



Literacy KC
3036 Troost Ave.
Kansas City, MO 64109

Robbie Makinen
Kansas City Area Transportation Authority
1200 E 18th St.
Kansas City, MO 64109

Dear Mr. Makinen,

Literacy KC's mission is to advance literacy within the Kansas City metro area through direct services, advocacy, and collaboration. Our vision is literacy for all. We work hard to create a welcoming community for adults and families to achieve the reading, writing, math, and digital literacy skills they need to earn jobs and promotions, help children with homework, participate civically, advance in their education, and leave public assistance. With support from volunteers, donors, partners, and the community at large, Literacy KC invests in Kansas City's greatest asset: our people.

The partnership that we've established with KCATA has been instrumental to our students' ability to reach their personal and educational goals. Over the years a common hindrance to a student's consistent participation in school has been their ability to get to and from school- transportation. It used to be common to hear students say they had to decide whether to put dinner on the table or come to school because they could not afford both. Through participation in KCATA's Opportunity Pass program this is no longer a decision our students have to make because Literacy KC is able to give highly dedicated students a 90-day unlimited bus pass for free! This allows them to get to school with ease and also supports other aspects of their lives.

Thanks to partnership in this program we have seen attendance rates increase in our programs. We have also seen an increase in students accessing additional services like health care, workforce training, and job interviews. Students have a different ease to their lives and feel confident knowing they have a consistent and safe method for getting to school, work, the grocery store, etc. Addressing the barrier of transportation for our students has been instrumental in their success at school and in other areas of their lives. Thank you for your support of the Opportunity Pass program and Literacy KC's student body. You are helping us change lives beyond words!

If you have any questions about Literacy KC or our participation in KCATA's Opportunity Pass program do not hesitate to reach out to me, aburton@literacykc.org.

Thank you,

Autumn Burton
Director of Programs
Literacy KC