Summary

Kansas State Board of Education Meeting - June 8, 9 and 10, 2026

Monday:

- Overview about Devices in Schools
- Presentation on Higher Ed Teacher Training for using devices in schools
- Presentation on screen time policies in other states
- Research on effect of using technology on student learning and outcomes
- Executive Session Attorney Client about this issue
- Individual thoughts from Board members on "What do we want in classrooms?"

Tuesday:

- Citizens' Open Forum
- Commissioner's Report (the First Report from Dr. Steel)
- Recap of Monday's meeting on Devices in Schools
- Presentation on Authority for Accreditation of Public and Non-Public schools in Kansas
- Legislative Update: Cell Phone policy certification and student walk out complaint procedures
- Quality Instruction: Reading and Math Corners
- Act on Regulation and Rules
- Act on Licensure Application Fee Changes
- Act on Orion Adult Alternative Education Waiver Application
- Act on Standards and Higher Education
- Receive Standards and Higher Education
- Act on Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority (IADA) development funding
- Act on Kansas Professional Practices Commission (PPC) cases with oral arguments
- Executive Session on PPC cases

Wednesday:

- Act on RFP for Universal Screener
- Presentation on School Improvement Update
- Receive Nominations for Professional Standards Board Vacancy
- Act on Code of Ethics for Educators
- Receive KSDE Budget Options for 2027 – 2028
- Receive Public Innovative District
- Board member reports, comments, travel and future requests

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY ACTIONS

May Minutes

Betty Arnold made the motion, Dennis Hershberger seconded. Motion carried (9-0-1), with Mrs. Potter present but not voting.

Agenda

Betty Arnold made the motion and Melanie Haas seconded. Motion carried (10-0).

Consent Agenda

Items k. and l. were moved to Wednesday.

Jim Porter made the motion to approve the consent agenda, with the removal of h., i., k., and l. for further discussion. Melanie Haas seconded. Motion passed (9-1), with Mr. Zeck in opposition.

Act on Regulations and Rules: Out of State/Foreign applicants and Interstate Mobility Compacts

Melanie Haas made the motion to approve, and Beryl New seconded. Motion carried (10-0).

Act on Licensure Application Fee Changes

Dennis Hershberger made the motion to approve the change, Melanie Haas seconded. Motion carried (10-0).

Act on Orion Adult Alternative Education Waiver Application

Betty Arnold made the motion to approve the waiver application, Jim Porter seconded. Motion carried (9-0) with Mrs. Potter absent.

Act on Standards & Higher Ed

Jim Porter made the motion to approve the following:

- Agriculture and Speech/Theatre standards
- Evaluation Review Committee recommendations for higher education accreditation approval/program reviews

Betty Arnold seconded the motion. The motion carried (9-0), with Mrs. Potter absent.

Act on Innovative Assessment Demonstration Authority Item Development Funding

Betty Arnold made a motion to suspend the board policy, and Jim Porter seconded. The motion carried (8-2) with Michelle Dombrosky and Debby Potter in opposition.

Melanie Haas then made a motion to approve the item. Betty Arnold seconded the motion. The motion carried (7-3), with Danny Zeck, Michelle Dombrosky and Debby Potter in opposition.

Closed session

The Board recessed to go into Closed Session for the following purpose: The Board needs to recess into closed deliberative session pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4318(g), to exercise quasi-judicial functions regarding 24-PPC-27 and 24-PPC-28. The Motion to recess and go into Closed Session for 20 minutes was made by Board Member Zeck and seconded by Board Member Porter. Motion carried 10-0-0. The same Motion was renewed to go into Closed Session for an additional 15 minutes was made by Vice Chair Zeck and seconded by Betty Arnold, Motion carried 10-0-0.

(a) Act on Recommendation of the Professional Practices Commission (revocation)

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education not adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Professional Practices Commission and renew the license in 24-PPC-27. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-2 with Mr. Porter and Dr. New voting no.

(b) Act on Recommendation of the Professional Practices Commission (denial)

Mrs. Haas moved that the Kansas State Board of Education adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Professional Practices Commission in denying the application in 24-PPC-28. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-4 with Mr. Hershberger, Mrs. O'Brien, Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Dombrosky voting no.

Act on RFP (Universal Screener) related to the Blueprint for Literacy

Betty Arnold moved that the Board approve the RFP process. Beryl New seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Act on Code of Ethics for Educators

Betty Arnold moved that the Board formally adopt the Model Code of Ethics for Educators (MCEE) as recommended by the Professional Standards Board with slight modifications from the national model. Melanie Haas seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Act on Public Innovative District application from USD 329 Wabaunsee

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Board suspend the rules and vote today. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1 with Mrs. Haas voting no and one absence.

Consent Agenda Items H., I., K., and L

Melanie Haas made the motion to approve consent items H and I, and Jim Porter seconded. The motion carried (8-1-1), with Debby Potter in opposition and Connie O'Brien present not voting.

Debby Porter made a motion to delay the approval of consent items K and L (excluding the contract with ACERI), and Connie O'Brien seconded. Motion failed (2-7-1) with Mrs. Haas, Mr. Hershberger, Dr. New, Chair Hopkins, Vice Chair Zeck, Mrs. Arnold and Mr. Porter voting no, Mrs. Dombrosky was present not voting.

Melanie Hass then made a motion to approve consent items K and L, and Betty Arnold seconded. Motion carried (7-3), with Debby Potter, Michelle Dombroky, and Connie O'Brien in opposition.

Board Future Requests

Betty Arnold: USD 454 Sante Fe Trail KLN/TASN presentation

Connie O'Brien: More information on the procedures of closing a local school.

Michelle Dombrosky: Clarification on assessments vs. testing and If a student opts out, how would that student's progress be tracked?

Danny Zeck: Screentime presentations continue. How does Opt in and Opt out work in practical terms?

Beryl New: Would like Catherine Chmidling to present the standards for instructional leaders (on both district and building levels). Shane Carter could add the teacher licensure part.