming
- Advancement of competitive salaries to attract and retain quality educators

Blue Valley Special Education Facts

More than 18%, or one in five, of Blue Valley students receive SPED services (includes gifted and students with disabilities).

SPED disability enrollment has increased 17% since 2017. This includes a 6.9% increase for the 2022-23 school year.

The Blue Valley general enrollment has decreased 2% since 2017.

The Blue Valley School District recoups 68.3% of its special education excess costs when state law prescribes a 92% rate.

State Funding (Base State Aid Per Pupil)

Due to inadequate state SPED funding, the first $9M of the State's Base State Aid Per Pupil funding is diverted from the General Fund to SPED excess costs.

Blue Valley’s General Fund pays salaries, benefits and utilities.

80% is people.

Eighty-three percent of SPED costs are people. Every year, state and federal special education reimbursement cover less than 65% of SPED teachers' and paraprofessionals' annual salaries.

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The Cost of Special Education in Blue Valley

SPED Teacher

Avg. annual salary: $66,046

38% (BV)

48% (State)

14% (Fed)

SPED Para

Avg. annual salary: $28,040

55% (BV)

45% (State)

State reimbursed Blue Valley $31,530/teacher in 2021-22

Blue Valley paid $25,126/teacher out of general fund

Federal reimbursed Blue Valley $9,390/teacher in 2021-22

State reimbursed Blue Valley $12,612/para in 2021-22

Blue Valley paid $15,428/para out of general fund

Federal reimbursed Blue Valley $0/para in 2021-22

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