



# ACCURATE FUNDING FOR OUR STUDENTS

## Summary

This bill would replace Oklahoma's outdated funding laws with Accurate Funding for Our Students that provides dollars to schools for students they have today (instead of last year or the year before that, like the current system)

## Why We Need It

Right now, schools receive funding for the highest average daily attendance they recorded over the current year or last two years (an antiquated and bureaucratic rule known as the "three-year high"). As students move between schools each year, multiple schools count the same students for funding. This dilutes available dollars and results in many schools receiving less funding than they should. Growing or expanding schools are often left under-resourced, while shrinking schools are paid for students they no longer have in classrooms. This discourages schools that could innovate and grow. Oklahoma needs a school funding system that funds our kids accurately and rewards our schools for performance.

Ron Causby,  
Owasso Parent

**"Every child  
deserves accurate  
funding because  
every child should  
be valued."**

## The Solution

This new legislation establishes real-time funding to make sure every school is paid accurately for students that attend at that moment in time. Funding our schools accurately will ensure students are given the resources they need to succeed, no matter the school they attend. Funding in this way also means when kids transfer schools, they receive their funding at the new school quicker and more accurately.

Ryan Walters, Secretary of Education and CEO of Every Kid Counts Oklahoma

**“Accurate funding unlocks the door to a better education and better opportunities for our students. We have to leave outdated practices in the past and push our students forward, and it starts with funding reform.”**

## Why Does This Matter

Accurate Funding for Our Students ensures that no matter which public school they attend, funding follows a child in a fair way. This is a smart policy that ensures schools are funded based on the number of students for that year—not last year or the year before. Accurate funding ensures our system works, our kids get the resources they need and we use every educational dollar wisely. If we care about our students, let’s make sure the system that funds their education is accurate and fair.

## Bill Details

- Each school district will have its state aid calculated by the weighted average daily membership (ADM) for the school district from either the first nine weeks of the current school year (as measured by an Oct. 1 count) or the ADM from the preceding school year
- Increases allowable carryover balances for school districts and removes any carryover cap for the next two school years
- This legislation would be effective for the 2022-23 school year
- Fifteen states already base school funding on current year student population