Note: time stamps are set by the KSDE live stream Youtube video archive

Kansas State Board of Education
July 8, 2025

Call to Order

Chair Cathy Hopkins called the meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 8, 2025, in the boardroom of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson Street, Topeka, Kansas. Chair Hopkins recited the Board mission statement and then asked for a moment of silent reflection or prayer, followed by everyone standing and joining in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present:
Mrs. Betty Arnold
Mrs. Michelle Dombrosky
Mrs. Melanie Haas
Mr. Dennis Hershberger
Mrs. Cathy Hopkins, Chair
Dr. Beryl New
Mrs. Connie O'Brien
Mrs. Debby Potter
Mr. Jim Porter
Mr. Danny Zeck, Vice Chair
Mr. Mark Ferguson, Board Attorney was on Zoom,
Mr. R. Scott Gordon, KSDE General Counsel, was sitting at the table for Mr. Ferguson.
Commissioner Watson was seated in his place at the Board table.

Approval of June 10 & 11, 2025 minutes

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the minutes for the May 13 & 14 meeting. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. **Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Potter present not voting.**

Approval of the Agenda

Mrs. Haas moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the agenda. Mrs. Potter seconded the motion. **Motion carried 10-0.**

Consent Agenda

a. Receive personnel report
b. Act on FY26 Grant Awards for IDEA IV-B Special Education Targeted Improvement Plan Grants
c. Act on local professional development plans

d. Act on recommendation for a visiting scholar license
e. Act on recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee

Mrs. Haas moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the Consent Agenda, Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Commissioner's Report

Watson
00:7:21

Dr. Watson focused on AI. Artificial intelligence is beginning to replace workforce in many tech companies. This trend is predicted to spread across all sectors of business. AI is becoming core and is not optional. This means tech jobs are shrinking because of AI. The question for schools becomes, "What skills should we teach to prepare students for their future?"

He shared the story of Andrew Roth and Jack Moran, two men who met during WWII 80 years ago. Andrew was a Jewish prisoner in the Buchenwald concentration camp Buchenwald. Jack was with the American liberators of the camp. The liberation was April 11. Andrew changed his birthday to that day. Two 17 year olds, from two different worlds, have a chance meeting. 80 years later they met again.

Switching back to AI, Dr. Watson asked the question, "What skills do we teach in school?" What are the skills students need today? Jack and Andrew lived in a different world. They needed different skills. There are some commonalities. Showing up, working hard, caring about other people, communicating well, are among the core skills that are always needed.

Citizen's Open Forum

Forum
00:34:26

Chair Hopkins opened the Citizen's Forum and invited the following people to speak:

Jamie Finkeldei, President, Kansas Association of Independent and Religious Schools (KAIRS). Mr. Finkeldei spoke about proposed teacher licensure changes for the schools in his organization. He would like the State Board to consider some proposed changes for establishing a three tiered accreditation.

Dr. Mary Sinclair, Kansas PTA, spoke about the NAEP scores for Kansas and nationally. She presented the KS PTA issue brief entitled: *What NAEP scores tell us*.

Kim Whitman, Overland Park, representing Kansas students, spoke about 1:1 devices in elementary schools. Her remarks focused on the question of whether these devices are appropriate for young learners. She believes they are not.

Emily Brownlee, Overland Park, representing Kansas students, spoke about the excessive and inappropriate screen time that research shows is rewiring children's brains. She believes 1:1 devices in schools are hurting young children.

Erica Sheets, Leawood, Moms for Liberty, spoke about parental rights to opt children out of classes and activities that conflict with their beliefs. She urged the Board to establish this policy in all schools as an accreditation requirement.

Budget 53:10

Act on Budget Recommendations for the State Board to provide to the Governor's office prior to the legislative session
Dr. Frank Harwood, Deputy Commissioner, Fiscal and Administrative Services
Dr. John Hess, Director, Fiscal Services and Operations

Dr. Harwood took the Board through the Kansas State Department of Education budget recommendations to be provided to the Governor for 2026-2027 (FY2027).

a. Major Categories of State Aid
State Foundation Aid
Supplemental State Aid
Capital Improvement State Aid
Capital Outlay State Aid
(Estimates for these categories are set during the Education Consensus Estimates)

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education recommend the adoption of the consensus estimates for the major categories of state aid in Fiscal Year 2027. Mrs. Haas seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0-2 with Mrs. Dombrosky and Mrs. O'Brien present not voting.

b. Budget Options
Special Education State Aid
Mr. Porter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement to provide funding needed to support 80% of Special Education Excess Costs for FY2027. Mrs. Haas seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Mentor Teacher Program – KSA 72-2561
Chair Hopkins moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $1.3 million for the Mentor Teacher Program for Fiscal Year 2027. Dr. New seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

(actually took place later in the afternoon, see 7:27:40 on video)
Professional Development – KSA 72-2544
Mrs. Haas moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $1.77 million for the Professional Development Program for Fiscal Year 2027. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-3 with Mr. Porter, Chair Hopkins and Mrs. Potter voting no.

(at this point the Chair moved the rest of the budget to the end of the day) Look at 7:27:40

National Board Certification – KSA 72-2166
Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $360,000 for the Teacher of Excellence program for Fiscal Year 2027.

Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

c. Other Programs/Legislative Initiatives

Kansas Safe and Secure Schools

Mrs. Potter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $15 million for the Safe and Secure Schools Grant program for Fiscal Year 2027. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1-1 with Vice Chair Zeck voting no and Mrs. Dombrosky present not voting.

E-Rate

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $500,000 for the E-Rate Infrastructure Match for Fiscal Year 2027. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-4 with Mrs. Potter, Vice Chair Zeck, Mrs. O'Brien and Mrs. Dombrosky voting no.

Increased Office Rent for KSDE

Mr. Porter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $148,262 to cover the increase in state office rental for Fiscal Year 2027. Vice Chair Zeck seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-2 with Mr. Hershberger and Mrs. Potter voting no.

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

Mr. Hershberger moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $7,532 to cover the cost of the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission dues increase for Fiscal Year 2027. Mrs. Potter seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky voting no.

State Board of Education Compensation

Chair Hopkins moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $120,000 plus a 4.4% increase to provide State Board member compensation to be commensurate with legislator compensation for Fiscal Year 2027. Mrs. O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-1 with Mrs. Potter voting no.

Administrative Funding for E-Rate

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education request a budget enhancement of $95,920 to replace funding required to support school districts with the E-Rate process for Fiscal Year 2027. Mrs. Haas seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-4 with Vice Chair Zeck, Mrs. Dombrosky, Mrs. O'Brien and Mrs. Potter voting no.

PDS
01:53:20

Presentation on Persistently Dangerous Schools Definition and History
Bert Moore, Director, Special Education
Gabrielle Hull, Legislative Coordinator

Bert Moore, Director, Special Education and Gabrielle Hull, KSDE Legislative Coordinator, presented the federal and state definitions of "Persistently Dangerous Schools" and reviewed how laws related to school district open enrollment impact student opportunities to attend school districts of their choice. This presentation was given in the context of the recent *Dear Colleague* Letter from the US Dept. of Education which advised that if a child attends a persistently dangerous school, they may transfer to another school. Local education agencies must provide a school choice option for students that attend an unsafe school or become a victim of a violent crime.

Kansas defines a school as persistently dangerous if they for three consecutive years:
1. Have 1+ students expelled for a federal Gun Free Schools violation; and
2. 2% or five students (whichever is greater) utilize the individual option (to transfer); and
3. 2% or five students are expelled for violence related offenses including crimes against persons which constitute the commission of a felony, including murder, aggravated assault, battery, criminal threat, hazing, kidnapping, robbery, burglary, and stalking; or sex crimes such as rape, aggravated indecent liberties with a child, indecent solicitation of a child, sexual battery, sexual exploitation of a child, and sodomy; or child abuse or terroristic threat.

Mr. Moore stated that Kansas has always allowed parents to apply to attend school districts they do not reside in and in 2022 the Legislature put into statute this tradition, which went into effect in the 2024-2025 school year. He also noted there are no Kansas schools that have been deemed persistently dangerous.

Perform
3:52:38

Performance for July
In honor of July 4th, there was a patriotic performance led by two students from Wamego Middle School, Marabelle Aldridge and Lucy Ross (assisted by KSDE staff Mary Lonker and Nathan McAlister). The students each read a portion of the Declaration of Independence, after which Board member Jim Porter accompanied the entire Board and many KSDE staff members, and the Tonganoxie High School Summer Choir, in singing *My Country Tis of Thee*. The Tonganoxie Singers, with their teacher, Mr. Gifford (celebrating 40 years of teaching), sang three beautiful songs. The Board was grateful for the time and talent shared by the choir and by the young students from Wamego. Mr. Porter, long time church organist and choir director, and former music teacher, played beautifully.

Reading Corner 3:48:35

Reading Corner (a monthly effort to highlight reading in Kansas schools)
Dr. Laurie Curtis, Early Literacy and Dyslexia Coordinator, introduced Dr. Julie Cannizzo, and Stephanie Basham, from Goddard Public Schools.

Summer learning is an important program in Goddard, with a multitude of special programs for students. K-4 Champs and 5-8 Champs are both 19 day programs (8:30 – 3:00) which focus on reading. 93% of students maintained or improved their reading level. 380 students participated.

Cut Scores Part 1 4:08:40

Receive State Assessment Cut Scores – Part 1
(Note: there were three parts of this presentation, spanning the two days of meetings, however they are recorded together for the minutes, to provide a coherent overview of the Assessment Cut Scores which will be voted on in August.)
Beth Fultz, Director, Career, Standards and Assessment Services (CSAS)
Susan Martin, Director and Matt Copeland, Associate Director at Assessment Technology Solutions (ATS) at the Assessment and Achievement Institute (AAI) at the University of Kansas
Dr. Art Thacker, Principal Scientist at HumRRO representing the Kansas Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Dr. Dan Gruman, Director of Assessment and Research in USD 512 Shawnee Mission representing the Kansas Assessment Advisory Council (KAAC)

The 2025 Kansas State Assessment Standard Setting (cut scores) Workshop was held June 9 – 13, 2025 in Topeka at the Topeka Center for Advanced Learning Career (TCALC).

Beth Fultz, Susan Martin, and Matt Copeland presented a summary of attendees participating in the standard setting panels, a review of the bookmark standard setting procedure and protocol, and evaluation survey results. Dr. Thacker, also in attendance, provided his observations and expectations from a technical advisory perspective on the loyalty of the process. Dr. Gruman will review the KAAC recommendations shared at the April Kansas State Board of Education meeting and his observations of the standard setting workshop including the importance of the final vertical articulation recommendation.

Cut Scores Part 2 5:39:51

Receive State Assessment Cut Scores – Part 2
Beth Fultz explained the four performance level descriptors:

Level 1: limited ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of (third, fourth, fifth, etc) grade (ELA, Math, Science) Standards.

Level 2: basic ability _to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of (third, fourth, fifth, etc) grade (ELA, Math, Science) Standards.

Level 3: proficient ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of (third, fourth, fifth, etc) grade (ELA, Math, Science) Standards.

Level 4: advanced ability to demonstrate their knowledge and skills of (third, fourth, fifth, etc) grade (ELA, Math, Science) Standards.

She shared where the percentages would lie in English Language Arts, Math and Science. Mrs. Fultz went over the KAP performance scores from 2024 in all three areas.

Dr. Dan Gruman discussed the issue of trying to fixed a misaligned system (one that does not accurately reflect student performance, according to Kansas educators in the classroom) without reducing the rigor.

Receive State Assessment Cut Scores – Part 3

Mrs. Fultz shared the recommended cut scores:

Cut Scores Part Three WED At time stamp 03:07:04 on July 9

MATH		Lowest Obtainable Scale Score	Level 2 Cut	Level 3 Cut	Level 4 Cut	Highest Obtainable Scale Score
	G3	400	510	540	570	700
	G4	400	510	540	579	700
	G5	400	510	540	599	700
	G6	400	510	540	596	700
	G7	400	510	540	603	700
	G8	400	510	540	594	700
	G10	400	510	540	600	700

ELA		Lowest Obtainable Scale Score	Level 2 Cut	Level 3 Cut	Level 4 Cut	Highest Obtainable Scale Score	
	G3	400	510	540	609	700	
	G4	400	510	540	607	700	
	G5	400	510	540	600	700	
	G6	400	510	540	593	700	
	G7	400	510	540	600	700	
	G8	400	510	540	594	700	
	G10	400	510	540	588	700	

SCIENCE		Lowest Obtainable Scale Score	Level 2 Cut	Level 3 Cut	Level 4 Cut	Highest Obtainable Scale Score
	G5	400	510	540	582	700
	G8	400	510	540	569	700

The Board will vote on this item in August.

Act on Teacher Apprenticeship Program and approve MeadowLARK Grant Funds
Shane Carter, Director, Teacher Licensure

Apprenticeship 6:15:34

Mr. Carter explained that the Kansas Apprenticeship Council approved KSDE's application to start a Registered Teacher Apprenticeship program in May 2023. The Kansas Apprenticeship Council approved an update to the application to include a graduate degree apprenticeship route and approved a youth apprenticeship route to the program in April 2025. Currently, there are 318 apprentices in the Registered Teacher Apprenticeship program. Of the 318 apprentices, 167 apprentices will begin the program in the Fall 2025 cohort. The funding for the Fall 2025 cohort apprentices is different than the funding apprentices who joined the program in previous cohorts.

Mrs. Potter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the addition of a graduate degree route within the Kansas Teacher Apprenticeship Program. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky present not voting.

Mrs. Potter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approves the addition of a youth apprenticeship route within the Kansas Teacher Apprenticeship Program. Mr. Zeck seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky present not voting.

Mrs. Potter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approves grant awards for the Kansas Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Program Districts for the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. O'Brien seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-2 with Mrs. Dombrosky and Vice Chair Zeck voting no.

Act on Regenerated Licensure Test Scores
Shane Carter, Director, Teacher Licensure

Scores 6:26:30

Mr. Carter shared the process for reviewing teacher testing: a test is selected for regeneration or replacement (at minimum every 10 years), the agency is notified one year prior to change, volunteers are requested to participate in a multi-state standards setting panel which then meets and recommends cut scores and technical reports, which are reviewed by the Professional Standards Board that then recommends the cut scores to the State Board, which in turn acts on the recommendations and then Teacher Licensure updates the tests.

Mr. Porter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education adopt and set cut scores for the regenerated licensure tests as follows:
Early Childhood Education Foundational Knowledge and Content (Test #5534) with a recommended cut score of 163;
Middle School Social Studies (Test #5589) with a recommended cut score of 149.
Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

Act on Career and Technical Education (CTE) Cluster and Pathway Review Recommendations

CTE
6:29:00

Natalie Clark, Assistant Director, CTE Career, Standards and Assessment Services

The Kansas Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education (KACCTE) voted on the Career and Technical Education (CTE) 2024-2025 Cluster and Pathway Review recommendations during their June 4, 2025, Quarterly Advisory Committee Meeting. KACCTE received their information during their April 10, 2025, Quarterly Meeting and May 15, 2025, Meeting.

Cluster Review Committees began work in the fall of 2024 and were made up of Secondary Educators representing different sizes of school districts and different geographic locations across the State of Kansas, Post-Secondary Educators representing two and four-year colleges and business/industry representatives reflective of the Cluster/Pathways under review.

The Kansas Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education respective business/industry committee member representing the reviewed Cluster served as chair and the committee was facilitated by a KSDE Education Program Consultant.

Once final approval is received, changes will begin with the 2026-2027 school year.

Mrs. Haas moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the Career and Technical Education 2024-2025 Cluster and Pathway Review recommendations approved by the Kansas Advisory Committee for Career and Technical Education. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky voting no and Mrs. O'Brien present not voting.

Act on Evaluation Review Committee for Educator Preparation Providers

ERC
6:33:43

Dr. Catherine Chmidling, Teacher Licensure

Dr. Chmidling explained the Evaluation Review Committee (ERC) is submitting recommendations to the State Board regarding educator preparation provider accreditation for Tabor College and program approvals for Emporia State University,

Fort Hays State University, Haskell Indian Nations University, and Kansas State University.

On May 19, 2025, the Evaluation Review Committee reviewed the application for educator preparation provider accreditation for Tabor College Education Department. Documents that were received and considered include the Institutional Self-Study Report, Visitation Team Formative Feedback Report, Institutional Addendum, Visitation Team Final Report, EPP Visit evidence, institution's Rejoinder to the Visitation report, and Team Lead's response to the Rejoinder.
ACCREDITATION RECOMMENDATION:
Recommend "Full Accreditation" status through June 30, 2032

On May 19, 2025, the Evaluation Review Committee reviewed applications for program approvals for Emporia State University.
Documents that were received and considered include program review submissions, rejoinders, and final team reports.
PROGRAM APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS
Recommend "Approved" status for Emporia State University programs through December 31, 2030

On May 19, 2025, the Evaluation Review Committee reviewed applications for program approvals for Fort Hays State University.
Documents that were received and considered include the Institutional Program Report, Program Rejoinder, KSDE Team Report, and program progress reports.
PROGRAM APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS
Recommend "New Program Approved with Stipulation" status for the following Fort Hays State University program through December 31, 2027:
Innovative High and Low Incidence, I, K-6, 5-8, 6-12, PreK-12, new program
Areas for Improvement:
High Incidence Standards 1-8, Science of Reading: None
Low Incidence Standards 1-7: None

Recommend removing the new-program stipulation and extending "Approved" status for the following Fort Hays State University programs through December 31, 2029:
Innovative Elementary I, PreK-6 LERP
Areas for Improvement: Standards 1-7, Science of Reading
None
Low Incidence A, PreK-12
Areas for Improvement: Standards 1-7
None
Innovative Low Incidence I, PreK-12 Residency LRL

Areas for Improvement:
Standards 1-7

On May 19, 2025, the Evaluation Review Committee reviewed an application for program approval for Haskell Indian Nations University.
Documents that were received and considered include the program review submission, rejoinder, and final team report.
PROGRAM APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS
Recommend "Approved" status for Haskell Indian Nations University program through December 31, 2032:
Elementary PreK-6, I, continuing
Areas for Improvement
Standards 1-8 [Science of Reading embedded in 2024 Elementary standards]
No

On May 19, 2025, the Evaluation Review Committee reviewed an application for program approval for Kansas State University.
Documents that were received and considered include the program progress report.
PROGRAM APPROVAL RECOMMENDATIONS
Recommend removing the new-program stipulation and extending "Approved" status for the following program through December 31, 2028:
Restricted, I, 6-12, PreK-12
Areas for Improvement:
Standards 1-10, Science of Reading
None

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education accept the recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee for educator preparation provider accreditation for Tabor College and program approvals for Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Haskell Indian Nations University, and Kansas State University. Dr. New seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Receive KESA Graduation Standards
Dr. Jay Scott, Director, Accreditation and Design

KESA
6:47:40

Dr. Scott shared the proposed KESA Graduation Standards and explained that high school graduation rates are one of the student outcomes that will be evaluated to determine a system's accreditation status each year, beginning at the end of the 2026-2027 school year. In the standards, the Kansas State Board of Education can view a thoroughly vetted set of KESA Graduation Standards that include the KESA Graduation Rate, benchmarks for KESA Graduation Rate, and performance categories. He is

sharing this for the Accreditation & Design team, the KESA Outcomes workgroup and many educators across the state. To be voted on in August.

(At this point the rest of the budgetary actions were completed. They are listed at the beginning of the minutes for this day, with the other motions.)

Finish Budget motions 7:27:40

Federal Funding

Dr. Harwood shared recent educational actions being taken on a national scale.

Fed Funding

The Board went into Executive Session.

Vice Chair Zeck moved that the Kansas State Board of Education recess into Executive Session to discuss the subject of potential litigation/pending litigation/legal matters with legal counsel, which is justified pursuant to the exception for matters which would be deemed privileged in the Attorney-Client relationship under KOMA, in order to protect the privilege and the Board's communications with an attorney on legal matters. This session will begin at 6:30 p.m. for 30 minutes; no action will be taken during this session; and the open meeting will resume in the Board Room at 7 p.m. Mr. Gordon, Mr. Ferguson, Dr. Harwood and Dr. Watson are invited to join this Executive Session. Mrs. Haas seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Potter present not voting.

Exec Session 8:29:40

After the executive session, Chair Hopkins recessed the meeting until Wednesday morning, July 9th at 9 a.m.

Kansas State Board of Education
July 9, 2025

Chair Cathy Hopkins called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Nine board members were present as Mrs. Haas was traveling to a conference in Salt Lake City. Mrs. Dombrosky attended on zoom. It was noted that R. Scott Gordon, General Counsel, KSDE was again at the Board table. Board Attorney Mark Ferguson was not able to be on zoom.

Board Goals
Commissioner Watson

Dr. Watson continued to discuss the proposed Board goals for the next two years. He is focused on trying to find commonality.

> "*The Problem is not the absence of goals…but the presence of too many that are … unconnected and ever-changing…resulting in overload and fragmentation.*" *(Fullan)*
> The Theory of Action: *If we strengthen coherence across Kansas through focusing on a few high-leverage, fundamental actions, then our students will develop more knowledge and skills leading to greater opportunities and fewer limitations. (Fullan)*

Dr. Watson shared that the simpler the work of the Board is, the more complex the work in the schools can become. If given complex rules, then the people on the front lines will react with simple measures, that is, by filling out the forms and following given regulations, but they will not wrestle with the essence of the policy and how it actually can apply to their environment. By giving schools much autonomy, they will develop authentic actions that are effective. The Board needs to offer simple, tight policy which will allow schools to become deep and complex in their response.

Using the KESA method, Dr. Watson offered the following three goals for August 2025 – December 2026:

1. Quality School Improvement: We will support and emphasize the four fundamentals of school improvement in the KESA process.

2. Quality Leadership Development: We have a culture of high expectations in our classrooms, buildings and districts so that each student has access to quality instruction, grade level standards and expectations for success.

3. Policy, Regulation and Alignment: We will eliminate, align and design policies and regulations in pre-K-12 to enhance the school improvement process, allowing school systems to focus on student success.

The methods will be through Board meeting planning, Commissioner's Report, KSDE Staff and Educator Reports, Friday Notes and Educator Engagements.

The Board had a robust discussion about goals.

Math
44:50

<u>Presentation on the Kansas Math Project</u>
Todd Wiedemann, Director, Kansas MTSS and Alignment Project Staff
Amy De La Rosa, State Trainer, System Alignment Specialist

Mr. Wiedemann explained that The Kansas Math Project was developed by Dr. Power and Dr. Witzel and included 230+ reviewers from every level in Kansas education which included 8 pilot projects. It is a joint project of TASN and KSDE. He gave the background of the development of this project and the extensive high level, evidence based research which they relied upon.

The purpose of the Kansas Math Project:

> *We believe that every math teacher in Kansas should have a strong understanding of evidence-based teaching strategies, and that all teachers of math should have an equally strong understanding of math content. The Kansas Math Project has been developed to precisely attend to each of these beliefs through a systematic framework of modules geared for teachers and administrators.*

This training is for teachers and administrators. There are five foundation modules:
Module A: All Students Can Learn Mathematics
Module B: Progressions that lead to Long-Term Proficiency
Module C: Systematic and Explicit Instruction
Module D: Using Data to Drive Instruction and Intervention
Module E: Build Students' language, understanding, fluency and problem solving

The presentation continued with detailed explanation of how the program works and what the basic principles are. There were many questions and comments from the Board.

Update
2:20:00

<u>Update on the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Student Screentime recommendations: District Outcomes across Kansas</u>
Dr. Jake Steel, Director, Commissioner's Office
Payton Lynn, Researcher, Public Service Executive

Dr. Steel opened by framing technology in schools as a multi-layered conversation that includes screen time, personal devices, AI and many other issues. Today the focus is an update from the task force that was established last year which primarily focused on personal devices in school (cell phone usage by students). The task force made specific recommendations, not policy because these decisions are local, but after looking at research and sharing experiences, the members of the task force offered guidance, which the Board accepted and shared with Kansas districts.

Those recommendations were:

- The task force recommends districts implement a bell-to-bell personal electronic device policy in K-12 schools.
- The task force recommends districts implement a policy for K-12 students to store personal electronic devices in a secure location inaccessible to them during the school day.
- The task force recommends districts develop robust safety and emergency procedures that are not dependent on students contacting authorities or family via personal electronic devices or school-issued devices.
- The task force recommends districts develop a process for teachers to report gaps in district-provided technology, so teachers do not supplement lack of or insufficient district-issued technology with use of personal devices.
- The task force recommends districts create a personal device policy for staff members

For this presentation, Dr. Steel and Miss Lynn were asked to survey districts to assess what policies are presently in place. There was a 90% survey response from superintendents.

Elementary and middle schools generally have established a bell-to-bell policy on student cell phones. High schools are moving more towards passing period and lunch time use of cell phones. Parents and staff support these types of policies and students have mixed reactions. Most districts do not have a policy in place for staff.

Districts shared these thoughts:

- Parents buy-in is vital
- District level task forces are needed to develop local policies
- There are challenges with consistent enforcement
- There needs to be education on appropriate use vs. cell phone bans

(Presentation on Cut Scores Part Three was at this point, but is reported on day one with the other two parts of the presentation)

Committee Reports
3:41:50

Committee Reports

Mrs. Dombrosky gave a report on the Kansas State School for the Deaf negotiations and the Task Force.

Mr. Hershberger reported that the Policy Committee will be meeting in August.

Mrs. O'Brien tried to attend the KACIE Kansas Advisory Council on Indigenous Education, but they did not have a quorum so could not meet. She attended the graduation at Lawrence – Gardner high school, at the Juvenile Correction Center, and was very moved by the ceremony and the students that participated.

Mrs. Arnold attended a zoom for NASBE's Whole Child committee.

Chair Report
3:54:00

Chair Report

Chair Hopkins attended the National Teacher of the Year at Emporia and spoke for the Board at their evening ceremony. Attended the rededication ceremony at the memorial to fallen educators. Attended BOOST Building Opportunities for Outstanding Techers Summer at Fort Hays. Took Jim Porter's place at the July KS Legislature Education Funding Task force.

Board Travel Requests:

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the travel requests as submitted. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

Board Future Requests:

Mrs. Potter: Repeat Item on agenda for Persistently Dangerous Schools definition, critical of room clearing policies, and wondered if teacher licensure could be tied to ethics standards. She is concerned about teachers who are being physically hurt by their students.

Mrs. O'Brien: Wonders what CI3T is? She has the website address and would like to learn more.

Mrs. Dombrosky: Screen time in schools and 1-to-1 devices vs. actual books. Interested in parents' choice about how their child is educated (digital vs. traditional).

Mr. Hershberger: October is Agricultural Month.

Vice Chair Zeck: More info on AI.

Comments
4:04:50

Board Comments:

Mrs. Arnold: Could some board request be met with a written document and not an actual board presentation?

Mrs. Potter: Brought up the letters from Attorney General Kobach and what he is requesting. She asked questions about the recent meeting between the State Board leadership, KSDE staff, and the Attorney General. She began discussing the situation and General Counsel Gordon suggested the conversation needed to be in Executive Session.

The Chair adjourned the meeting until August 12th meeting at 10 a.m.

_____ _____

Cathy Hopkins, Chair Deborah Bremer, Board Secretary