February 27, 2026

Senate Education Committee Hearing
SB 350
SUPPORT Testimony

Thank you, Madam Chair and Committee members.

I am here today as a Kansas parent and as the Moms for Liberty Johnson County Chapter Chair in SUPPORT for SB 350.

10 years ago, KS schools rushed into a technological revolution without asking the most basic question: what does this do to a child's mind & learning?

Research shows that 25% of students spend MORE than 4 hours DAILY on school devices and 50% spend between 1-4 hours daily! Researchers estimate students drift off-task up to 38 minutes/hour of that time.

Cheating became rampant
Googling replaced thinking
Kids swapped reading for quick searches and copy/paste
Students never learned how to vet anything assuming Wikipedia & search results were truth
Writing turned into stitching together internet paragraph chunks
Kids easily work around filters & controls to get games, movies & porn while appearing to do school work
Teachers found themselves competing with the entire internet for attention

KSDE Academic Performance Reports a shocking decline over this same period:

10-yr Decline in Math*

- 10.11% MORE KS students testing at the bottom Limited Level 1
- With 33.24% at Level 1 (one-third!)

10-yr Decline in ELA*

- 11.61% MORE KS students testing at the bottom Limited Level 1
- With over 32% at Limited Level 1
- Almost 9% (8.82) LESS KS students testing in the Proficient Level 3

10-yr Decline in Ave. ACT

- 12.3% decline

“Ksreportcard.ksde.gov”

The educational bureaucracy favors consensus and trends, so parents and legislators need to force a reset:
Paper-based instruction as the default
Screens as tightly limited tools, not the center of learning
Tests that reward reading & writing instead of clicking

As for concerns about the cost of returning to effective learning materials, the research shows that the costs of digital instruction is 10 TIMES that of traditional instruction materials. This will be an excellent forcing function for local school districts to save money while improving student learning proficiency.

Please act now to protect KS students by passing SB 350 out of committee.

Thank you.

I am available for questions.

Erika Sheets
Chapter Chair Johnson County, KS

* Kansas assessment results are reported at four performance levels.
Level 1 indicates that a student shows a limited ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of grade level math/ELA standards.
A student at Level 2 shows a basic ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of grade level math/ELA standards.
A student at Level 3 shows a proficient ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of grade level math/ELA standards.
A student at Level 4 shows an advanced ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of grade level math/ELA standards.