

"A Fresh Perspective: USA-Kansas Unveils Reimagined Legislative Priorities for 2025"

As we enter 2025, USA-Kansas has taken a bold step forward by completely reimagining our approach to legislative priorities. The new format moves beyond traditional bullet-point lists to present a comprehensive framework built around three essential pillars: Impact, Sustainability, and Action.

This innovative structure answers not just what Kansas students need, but why these priorities matter and how we can achieve them. As chair of the USA Legislative Committee and Superintendent of Coffeyville Public Schools, I'm excited to share this transformative approach with our members.

The "Impact" section powerfully articulates why education remains fundamental to Kansas's future. It emphasizes four key areas where education creates lasting change: economic growth, social equity, civic engagement, and future readiness. This framework helps us communicate to legislators and stakeholders that education isn't just about classroom learning – it's about building the foundation for a thriving Kansas.

Perhaps most significantly, the "Sustainability" section addresses a critical question: How do we maintain and improve educational quality? It outlines eight concrete measures, from rigorous certification requirements to incentives for longevity in education. This comprehensive approach recognizes that sustainable education requires multiple, interconnected support systems for our educators.

The "Action" component completes the framework by identifying seven key strategies that every Kansas school system should implement. These strategies range from curricular standards to career and technical education, providing a roadmap for turning our priorities into reality.

What makes this new format particularly effective is its clarity and coherence. Each section builds upon the others, creating a compelling narrative about the importance of education and the specific steps needed to support it. This approach should prove especially valuable as we engage with legislators and advocate for policies that support Kansas students.

As we move forward with these priorities, I encourage all USA-Kansas members to familiarize themselves with this new framework. It represents not just a list of needs, but a comprehensive vision for educational excellence in Kansas.

What are your thoughts on our new approach? I welcome your feedback and insights as we work together to advance education in Kansas.