



KS House District 114 Candidate Jeff Stroberg's statement on COVID-19

As a Certified Public Accountant, I understand how to evaluate return on investments. There is no greater return for Kansas than the education of our youth. A good education is the road that lifts a child from the cycle of poverty and provides a path of opportunity for those able to learn. Benefits accrue not only for children and their families, but also for the community.

Studies have shown that pre-kindergarten programs may shape a child's learning capabilities for the rest of their school years. Properly funded pre-K classes for children are critical in laying the foundation for learning and they set fundamental social skills that continue to develop as the child grows. It is important for voters to understand that education helps eradicate poverty.

K-12 public education expands opportunities for all students. My goal is to ensure all able Kansas children receive a K-12 education that equips them to succeed in college or career training. High quality education is a proven path to prosperity and thus an opportunity to realize the American Dream.

According to a recent US News and World Report, Kansas pre-K through 12 education ranks #15 as compared to other states. Rankings were based on preschool enrollment, student scores and achievement levels in state math and reading state assessments, participation in - and passing - a diverse array of college-level exams and percentage of students graduating. Our children deserve better, and I will work to make that happen.

Some students will seek career and technical education (CTE) upon high school graduation. CTE provides a desirable pathway for many students to be significant contributors to our communities. Kansas should do all we can to support this career route.

Other students will opt to continue their education by attending a university or college after high school. Kansas can be proud of several well-respected universities in our state. Those youth who go on to seek an education at the collegiate level will need to come away from those institutions ready to compete on the world stage. Other countries are quickly advancing in several areas of technology, research and development. We must support our universities, so they produce superior graduates.

Failure to provide the best education possible may be a threat to our national security as the wars of tomorrow will be not with bullets and bombs, but instead with bits, bytes and brains.

Let's work together to help all Kansans willing to learn by giving them the opportunities needed to achieve their goals.