

January 2, 2024

Dear Special Education Task Force Members,

As a Blue Valley parent (2022 graduate and current junior), aunt of Blue Valley and Shawnee Mission schools, friend and board member of students in our other public school districts, I find the need to FULLY fund SPED incredibly important. I have friends with kids who benefit from SPED services; my own son and others like him who don't need the services, would benefit from an increase in general education funding if funds were not needed to cover excess SPED costs.

Our schools will not truly be funded until special education is fully funded. The statewide SPED shortfall is undercutting the recent restoration of general education funding.

Sincerely,
Adrienne Newlin
Overland Park, KS