January 26, 2018

Dear Kansas State Board of Education Members,

We are disappointed in the recent action and request by legislative leadership to condemn the actions and question the motives of Kansas State Department of Education Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis. Requesting an investigation into allegations for a calculation that has been transparently communicated for over four decades is not the intent of the legislative body and was not communicated to legislators as a body.

Mr. Dennis is a highly-respected, fifty year professional, who holds a vast amount of knowledge regarding Kansas school finance. He has dedicated these same five decades to serving Kansas public education. The State Board of Education is a self-executing body of elected officials, with jurisdiction over personnel decisions made within the State Department of Education.

Dale Dennis has been forthright about this matter. He has responded to Legislative Post Audit reviews regarding it, and has always responded professionally to any legislative request. Many of us have relied upon his expertise as we have sought to understand and improve the process of funding our schools.

It is our hope that any investigation into Mr. Dennis's actions be guided by integrity and transparency.

Respectfully,

Members of the Kansas Legislature (see attached signatures)

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