



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

October 22, 2020

Senator Rick Billinger, Chairman
Joint Committee on State Building Construction
Capitol Building, Room 236 East
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Chairman Billinger:

On behalf of the Board of Regents, I write to inform the members of the Joint Committee on State Building Construction of our intent to use a portion of the Educational Building Fund appropriated to our office. Section 149(a) of 2020 Senate Bill 66 appropriates the Educational Building Fund to the Board of Regents for FY 2021. Attached to that appropriation is a provision that reads, in part:

“...Provided, however, That no expenditures shall be made from any such account until the proposed projects have been reviewed by the joint committee on state building construction.”

The Board decided a year ago that action must be taken to address the backlog of maintenance projects at the state universities' buildings and avoid facility failures. Agreement was reached that a consistent examination of the status of each mission critical building was necessary prior to seeking legislative appropriation to address deferred maintenance. The Board has been developing a coordinated plan for the facilities at the state universities to address the deferred maintenance backlog.

Earlier this spring, the Board allocated funding for two studies to conduct a facilities condition assessment on university buildings and a comprehensive space survey of each campus, compiling a space inventory to determine current utilization of campus buildings and make recommendations for instructional and office spaces needs. The Board previously informed the Joint Committee on State Building Construction on the allocation and use of Educational Building Fund to finance the studies. Both studies are projected for completion within the next month.

As a next step, the Board plans to incorporate the facilities condition and space utilization data together into a single database, as well as work with the Board Office and university stakeholders to configure the database with an analytic mechanism, based on statistical

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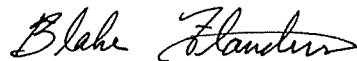
ranking methods, useful for reporting, strategic decision-making and capital planning. This will provide a comprehensive look and assist in planning as a university facility deferred maintenance initiative is further developed.

A distribution from the Educational Building Fund has been approved by the Board at the October 2020 meeting to finance the universities' expenses for this study. The Educational Building Fund distribution would be taken from money currently available in the fund as follows:

University of Kansas	\$33,894
University of Kansas Medical Center	\$14,238
Kansas State University	\$37,800
Wichita State University	\$13,734
Emporia State University	\$7,560
Pittsburg State University	\$9,324
Fort Hays State University	\$9,450
Total	\$126,000

In accordance with the proviso cited above, this communication is intended to provide an interim communication with the Joint Committee on State Building Construction until such time when you are able to have a scheduled meeting, and we can attend and respond to questions your Committee may have about our process. We look forward to the opportunity to join you at your next meeting.

Sincerely,



Blake Flanders, PhD
President and CEO

cc: Members of Joint Committee on State Building Construction
Shirley Morrow, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes