

MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Porter called the monthly meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, 2022, in the Board Room of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas.

(00:04:56)

ROLL CALL

All Board members were present:

Betty Arnold	Ben Jones
Jean Clifford	Ann Mah
Michelle Dombrosky	Jim McNiece
Melanie Haas	Jim Porter
Deena Horst	Janet Waugh

Board Attorney Mark Ferguson was not present, but listened through the Livestream. KSDE General Counsel Scott Gordon attended the Board meeting.

STATE BOARD MISSION STATEMENT, MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Porter read both the Board's Mission Statement and Kansans Can Vision Statement. He then asked for a moment of silence after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGENDA

Chairman Porter announced that the recognition of Dr. Craig Correll as Superintendent of the Year (Item 10) would be postponed until Dr. Correll could attend in person. Item 10 would be replaced by continued discussion of the licensing requirements for substitutes. Mrs. Mah requested to pull consent item 18 f. (Evaluation Review Committee recommendations) for discussion. Mr. McNiece moved to approve the agenda as amended. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(00:08:47)

APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Dr. Horst moved to approve the minutes of the Dec. 11 and 12 regular Board meeting. Mr. Jones seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(00:09:09)

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Dr. Randy Watson focused his monthly report on information collected from the 2021 Kansans Can Success Tour to 50 locations. The tour began last July, concluding in September. During each stop, Kansans were given a summary of the 2015 Kansas Children and Kansas' Future Tour questions, responses and action. Participants had the opportunity to verify if the direction is still correct or to offer other suggestions. Three research teams examined the current data independently: R12 Comprehensive Center (McRel), Kansas State University, and Kansas State Department of Education. Dr. Watson acknowledged that the joint analysis of data indicated Kansans overwhelmingly agreed with the strategies and skill sets needed to produce successful high school graduates. In addition, five common themes emerged that would support schools' needs: community relations and engagement; leadership and policy; enhance student learning and

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success; educator-centered supports; systemwide needs. Dr. Watson highlighted key takeaways from each category, noting that there were no significant differences in the data between geographic location, Board region or district size.

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chairman Porter declared the Citizens' Forum open at 10:31 a.m. There were no speakers this month. However, written public comment was received from Nancy Vega, Topeka, regarding importance of education about all ethnicities. Chairman Porter declared the Citizens' Forum closed at 10:32 a.m.

(00:38:32)

**RECEIVE AGENCY RESPONSE TO LEGISLATIVE POST AUDIT REPORT:
CYBERSECURITY GUIDANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KANSAS SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

KSDE Director of Information Technology Kathi Grossenbacher explained how KSDE is leading a collaborative response to a Legislative Post Audit report regarding K-12 school districts' IT security standards and resources. All 286 public school districts, plus the Kansas State School for the Blind and Kansas School for the Deaf, were presented the voluntary survey, with 147 districts responding. Survey questions were based on security standards. Mrs. Grossenbacher presented the results during the meeting, explaining how her department has worked with several school district technology colleagues to identify actions in response. Among these are developing a security policy template and online training to strengthen safety measures. The publication *Cybersecurity Guidance and Recommendations for Kansas School Districts* was created. A K-12 Technology Council is also being established to increase networking and professional development. District team leaders assisting with the presentation at the Board meeting were: Rob Dickson, Wichita USD 259; Dennis Elledge, Derby USD 260; and Drew Lane, Shawnee Mission USD 512. Board members requested regular updates on the progress of cybersecurity.

(00:39:03)

Members took a 10-minute break at 11:30 a.m.

BREAK

DISCUSSION ON LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Last month, the Board requested information on the licensure requirements for substitute teachers and time to discuss options enabling school districts access to a larger pool of potential substitute teachers, particularly as the pandemic continues to impact shortages. Dr. Mischel Miller, Director of Teacher Licensure and Accreditation, and Shane Carter, Assistant Director, explained the current Kansas substitute licensure requirements, survey data collected from school districts, a comparison of other states' requirements, and licensing options considered. They described differences in options, either potential or discarded, as a temporary, immediate solution to expanding the substitute pool. The Temporary Emergency Authorized License (TEAL) would allow potential candidates without any college hours to apply. Dr. Miller outlined the specific, prioritized criteria. The TEAL would expire June 1, 2022. Much discussion followed, including waiver of certain fees, employment decision of local school district, and extension of expiration date.

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Chairman Porter recessed the meeting for lunch at noon.

LUNCH

CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON LICENSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

The afternoon session resumed with continued talks about the proposed Temporary Emergency Authorized License to assist school districts in addressing the shortage of substitutes for the classroom. Other comments involved age of applicants, fingerprinting and background check, vetting, needs of summer school programs, and professional development. Dr. Miller emphasized that the TEAL is not a recruitment tool into the profession, but a last resort alternative for school districts. The proposal would return to the Board on Wednesday as an action item.

P.M. SESSION
(03:34:58)

KANSANS CAN HIGHLIGHT: ACADEMICALLY PREPARED FOR POSTSECONDARY

Over the past few months, Board members have heard from districts attaining high performance levels in the Kansans Can Star Recognition Program. Assistant Director Beth Fultz gave an overview of the category Academically Prepared for Postsecondary, which uses state assessments as the tool of measurement (ELA, math and science performance). Fort Leavenworth USD 207 is the single Silver Star recipient in this category. Dr. Keith Mispagel, USD 207 Superintendent, and several district guests spoke about such challenges as high student turnover rates within the military community. A constant, however, has been the strategic framework of the school system. The team presenting commented on the four focus areas: accreditation, ELA, math and social-emotional. Individualized learning and supports to aid with homework have helped strengthen academic progress among the students.

(03:52:52)

STATUS UPDATE ON ESSER III FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF

Assistant Directors Doug Boline and Tate Toedman updated members on the third phase of federal COVID-19 relief funds, referred to as ESSER III. There were no plans presented for action this month. However, members received an overview highlighting key differences in the ESSER III requirements. For instance, there are specific subgroups called out for engagement. Currently, 57 districts have submitted plans, which are currently with reviewers. There are also some plans presented for secondary review. Mr. Boline explained a few of the challenges districts are facing in the plans, which must be tied to COVID-19. Chair Porter emphasized the Board and agency's responsibility to make sure a standard is followed for these federal funds.

(04:32:32)

ACTION ON APPOINTMENTS TO NASBE COMMITTEES

The Kansas State Board is a member of the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). State Board Chairs are asked to appoint a member to serve on the association's Government Affairs Committee and Public Education Positions Committee. Appointment of State Board members to a national committee requires a vote. Mr. Jones moved to appoint Janet Waugh to represent Kansas on NASBE's Government Affairs Committee for 2022 and Deena Horst to continue on the Public Education Positions Committee for 2022. Mr. McNiece seconded. Motion carried 10-0. Both members accepted.

MOTION
(04:51:27)

Members took a break until 3 p.m.

BREAK

INFORMATION ON DEMONSTRATION PROJECT TO ENHANCE DIRECT CERTIFICATION FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICE SCHOOL MEALS

Kansas has been selected to participate in the USDA Direct Certification with Medicaid - Demonstration Project beginning in school year 2022-23. Child Nutrition and Wellness Director Cheryl Johnson explained that the purpose of the project is to expand direct certification of children receiving Medicaid benefits to receive free and reduced-priced school meals. KSDE is collaborating with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment on this project. She noted that expansion of eligible categories has several benefits, including less paperwork for families and fewer applications the school district has to verify. KDHE Director of Eligibility Tanya Palmer described how the process works, including matching of data between agencies. Board members also viewed an online demonstration and learned about KSDE's role in IT data security.

(05:03:10)

PRESENTATION OF KANSAS CERTIFICATES IN CHILD NUTRITION MANAGEMENT

The Kansas Certificate in Child Nutrition Management is a program sponsored by Child Nutrition and Wellness and approved by the State Board of Education. CNW Director Cheryl Johnson stated that 120 hours of approved management classes must be completed in order to be considered for the certificate. She credited these food service directors for advancing their skills. Mrs. Johnson commented on each one's work and commitment to the profession. Several of the recipients

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were present to receive their award: Jennifer Zule, Lansing USD 469; Sheree Jones, Haven USD 312; Anna Baum, Southern Lyon County USD 252; and Jill Monroe, Southeast Kansas Community Action Program Head Start. Recipients Nichole Burnett, Baldwin USD 348, and Belinda Corle, Elk Valley USD 283, were unable to attend. The certificate to Pamela Lane, Coffeyville USD 445, was presented posthumously.

Members took a 10-minute break.

BREAK

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON REPORTS

Deputy Commissioner Dr. Craig Neuenswander reported on committee assignment changes relevant to the start of the 2022 Kansas Legislature, which convened the prior day. He provided members with a roster of education committee members in the two chambers. Since it is a carryover year, bills not killed last year can be worked again this year. Some new bills have been introduced already that deal with education. Members will receive bill descriptions from Dr. Neuenswander’s office as they have in the past. He then answered questions. Legislative Liaison Dr. Horst reminded members where to find information on the legislative website.

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ACTION ON FUNDING COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS

Dr. Craig Neuenswander reiterated points made last month regarding a legislative request to use Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief federal money to support Communities in Schools. The option to consider a proposal to appropriate \$100,000 to Communities in Schools in each of the next three years was presented since funds are available for that purpose. CIS has amended its information to meet certain guidelines for receiving ESSER funds. The State Board already granted funding to several projects to address learning loss caused by the pandemic. Dr. Horst moved to approve a proposal to appropriate \$100,000 per year from federal ESSER set-aside funds to support Communities in Schools in FY 2022, FY 2023 and FY 2024. Mr. McNiece seconded. Discussion followed, including questions about the CIS total budget, statewide initiatives, sustainability, history of support. Motion carried on a 6-3-1 vote with Mr. Jones, Mrs. Waugh and Mrs. Dombrosky in opposition, and Mrs. Mah abstaining.

(06:15:44)

MOTION
(06:17:15)

ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Jones moved to approve the Consent Agenda, excluding 18 f. (Evaluation Review Committee recommendations). Mr. McNiece seconded. Motion carried 10-0. In this action, the Board:

MOTION
(06:29:24)

- received the monthly Personnel Report for December.
- confirmed the unclassified personnel appointment of Laurie Curtis as Program Manager on the Career, Standards and Assessment Services team, effective Dec. 1, 2021, at an annual salary of \$70,000.06.
- accepted the following recommendations for licensure waivers valid for one school year: *Early Childhood Special Education* — Tori Zuniga, USD 253; Dee Krehbiel, USD 259. *Low Incidence Special Education* — Brianne Stucker, USD 259. *Library Media Specialist* — Kelly Kelly, USD 259. *Gifted* — Sidney Doty, USD 450; Erica McLean, Southwest Kansas Area Coop. *High Incidence Special Education* — Michael Stevens, Ark Valley Special Ed Coop.
- accepted recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee as follows: *Approved cases* — 3406, 3424, 3425, 3428, 3429 (elementary K-6). *Non-approved case* — 3429 (social studies 6-12).
- approved issuance of licenses to these Kansas Driver Training Schools: Lacy Enterprises Driving School, St. Francis, and KS International Drivers Ed, KC Area, Shawnee, for the period Jan. 11, 2022 to Dec. 31, 2022.

- authorized USD 437 Auburn-Washburn, Shawnee County, to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds in excess of the district’s general bond debt limitation.
- authorized USD 437 Auburn-Washburn, Shawnee County, to receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid as authorized by law.

authorized the Commissioner of Education to negotiate and

- contract with The College Board in an amount not to exceed \$14,950 for Advanced Placement Summer Institute programming in June 2022.

SEPARATE ACTION ON CONSENT ITEMS

At the opening, Mrs. Mah requested separate votes on consent item 18 f. (Evaluation Review Committee recommendations). There were three college/university programs included in the recommendations. Mrs. Mah moved to accept the recommendations of the ERC for Program Approval for Kansas Wesleyan University and Southwestern College. Mrs. Clifford seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(06:30:49)

Approval was granted as follows: **Kansas Wesleyan University** — English Language Arts (6-12), History Government Social Studies (6-12) and Mathematics (6-12), all continuing programs through Dec. 31, 2027; **Southwestern College** — English Language Arts (6-12), History Government Social Studies (6-12), Music (PreK-12), Restricted (5-8, 6-12, PreK-12) all continuing programs through Dec. 31, 2027; Speech/Theatre (6-12) dormant.

KSDE staff answered questions regarding ERC recommendations for Ottawa University and its new program for School Counselor (PreK-12). Discussion occurred on identification of standards not currently met. Mr. Jones moved to accept the ERC recommendations for new program approval with stipulation for Ottawa University. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Additional discussion occurred. Motion failed to receive the six votes necessary for passage on a vote of 4-6, with Mr. McNiece, Dr. Horst, Mrs. Dombrosky, Mrs. Haas, Mr. Porter and Mrs. Mah in opposition. This item will return at a later date after concerns have been addressed.

MOTION
(06:32:32)

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 4:45 p.m. until 9 a.m. Wednesday.

Board members were invited to attend the annual State of the State Address given by Governor Laura Kelly.

Jim Porter, Chair

Peggy Hill, Secretary

MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education

Wednesday, January 12, 2022

PRE-MEETING ACTIVITY

The Kansas Association of State Boards hosted a meet-and-greet breakfast for State Board of Education members and KASB's Advocacy Network.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Porter called the Wednesday meeting of the State Board of Education to order at 9 a.m. on Jan. 12, 2022.

(00:05:32)

ROLL CALL

All Board members were present:

Betty Arnold	Ben Jones
Jean Clifford	Ann Mah
Michelle Dombrosky	Jim McNiece
Melanie Haas	Jim Porter
Deena Horst	Janet Waugh

Board Attorney Mark Ferguson was not present, but listened through the Livestream. KSDE General Counsel Scott Gordon attended the Board meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Jones moved to approve the day's agenda as presented. Mrs. Dombrosky seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(00:05:43)

CAREER TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS' REPORT AND PRESENTATIONS

In observance of Citizenship Day, student leaders with eight Kansas Career and Technical Student Organizations shared information about their specific CTSOs, leadership positions and opportunities to build careers skills. These presidents also addressed ways their organizations adapted to changes caused by the pandemic. Challenges included moving competitions to virtual events and member recruitment/retention. Positive aspects included networking through social media platforms and expanded outreach. These CTSOs were represented: Business Professionals of America, DECA, Future Business Leaders of America, FCCLA, FFA, HOSA, Skills USA and Technology Student Association. A time for questions and answers followed. Mr. Porter indicated he would be seeking more information about Educators Rising as a viable CTSO in Kansas.

(00:06:07)

RECEIVE SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL (SEAC) ANNUAL REPORT

KSDE Assistant Director Brian Dempsey introduced SEAC leadership so they could discuss their Annual Report. Presenters, virtually, were Jennifer King, current chair, and Trisha Backman, chair elect. Ms. King outlined the representative requirements for membership. The written annual report provides a summary of activities based on priority areas. Ms. Backman outlined focus areas in the 2020-21 year. These included personnel shortages, development of a membership committee, continuing to review Navigating Change document, secondary transition services and

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data trends. They also spoke about work in progress such as filling vacancies with highly qualified personnel. SEAC provides quarterly updates to the State Board.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EMERGENCY ACTION ON PANDEMIC-RELATED RESPONSE TO SUBSTITUTE TEACHER VACANCIES

Board members continued discussion on a proposal presented by KSDE and Teacher Licensure and Accreditation, and which met consensus from multiple educational groups. Chair Porter suggested that the recommended motion not be amended at this time, but that data be collected and revisited in May to see if any adjustments are necessary. Mr. McNiece moved that due to the unprecedented shortage of substitute teachers available during the COVID-19 pandemic, the State Board should authorize an emergency declaration that allows the Kansas State Department of Education to issue a Temporary Emergency Authorized License to those applicants who meet the following criteria: must be at least 18 years old; have a high school diploma; must undergo and pass the KSDE background check and must provide verification from a hiring education system's chief executive officer that they are willing to hire that person as a substitute teacher. Such authorization shall be from Jan. 13, 2022 through June 1, 2022. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Comments emphasized that this is a last resort option during an exceptional situation. Motion carried 10-0.

(01:23:13)

MOTION
(01:26:58)

Members took a break until 10:45 a.m.

BREAK

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Adoption of Resolution for 2022 Board Meeting Dates — Dr. Horst moved to adopt the Resolution establishing the 2022 calendar of Board meeting dates, time and location. Mrs. Haas seconded. Motion carried 10-0. The signed Resolution is provided as an attachment to the minutes.

MOTION
(01:51:15)

Action on Board Travel — Mrs. Haas moved to approve the travel requests and updates. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(01:52:01)

Committee Reports — Updates were given on the following:

- Graduation Requirements Task Force (Mr. McNiece) — At the next meeting, subcommittee leaders intend to share their considerations. Feedback will be sought from stakeholders through various platforms.
- Student Voice (Mrs. Mah) — CTSO roundtable discussions with students will occur in the afternoon.

Board Attorney's Report — None this month.

Requests for Future Agenda Items —

- Schedule a retreat to analyze current statewide tour data in relation to Board goals and vision. (Mr. Porter)
- Regular updates on implementation of cybersecurity recommendations to school districts and reports from K-12 Technology Council. (Mr. Porter, Mrs. Haas)
- Presentation of Temporary Emergency Authorized License data in May (usage, success, concerns). Potential consideration for extension, if needed. (Mr. Porter)
- Presentation on implementation of dyslexia recommendations and examples of best practices. (Mr. Porter, Mrs. Dombrosky)

Chair's Report — Mr. Porter shared a draft response to Sen. Molly Baumgardner's request on communications policies in schools and asked members to review, then offer suggestions. He

reminded members about next month's panel discussion and breakfast with the Kansas Association of Independent and Religious Schools.

ADJOURNMENT

The business of the meeting concluded at 11:10 a.m. Afterwards, Board members attended the annual luncheon and roundtable discussions with student leaders of the CTSOs at Washburn Tech.

The next regular meeting for the State Board of Education is Feb. 8 and 9, 2022.

Jim Porter, Chair

Peggy Hill, Secretary