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**LEADER & TIMES**  
FRIDAY APRIL 4, 2014  
STATE MATCHING INCREASES TO 54%  
SALES TAX REMAINS AT 2.2%  
PROPERTY TAX DECREASES TO 2.4%

### Kan. Senate passes expanded school funding plan

State says 'NO' to Building Common Core

By JENNIFER HANSEN

TOPEKA, Kan. — The Kansas Senate on Wednesday passed a bill that would expand the state's school funding plan, but it also rejected a measure that would have required the state to adopt the Common Core standards.

The Senate passed the funding bill, House Bill 2014-1001, by a 21-10 vote. The bill would increase the state's per-pupil expenditure by 2.5% over the next five years, with the increase phased in over time. It also would require the state to match local property tax revenue for schools at a rate of 54%.

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### Water rates in Salina aimed at keeping precious commodity

By JENNIFER HANSEN

SALINA, Kan. — Salina officials are looking for ways to keep water rates low, but they also want to make sure the city's water supply is secure for the future.

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