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MEMORANDUM

To: Senate Committee on Education
From: Kansas Office of Revisor of Statutes
Date: March 13, 2024
Subject: SB 427—Local School Boards and Local School Board Meetings

Senate Bill 427 would make amendments relating to local boards of education and meetings of such boards.

Section 1 of SB 427 would require school districts to publicly list the names and email addresses of current school board members on the website of the school district and send such list to the state department of education. The list would have to be updated any time a new board member takes office or a change to the information contained in the list is changed. The state department of education would be required to maintain a database of such information from every school district on the department’s website.

Section 1 would also authorize local school board members to add new items to board meeting discussions under the category of “new business” and ask questions or engage in discussion with members of the public at any school board meeting. The bill would also require that each local school board meeting, including virtual meetings, include time for a public comment period.

Section 2 of the bill would authorize payment of annual dues to “any not-for-profit organization that provides guidance, resources and other services to member school districts” instead of the current citation to the Kansas association of school boards.

Additionally, section 3 of the bill would explicitly state that school board members may access school district property.

SB 427 also contains technical amendments and would take effect on July 1, 2024, upon publication in the statute book.