



Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The Wichita Public Schools is proud to be part of a community that values education, its children and its future. The Wichita Public Schools stands as a leader in academic progress with national and state recognition for outstanding teachers and students, exemplary schools and devoted parents. We encourage all members of our community to take an active role in the education of our young people. This starts with a better understanding of our schools and our district, including our financial management.

This year, we received additional funds from the Kansas State Legislature, which will allow us to provide more services to our students, including the addition of 55 high school teachers in core areas to reduce class sizes and to assist with our high school reform initiative. We hired more instructional coaches to better serve our teachers and have additional teachers and support for a new literacy program. Our newcomer center and bi-lingual program has expanded to better serve our non-English speaking students.

The community has shared that they value our responsible financial management. This Proposed Budget at a Glance booklet helps put all the facts and figures into perspective. It explains where our schools get their funding, how those funds are spent and how we compare to our neighboring districts and peer districts around the state. We're proud that our Budget at a Glance booklet was used as a model in the 2003 Kansas Legislature.

The Wichita Public Schools wants to continue to honor our community's values and priorities as demonstrated through sound financial practices. That is why we involve members of our community in our budget development process every year. With community advice and counsel, we build a budget that reflects community values and priorities, and helps to create a successful learning environment for all of Wichita's children.

Sincerely,

*Winston Brooks
Superintendent*



Superintendent Winston Brooks talks with high school students during a Superintendent's Student Advisory Council meeting.