

SIGNERS OF THE OPEN LETTER TO THE KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Master list of all 155 signers, October 2026. Names are shown with each signer's permission; where a signer asked that their name remain private, the name is left blank.

Part 1: 70 signers who shared a statement, in the order they signed. **Part 2:** 85 additional signers, alphabetical by last name.

Part 1: Signers with statements

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
1	Susan Dunaway	Olathe	Parent, Health professional	"It's time to teach Digital Health and Safety!"
2	Laura Pierce	Olathe	Parent, Community member	"Common sense and compassion for our kids demands we support their mental health through this comprehensive technology education."
3	Patricia Kincaid	Mission Hills	Parent, Community member	"I am concerned for our children and technology. Too much screen time."
4	Kori Bloom Lauritsen	Blue Valley	Parent, Educator	"We all need tools, support, and better understanding on all aspects of technology."
5	Liz Plunkett	USD 494 Syracuse, KS	Administrator	"Being educated gives us a why and when we have a why, we change!"
6	Paul Larkin	Syracuse - USD 494	Parent, Educator, Administrator	"I fully support and agree this needs to be added. The first 3 mental health and student well-being recommendations from the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Student Screen Time support the very thing Katie and I would like to see added to the great work you and the rest of the Board are doing. As always, thank you for all that you do and your willingness to be a great advocate for Public Education."
7	Krista Boan	Stilwell, Blue Valley	Parent	"It's time for us to give our kids agency in their own futures."
8	Olivia Smith	Olathe	Parent, Health professional	"For my kids' brains to be compassionate and creative"
9	Eric Dale Ziegler	Olathe	Parent, Community member	"Technology is a power tool that can do lots of good, and lots of harm without proper education."
10	Megan Schoff	Olathe Public Schools	Parent, Health professional, Community member	"Educating our kids about the pros and cons of technology is critical in their development as thinkers and whole people!"

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
11	Haley Spears	Shawnee Mission	Parent	"Screens are detrimental to our youth and need to be addressed."
12		Prairie Village	Educator	"We need to protect the kids."
13	Sarah Sullivan	Shawnee Mission South	Parent	"Better future for our kids!"
14	Elizabeth Walter	SMSD	Parent, Educator, Community member	"This programming fills a blind spot for parents, students, and educators!"
15	Nancy Bartelt	Shawnee Mission	Parent, Educator	"Technology is changing so fast and affecting our kids' mental and social health dramatically, so we need to keep learning from the experts!"
16	Todd Bartelt	Shawnee	Parent	"Technology is changing so fast and affecting our kids' mental and social health dramatically, so we need to keep learning from the experts!"
17	Kechia Lake	Olathe	Parent, Community member	"Until recently, I was an educator for 25 years at the secondary level and during that time I saw a huge change in my students concerning social interactions and their mental wellness. Tragically, I lost students to suicide as well, the greatest number being in the latter years of my teaching career, which correlates to the access they had to cell phones and the Internet. I truly believe had these kids been educated and protected their lives could have been saved."
18	Tracie Kalic	Prairie Village	Supporter	"This is an extremely important issue to address in our schools. Students need to understand the persuasive algorithm that is impacting their lives and how to safely navigate a digital world."
19	Amanda Terranova	Blue Valley	Parent	"Our request: add one sentence to Section A, item 3 of the draft, requiring education for students, educators and families on how technology affects attention, learning, well-being and safety. Kansas parents, educators and students can add their names"
20	Tiffany Whitney	Olathe	Parent, Health professional, Community member	"I lost my son to suicide. He struggled with online rumors from an ex-girlfriend and then his TikTok feed was filled with depressing videos because that was where his focus was. They need to recognize that they can change their feed."

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21		Olathe, KS	Parent	"The importance of learning "why" is important in order for kids to understand and choose it for themselves now and in the future."
22	Elijah Dunaway	Manhattan	Student	"Giving education about screens would be extremely beneficial"
23	Mary Campbell	Leawood	Community member	"I believe this is needed for the betterment of our society."
24	Jackie Buser	Curé of Ars	Parent, Educator	"To help our students and preserve childhood"
25	Meg Dudzinski	Curé of Ars Catholic School	Parent, Community member	"I have 4 children growing up in Kansas and it is imperative that I advocate to keep them safe."
26	Brad Douglas	Leawood, KS - Blue Valley SD	Parent, Community member	"I fervently believe that technology and its uses for our children, should be taught to both students as well as teachers and administrators. It's essential to begin understanding at a deeper level, the influence that a fast changing technological world has on all of us."
27	Amber Hellwig	Lenexa	Parent, Administrator	"I work at a private school currently that takes this stuff very seriously and we already lock down and manage our students technology for this reason."
28		Shawnee Mission, KS	Parent, Community member	"Screen, education and safety is paramount for our children. This is an emerging technology, and we should be consciously aware of what we are exposing our children to and impacting society with."
29	Ashley Sue Cray	Leawood	Parent	"I fully support this and believe it is our duty as parents and educators to protect our children from the documented and well known risks."
30	John Brown	Shawnee Mission	Parent, Community member	"There is valid medical documentation that states underdeveloped young minds are paused/set back on development and cognitive function."
31	John Dunaway	Olathe, KS	Educator	"Screen and Brain education is vital for students navigating their future with tech"
32	Ellen Riley	Archdiocese of KC, KS	Parent, Educator, Administrator	"When we know better we have to do better, so it is up to all of us to take what we are learning about the effects of technology on young brains and make better policies around that."

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33	Chris Nelson	Olathe	Parent, Community member	"We need transparency. Not just policies but the reasons and education behind them."
34	Katie Longhauser	Prairie Village	Parent, Health professional	"Education gives students, parents and teachers the knowledge and tools to use technology well. Our goal is a generation of critical thinkers who are creative, compassionate, and able to clearly express their thoughts, feelings and ideas."
35	Calista Schechinger	Overland Park	Community member	"Children deserve to understand the risks of the digital world and have the knowledge and tools to navigate it safely."
36	H. Christian Schechinger	Blue Valley	Parent	"I think digital security is paramount in helping protect our children."
37	Sarah Van Zandt	Shawnee Mission	Parent	"I think it is so important for our children to know the consequences of technology and how to have a healthy relationship"
38	Angela Schechinger	Blue Valley	Parent	"We need to educate students on how cell phone persuasive design works, to help them from being passive weary consumers of apps into conscious builders of their brains and focus"
39	Adam Turk	Desoto USD 232	Parent	"I have 3 boys. The world they are entering is uncharted territory. They must be prepared!"
40	Andy Garlich	Olathe	Parent	"Kids who understand how technology affects their attention, emotions, and relationships are better prepared than kids who are simply managed, and I've seen that firsthand working with families across Kansas City."
41	Aaron Miller	Blue Valley Southwest	Parent	"Kids are way too important to wait and see what happens. This is a problem we need to address now."
42		USD 266	Parent, Health professional	"I am a parent that experienced the difference it made when I limited screen time with my children. I am also the parent of a teacher and a grandparent and see the difference it has made in my grandchildren's lives by having limited access to screens - both of them are avid readers, communicate well with children and know how to "use their words". Thank you"
43	Alyssa Karlin	Leawood, KS	Parent	"We have screen guardians at our school and it is a valuable tool!"

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
44	Sarah Jabbour	Prairie Village	Parent	“Very important for the success of our children’s futures.”
45	Emily Kearney	Leawood, KS	Parent	“For the safety and protection of our kids”
46	Bob Dudzinski	Curé of Ars	Parent, Community member	“Tech is no longer a safe form of education without credible training to accompany it.”
47	Krista Carter	Colby, USD 315	Parent, Educator, Community member	“I am signing because true digital wellness begins with education, ensuring our community understands the 'why' behind technology policies rather than just enforcing compliance.”
48	Nick Redd	Shawnee Mission	Parent	“Kids are handed devices built to hook them before anyone teaches them how those devices work on the brain, and as a father and a coach who sits with grown men still fighting habits that started on a screen in childhood, I know it's far easier to teach a boy how to guard his mind now than to help him win it back at thirty-five.”
49	Kelly Specht	Overland Park	Community member	“As a grandparent of three young children - my husband and I want to do everything we can to help protect these little children. We must start now before it gets worse!!”
50	Lauren Hays	St. Ann, Mission/Prairie Village/SMSD	Parent, Health professional	“The undeniable correlation between screen use and technology and mental health outcomes.”
51	Elizabeth Mcdole	Prairie Village	Parent	“This is a first step to taking control of the technology our kids encounter at school”
52	Jessica Dudzinski	Leawood	Parent	“Screen usage affects our children’s brains. It needs to have limits and be fully understood before using, especially in excess”
53		Basehor	Supporter	“Because it is the right thing to do”
54	Alicia Beck	Leawood	Parent	“Making technology responsible for kids”
55	Kristy Kincaid	Shawnee Mission	Parent	“As a parent of young children, I believe we have a responsibility to protect developing minds by educating students, teachers, and families about the effects of technology on learning, attention, and well-being, while prioritizing age-appropriate boundaries and safeguards.”

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
56	Donna A. Quick	Kansas City area (retired Wichita teacher, 33 years)	Parent, Educator	"I have personally seen the pros and cons of online usage. We, the adults, need to monitor and promote safe use both in the home and the schools."
57	Jenna Wiggins	Prairie Village	Parent	"I want my boys to develop curiosity, perseverance, confidence and purpose in the real world. I support teaching children—and the adults guiding them—how technology can influence their attention and motivation, so they learn to use it intentionally."
58	Alex Rugo	Shawnee Mission School District	Parent, Community member	"It is imperative that we keep our kids safe!"
59	Natalia Herrera	Westwood View	Parent	"I'm not against technology but let's keep it outside of the school. Kids need to learn how to grab a pencil and write. Kids need to learn to socialize and be present. They would have many chances outside of school to be around technology"
60	Renny Arensberg	Leawood, KS	Community member	"I think it's important for parents and students to understand the impacts of technology on the learner."
61	Briana Smith	Shawnee Mission	Parent, Community member	"Students need to know how technology impacts their brain"
62	Robert Specht	Shawnee Mission	Community member	"Thanks Katie for what you are doing!"
63	Alli Garlich	Olathe	Parent	"Managing technology is an important skill that our students must learn!"
64	Jessica Hansen	Westwood Hills, SMSD	Parent, Educator, Community member	"Let's prepare our kids so they can reap the benefits of our technological advances, not suffer the consequences."
65	Taryn Parks	USD 494	Parent	"Educating students on how to use a device keeps them safe. They might share their knowledge with friends and family."
66	Tony Papish	Olathe	Parent, Community member	"Children and young adults, need to be just that. The apps they use influence them entirely too much, and not for the betterment of said students."

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
67	Amy Brucker	Syracuse - USD 494	Parent, Community member	"We make decisions every day to keep kids safe at school, at home, at play, this is no different. Educating our students - and parents - on the role of technology and how it affects our children is important and should be part of our education system."
68	Stacey Moore	Mission Hills	Parent	"Phones and devices have no place with children in school."
69	Doug Hull	USD 230 Spring Hill, KS	Supporter	"As a district we regularly spend millions on devices and nothing on training, proper use, healthy decisions, and most importantly offering resources and support to parents. It's time to take action."
70	Katie Burkley	Prairie Village	Parent, Community member	"If not now, when?"

Part 2: Additional signers

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
71	Sonia Baker	Westwood Hills	Parent	
72	Katherine Barnard	Fairway/SMSD	Parent	
73	Katie Benge	Leawood	Parent	
74	Amanda Besler	Leawood	Parent	
75	Ryan Bevins	Blue Valley	Parent, Community member	
76	Michaela Bradshaw	Overland Park	Parent	
77	Rebecca Brown	Overland Park	Parent	
78	Janelle Campbell	Prairie Village-Shawnee Mission	Parent, Community member	
79	Scott Campbell	Johnson County / Shawnee Mission	Parent	
80	Kim Carter	Prairie Village	Parent, Educator	

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
81	Spencer Clark	Manhattan	Parent, Educator, Administrator, Community member	
82	John Claxton	Leawood	Parent	
83	Lindsay Dagostino	Leawood	Parent	
84	Chelsey Davidson	Shawnee Mission School District	Parent	
85	Tara DeMaria	Shawnee Mission	Parent, Health professional	
86	Michael Dempewolf	Overland Park	Parent, Educator, Administrator, Health professional, Community member	
87	Caitlin Diederich	Shawnee Mission	Parent, Community member	
88	William Dunaway	Manhattan	Student	
89	Lora Lynn Dunn	Shawnee Mission East	Parent	
90	Megan Endres	Blue Valley School District	Parent	
91	Heidi Ensminger	Leawood	Parent	
92	Katie Esselman	Leawood	Parent, Health professional, Community member	
93	Emily Faulkender	USD 274	Parent	
94	Rebecca Ferguson	Leawood, KS	Parent, Health professional	
95	Melissa Fossett	Blue Valley	Health professional	

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96	Kelly Gallagher	Leawood	Parent	
97	Molly Garcia	Leawood	Parent	
98	Cortney Gardner	Olathe	Parent	
99	Anne Gegen	Leawood, Shawnee Mission	Parent, Community member	
100	Meryn Goehausen	Leawood	Parent	
101	Kristen Haaksma	Curé of Ars	Parent	
102	Katherine Hamilton	Leawood, KS	Parent	
103	Erica Hartley	Shawnee Mission School District	Parent	
104	Katie Hollon	Shawnee Mission	Parent	
105	Amy Holsopple	Kansas City	Parent, Community member	
106	Sarah Howard	Leawood, KS	Parent	
107	Christina Hubbard	Olathe	Parent, Community member	
108	Katie Hull	Shawnee Mission SD	Parent	
109	Jason Kanak	Shawnee Mission School District	Parent, Community member	
110	Emily Kellerman	Kansas City	Parent	
111	Tara King	Blue Valley	Parent	
112	Luke Knott	Shawnee Mission	Parent, Community member	
113	Sally Kochtanek	Leawood	Parent	
114	Jennifer Kratofil	Prairie Village	Parent	

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
115	Kelly Krause	Overland Park	Parent, Community member	
116	Ryan Long	Blue Valley USD	Parent	
117	Cory Longhauser	USD 259	Parent	
118	Denny Longhauser	Bentley-Halstead	Parent, Community member	
119	Jason Longhauser	Prairie Village	Parent, Community member	
120	Lindsay Longhauser	Sedgwick	Community member	
121	Kathryn Mauck	Olathe	Parent	
122	Jessika Mavec	Shawnee Mission School District	Community member	
123	Eric McCullough	Shawnee Mission	Parent	
124	Sara McGowan	Leawood	Parent	
125	Brittany McLaughlin	SMSD	Parent	
126	Erica McNease	Roeland Park, KS	Parent	
127	Scout McRoberts	Curé of Ars	Parent	
128	R Elizabeth Miranda	Shawnee Mission	Parent, Health professional	
129	Morgan Novick	Leawood, KS	Parent	
130	Lisa Oades	Curé of Ars Catholic School, Leawood, KS	Parent	
131	Ryan Patterson	Olathe	Parent, Community member	
132	Kelsey Perry	Shawnee Mission School District	Parent	

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133	Kate Reinhardt	Shawnee Mission (Curé of Ars)	Parent, Community member	
134	Zach Robinson	Shawnee Mission	Parent	
135	Joe Rugo	Westwood View - SMSD	Parent	
136	Tina Salmans	USD 210	Administrator	
137	Samuel J Schmidt	Overland Park	Parent, Community member	
138	Lesley Schorgl	Shawnee Mission	Parent	
139	Ronna Simon	USD 494	Parent	
140	Ryan Sinovic	Shawnee Mission	Parent	
141	Katherine Thein	Shawnee Mission	Parent	
142	Morgan Tishman	SMSD	Parent, Health professional, Community member	
143	Gracie Unthank	Shawnee Mission	Parent	
144	Tracy Vogel	Shawnee Mission School District	Parent, Community member	
145	Christy West	Blue Valley	Parent, Educator, Community member	
146	Kayla White	Shawnee Mission School District	Parent, Community member	
147	Kathryn Widrig	Shawnee Mission	Parent	
148	Sherry Wilson	Overland Park, KS	Supporter	
149	Nikki Wood	Curé of Ars	Parent, Health professional	
150	Dave Younger	Oakley, KS	Educator, Administrator	
151	Amanda Ziegler	Olathe	Parent, Health professional	

#	Name	City or school district	Role	Statement
152		Lenexa	Community member	
153		Shawnee Mission	Parent	
154		Shawnee Mission south	Parent	
155		Westwood Hills	Parent	