Recommendations of the Computer Science Education Implementation Task Force

Approved by the Kansas State Board of Education, February 2020

Recommendation 1: Create a Dedicated Computer Science Education Position
Creation of a dedicated position to coordinate state-level activities in computer science is one of Code.org's top nine recommendations for implementing computer science education.

Recommendation 2: Encourage all schools to order computer science
It is recommended that every student in the state be afforded the opportunity to learn computer science. In order to accomplish this, all schools should be encouraged to offer the topic according to the KS Model Computer Science Standards.

Recommendation 3: Computer Science should satisfy a core graduation requirement
In order to elevate the perceived importance of Computer Science, the task force recommends that CS be allowed to satisfy a core graduation requirement. This recommendation is in line with many other states' practice; according to Code.org data, in 2019, forty-seven states allow CS to fulfill a math, science, or language graduation requirement, though the implementation varies widely among the states.

Recommendation 4: Create Licensure Endorsement
Endorsement in subject areas allows for a degree of verification of competence as well as teacher confidence in that subject. Kansas had a Computing Systems endorsement through the 1980s and 1990s but dropped the endorsement due to lack of demand. The task force recommends that the state create a Computer Science endorsement for teachers.

Recommendation 5: Arrange Funding
The task force recognizes the need to fund the state computer science position and recommends a budgeted amount of $100,000 per year. Additionally, many states (with Arkansas being a primary model) are finding success in implementing a regional support model and a building leadership model. With these goals and requirements, the task force recommends budgeting up to $1,000,000 per year for five years.

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.