

James Sandstrom
Hayden Catholic High School
401 SW Gage Blvd.
Topeka, KS 66606
sandstromj@haydencatholic.net
785-272-5210 ext. 106

Written Proponent Testimony in Support of HB 2468

Chairwoman Estes and members of the Kansas House Education Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of **HB 2468**, the bill that raises the cap on the Low-Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program and opts Kansas into the federal tax credit program.

I am blessed to serve as the principal of Hayden Catholic High School. Each day, I have the privilege of working with students and families whose lives have been directly impacted by the Low-Income Tax Credit Scholarship Program.

For many of our families, this scholarship is not about preference—it is about access. It allows students to attend a school where they feel safe, supported, and known. I have seen firsthand the academic growth, improved confidence, and renewed sense of hope that occur when a student is placed in an environment that aligns with their needs and their family's values.

Beyond academics, these students benefit from strong community, positive mental health support, and a school culture that fosters responsibility, character, and purpose. Families regularly share that without this scholarship, their child would not have access to the stability and opportunity they experience today.

The changes proposed in **HB 2468** will allow more students like those I serve to benefit from educational options that help them thrive. Expanding the tax credit cap will increase access for low-income families, while opting Kansas into the federal tax credit program will support students across public, private, and religious schools throughout our state.

This legislation strengthens education by meeting students where they are and helping them reach their full potential. It is a thoughtful, student-centered approach that benefits families, schools, and communities across Kansas.

Thank you for your time and for your commitment to Kansas students.

Respectfully,

James Sandstrom
Principal, Hayden Catholic High School
Topeka, KS