



# **Kansas Learning First Alliance**

Dear P-21 Partnership Board:

On behalf of the Kansas Learning First Alliance (KLFA), I want to express our enthusiastic support for Kansas' application to be a P21 Leadership State. KLFA represents over 30 education organizations in Kansas, including the Kansas National Education Association, United School Administrators, the Kansas Association of School Boards, and the Kansas Parent-Teacher Association.

Our Alliance first endorsed becoming a Leadership State in March 2006. Since that time, we have been extremely encouraged by the visionary direction established by our new Commissioner of Education, Alexa Posny, working with the Kansas State Board of Education. With the support of virtually every organization of educators, parents and community leaders, and key policy-makers, the time for a P-21 partnership in Kansas has come.

We believe that Kansas is ready to move forward, infusing 21<sup>st</sup> century skills within a rigorous curriculum; ready to engage students with authentic learning activities; ready to imbed growth-based assessment within the projects that make up a student's day-to-day work. The support of the national P-21 organization will be a crucial resource to help us pursue our goal of being first in the nation in teaching and learning.

If there is any additional information I can provide in support of Kansas' application to become a P-21 leadership state, don't hesitate to contact me. We look forward to the opportunity to work more closely with the P-21 staff, collaborate with other leadership states, and focus our energies strategically with the assistance afforded to Leadership States.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Blake West, Chairperson  
Kansas Learning First Alliance