Summary
Kansas State Board of Education
February 10 & 11, 2026 meeting

TUESDAY ITEMS

- Commissioner's Report
- Citizen's Open Forum
- Presentation by the Kansas University Center for Innovation, Design and Digital Learning, sharing their framework for using AI responsibly within the classroom
- Teacher Highlight: Olathe US History teacher Kim Wahaus, sharing her lesson plan for using AI to engage students with the Declaration of Independence
- Student Performance (Drama) Spring Hill High School
- Reading Corner: Teaching reading in all classroom (PE and Music for instance!)
- District Owned Devices Survey Update and Research
- McPherson District middle school policy change on district owned devices
- Effect of devices on student development
- Act on recommendations of the Professional Practices Commission
- Cell phone policy in Beloit District
- Executive session

WEDNESDAY ITEMS

- Honoring Dr. F. Floyd and accepting a Robert Hodgell painting in his honor
- Legislative Report
- Receive contract with Logicalis services
- Update on lack of funding for Cybersecurity
- Receive Innovative Assessment Pilot with Olathe District
- Receive Business Education Content Standards
- Receive Regulations/Rules Review
- Parent Highlight: Celebrating Kansas' Parents as Teachers home visiting program
- KESA Cohort of Specialized Schools
- Update from the search firm Hazard Young Attea Associates

Also:

- Policy Committee meet during Tuesday lunch

Motions
TUESDAY

TUES 1. Mrs. Haas moved to approved the minutes for the January 13 & 14, 2026, Kansas State Board of Education meeting. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0. Mrs. Potter was not present.

Added: Mrs. Arnold moved that the KSBE set aside some time, based on the lack of clarity considering a board member's use of the citizen's forum as a speaking platform, to allow the entire board to discuss the issue, which would give the Board Policy Committee insight. The time set aside would be at the discretion of the Board leadership. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Chair Hopkins noted she would put it at the end of the Wednesday meeting. Motion carried 9-0.

TUES . (AGENDA and Consent Agenda) Mrs. Haas moved to approve the agenda for January 13 & 14, 2026. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

TUES 13. (RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION)
Mrs. Haas moved that the Kansas State Board of Education adopt the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and take action as recommended by the Professional Practices Commission in the following cases:, 25-PPC-09, 25-PPC-03, and 24-PPC-23. Mrs. Arnold seconded. 9-0 motion carried (Mr. Porter was recused).

Mrs. Haas moved that the Kansas State Board of Education adopt the findings of fact, conclusions of law, and take action as recommended by the Professional Practices Commission in the following cases:, 24-PPC-26 and 25-PPC-11. Mrs. Arnold 7-2 with seconded. Motion carried 7-2 with Mrs. O'Brien and (Mr. Porter was recused).

Committee Reports:
Beryl New: Master Teachers selection in Emporia.
Dennis Hershberger: Ag in the Classroom quarterly meeting.
No meetings of the KSD superintendent search committee yet.
Cathy Hopkins: Teacher Vacancy Committee reviewed the teacher retention study.
Melanie Haas: Invited the entire board to lunch next month at the Capitol with the Volunteer commission.
Need one member to be on the school lunch review committee. Meets annually.
Need to appoint the KSHSAA membership for the coming year (executive and regular board of directors)

Board Comments
Chair Hopkins handed out the Citizen's Forum policy.
Each member had one minute to share thoughts on the forum and how it should be used.

- Mrs. Arnold feels Board members are not general public. Forum only for general public.

- Mrs. Haas stated Board members are not public and should not participate in citizen's forum.
- Mr. Zeck stated that Board members need to have board member comments and need to use that to express thoughts.
- Mrs. Dombrosky agreed that the Board comments at the end of the meeting are the time for a member to speak.
- Dr. New stated this is a good opportunity for the new members to understand the use of the Citizen's Forum. The Board is one unit, and citizens are individuals.
- Mr. Hershberger feels strongly about protecting the general public from having their time being taken by Board members. Likes the idea to share at the end of the meeting.
- Mrs. Potter appreciates Vice Chair Zeck's comments to use the end of the meeting. She has experienced being interrupted and she wants to have time to express herself. If she is having that board comment time – she wants to have it uninterrupted, with questions only for clarification.
- Mr. Porter is uncomfortable with board members using the Citizen's Forum. He noted that each speaker should focus on education topics. The Chair needs the ability to stop anything inappropriate.
- Mrs. O'Brien feels that Board members should speak at the end of the meeting.

Board Attorney Ferguson is going to circulate a case Gilmore vs. Beverage (spelling). This is a limited public forum. This area has been heavily litigated. He feels the policy could be changed slightly.

Mrs. Potter feels the *letters of concern* were not associated with a violation of policy.

Mr. Hershberger moved that the Kansas State Board of Education clarify that the agenda item named the *Citizens Open Forum* is specifically for the general public only and not for Board members. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 9-1. With Mrs. Potter voting no.

Mr. Hershberger moved that the meeting be adjourned until March. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.