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Dear cindy,

Thanks for coming to the forum last Thursday in Leavenworth. We shared a lot of facts with you - and you deserve to know all of them. I've received many requests to share this information, and I encourage you to pass this along to your colleagues, friends and family members. Every Kansan deserves to know the facts about educational spending and achievement in Kansas, and I'm grateful for your interest in this very important issue.

Below you'll find some excellent resources about these topics, including the presentations from [Mark Tallman of the Kansas Assn. of School Boards](#), and [Dave Trabert of the Kansas Policy Institute](#). Please watch your email for updates about how the Kansas Legislature is considering the future of education in Kansas. Thanks again for your interest! -- Rep. Owen Donohoe

Next Steps in Education
School districts should use available cash

Both the KS Assn. of School Boards and the Kansas Policy Institute agreed on one key thing at our education forum: ***It's not all about money.***

But often, what we hear from school districts is that there's never enough. So here's where we encourage them to start. One key point of discussion at our forums has been [the amount of carryover cash/unencumbered funds that Kansas school districts have compiled but not used.](#)

Local School Districts' Carryover Cash Balances 2010			
USD#	USD Name	County Name	Total Available
D0202	TURNER-KANSAS CITY	WYANDOTTE	2,720,990
D0203	PIPER-KANSAS CITY	WYANDOTTE	2,591,634
D0204	BONNER SPRINGS	WYANDOTTE	806,024
D0207	FT LEAVENWORTH	LEAVENWORTH	5,103,836
D0229	BLUE VALLEY	JOHNSON	32,091,770
D0230	SPRING HILL	JOHNSON	1,394,153
D0231	GARDNER-EDGERTON	JOHNSON	1,625,080
D0232	DESOTO	JOHNSON	6,748,381
D0233	OLATHE	JOHNSON	15,614,366
D0453	LEAVENWORTH	LEAVENWORTH	5,425,308
D0458	BASEHOR-LINWOOD	LEAVENWORTH	1,185,426
D0464	TONGANOXIE	LEAVENWORTH	763,416
D0469	LANSING	LEAVENWORTH	4,443,625
D0500	KANSAS CITY, KS	WYANDOTTE	20,917,129
D0512	SHAWNEE MISSION	JOHNSON	19,940,547

Figures from KS Dept. of Education

I've compiled this list at right to show that our local area districts in Johnson, Wyandotte and Leavenworth counties have considerable cash on hand. Last year, much of this money was freed up to be used, but it wasn't -- only 4% of this money was used by Kansas districts. Before the districts ask the Legislature for more money, let's put this money to work first in the classroom -- hiring teachers committed to better student outcomes. [Read more. >>](#)



See the presentation from Kansas Assn. of School Boards, "[School Finance for Student Achievement](#)" >>



See the presentation from Kansas Policy Institute, "[Facts about K-12 Spending and Achievement](#)" >>



Mark Tallman (c) and Dave Trabert (r) present differing views of KS educational spending and

achievement, while
Rep. Owen Donohoe (I)
looks on. [Learn more.](#)
[>>](#)

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