

Blue Valley Schools

Board of Education

Legislative Update

April 12, 2021


REIMAGINING *learning* | CHANGING *the world*

Legislative Calendar

- **April 9, 2021**
 - First Adjournment
- **May 3, 2021**
 - Veto Session Begins



BOE Adopted Priority Positions

- Fund Special Education at Statutory Amounts & Expand Definition of At-Risk
 - Enhance Student Mental Health
 - Eliminate Tax Credits and Vouchers for Private Schools
- 

School Funding Bills

- [HB 2119](#)
 - Passed the House 61-58
 - BV opposed because of Tax Credits/Educational Savings Accounts
- [SB 175](#)
 - Did not pass the Senate 20-20
 - BV opposed because of Tax Credits/Educational Savings Accounts
- Overall budget bill sent to Governor but excludes K-12 education
- School budget bill will be decided in May

Civics Test, Financial Literacy

HB 2039

- Requires students beginning in the 2021-2022 school year take a civics test comprised of 60 questions from the naturalization test
- Requires students beginning in the 2022-2023 school year to pass a civics test comprised of 60 questions from the naturalization test as a condition of graduation
- Requires schools to develop a financial literacy course before 2024
- Requires students beginning in the 2024-2025 school year to pass a financial literacy course as a condition of graduation
- Passed the Senate 25-13 and the House 72-51; Sent to the governor



Back to School Act

- [SB 63](#), Enacting the back to school act to require school districts to provide a full-time, in person attendance option for all students beginning March 31, 2021, for school year 2020-2021
 - *Status: House passed 77-46; Senate passed 28-11*
 - *Governor Signed on 4-5-21*

Emergency Management Bill

- [SB 40](#), Amending the Kansas Emergency Management Act, modifying the procedure for declaring and extending a state of disaster emergency, limiting powers granted to the governor, defining public health disasters and establishing special provisions therefore, creating the joint committee on emergency management, prescribing certain powers, duties and functions of the secretary of health and environment, city and county government, *the board of education of each school district*, the governing body of each community college and the governing body of each technical college and establishing judicial review thereof and limiting powers of city health officers and local health officers
 - *Status: Passed House 118-5; Passed Senate 31-8; governor signed on 3-24-21*

Emergency Management Bill

SB 40

- Gives local boards of education sole authority to take actions in response to the COVID-19 state of disaster emergency related to school closures, learning modes and mitigation efforts
- Employees, students and parents/guardians of students unhappy with a policy of the Board related to COVID-19 may request a hearing
- Hearing must be held within 72 hours and Board must issue a decision within 7 days of hearing
- Complainant may appeal ruling to the District Court within 30 days
- District court must hear case within 72 hours and issue a decisions within 7 days of hearing
- Policy of the Board must be narrowly tailored to respond to the state of disaster emergency and use the least restrictive means
- All hearings/meetings related to SB 40 must be open meetings
- Board may adopt emergency rules of order to facilitate hearings

General Info.



Legislative

- > Legislative

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

During each legislative session, updates are made to this page and include information regarding the latest legislative discussions taking place in Topeka. Contact information for Johnson County Legislators is available on the Legislative Officials link. We encourage you to review the Blue Valley School District's Legislative Positions as well. Thank you for your interest in learning more about issues facing the Blue Valley School District during the legislative session.

RESOURCES

- > Kansas State Board of Education
- > Kansas Legislators
- > Kansas Governor
- > Kansas Department of Education
- > Kansas Association of School Boards - News Briefs

USEFUL LINKS

- > Legislative Positions
↓▲
- > Priority Level Positions
↓▲
- > Legislative Officials
↓▲
- > Kansas House District Map
↓▲
- > Kansas Senate District Map
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