



Opinion

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Is increasing school funding an accomplishment that politicians should boast in, as your recent editorial suggests? Or should we be looking at actual school achievement?

As the Flint Hills Center for Public Policy notes in its most recent policy paper, school spending in Kansas has increased over 60 percent since 1993. Even with this increase, roughly two in three students in fourth and eighth grade do not read at grade level, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress.

Increasing funding to schools may sound like a good idea, and certainly schools do need funds to operate. But the purpose of funding education is not run schools as such, it is to help students learn. Politicians who wish to advance that worthy cause would do well to promote competition and choice through vouchers, tax credits, and a liberalized law for charter schools.