

# MINUTES



## Kansas State Board of Education

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Haas called the Tuesday meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 9, 2024, in the boardroom of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas.

(00:08:35)

### ROLL CALL

The following Board Members were present:

Betty Arnold (On Zoom)	Deena Horst
Michelle Dombrosky (On Zoom)	Ann Mah
Melanie Haas	Jim Porter
Dennis Hershberger	Danny Zeck
Cathy Hopkins	Jim McNiece

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

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

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair asked to approve the meeting agenda for both Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs. Dombrosky requested e, f, and g be pulled off the consent agenda and voted on separately. Mrs. Hopkins asked to pull e.

Mrs. Hopkins moved to approve the agenda as amended: Items e, f, and g will be taken off the consent agenda. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(00:12:00)

### APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 2023 MINUTES

Mrs. Hopkins moved to accept the minutes of January 9 & 10, 2023 as written. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(00:12:30)

### COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Watson focused on the importance of STEM (Science, Technology, E, Math) for student achievement in life. He shared a graph showing the correlation between state assessments and graduation/post-secondary success. The KSDE IT department has developed a transition table for school districts that tracks students over several years, providing more than "just one day" assessments. Using hypothetical data, Dr. Watson described how the table can be used to assess how the students are doing overall, not just based on the state assessment. The table can be used to assess an individual student, a class, or an entire school district.

(00:12:45)

The data is all private but can be used for school districts to focus on students' improvement or learning loss, and then the school can intervene quickly with students and classes that are not improving. The earlier deficiencies can be found and focused on for improvement.

**CITIZEN'S OPEN FORUM**

(00:51:20)

Chair Haas opened the forum at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed the citizens present who wished to speak. Each person was asked to keep their remarks within three minutes as is the Board policy.

Steve Roberts, Overland Park, stated that educational training colleges should focus more on administrators and less on teachers, and that teachers should be paid according to performance. He shared that the Johnson County Police department is going to encrypt their communications. Mr. Roberts is against taking away police band radios for the public. USD 512 and USD 229 are planning to join this pattern of encryption. Transparency is important and this goes against it.

Dave Trabert, Kansas School Board Research Center, CEO of Kansas Policy Institute, shared concerns from their School Board Research. The low student achievements are shocking, college readiness fell, and he noted the declines were already in place before Covid. Many school board members are prevented from doing building needs assessments. The superintendents are against this. He also brought up Social Emotional Learning and stated his belief that these skills do not help students achieve.

**EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES WITH AT-RISK FUNDS**

(00:58:09)

Dr. Ben Proctor, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Learning Services, KSDE, went through the responsibilities of the State Board in respect to the At-Risk fund. There is a list that must be approved by the Board.

The list exists on the KSDE website and is open to the schools and public. The statute states there must be evidence-based research spanning 5 years behind the services. There is a provisional At-Risk list for school districts to utilize as well.

The criteria for a student to be identified as At-Risk was shared. Dr. Proctor explained what evidence-based programs are. The statute notes there must be a five-year research period for each recommended item on the list and that is a very difficult level to meet, as noted by the Kansas State Legislative Post Audit report. KSDE is going to make recommendations to change the statute. Dr. Proctor shared that three-years is preferred. The LPA recommended that such requirement be removed. The LPA report said KSDE should review all currently approved programs to ensure that approved programs meet the statutory requirements. Dr. Proctor stated this is being done at present.

Dr. Proctor gave an example of an At-Risk educational reading program review. Each program or practice that is on the list has been reviewed and linked to evidence/research. He showed some of the programs and practices that were evaluated and how for instance there were 56 reading programs reviewed, out of those only 5 could be recommended based on the five-year research requirement.

Currently, KSDE is evaluating the results of the team that has been processing all the items on the list. They will provide an overview of the list analysis to superintendents. They will better understand how systems are utilizing at-risk funds and any discrepancies with potential recommended changes to the evidence-based list.

They will work across the divisions at KSDE to provide support and guidance to districts as a new list is developed and recommended. This will include a process to submit applications for provisional practices and programs.

**BREAK** (10 Min)

(01:29:30)

**ACT ON EVALUATION REVIEW COMMITTEE (ERC) RECOMMENDATIONS**

(01:41:20)

Dr. Catherine Chmidling, Assistant Director, Accreditation and Design, KSDE, asked the Board to act on the evaluation recommendations, which were introduced as a receive item in December 2023, for educator preparation program approvals at Fort Hays State University, Friends University, Pittsburg State University, and Wichita State University. She went through each program and shared the recommendations.

Mr. Porter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education accept the following recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee for preparation program approvals for Fort Hays State University, Friends University, Pittsburg State University, and Wichita State University. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-1.

MOTION  
(01:44:33)

**RECEIVE ELEMENTARY PREK-6 TEACHER PREPARATION STANDARDS**

(01:45:10)

Dr. Catherine Chmidling, Assistant Director, Accreditation and Design, KSDE passed out a document showing the most recent changes to these standards, most are grammatical but some are definitions. The presentation featured Co-Chairs Dr. Jean Dockers and Dr. Sarah Broman Miller, and Dr. Laurie Curtis, KSDE Literacy program manager. These standards are for the programs that prepare teachers to teach in Pre-K through sixth grade. The standards will be presented in February 2024 at the Board as an action item.

**ACT ON HIGH EDUCATION ACCREDITING ASSOCIATIONS LIST**

(02:05:34)

Shane Carter, Director, Teacher Licensure, KSDE, asked the Board to act on a list of accrediting associations in which valid credit and degrees are accepted and recognized as required by Licensure Regulation: 91-1-200 Definition of Terms. The State Board has not reviewed or approved the list in several years, however the Professional Standards Board reviewed the list during the September 2023 meeting and recommend that the State Board approve the current list without any changes.

There are eight accrediting associations: New England Commission of Higher Education, Middle States Commission of Higher Education, The Higher Learning Commission, Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, and the Association for Biblical Higher Education. These programs were presented to the Board as a receive item in December 2024.

Mrs. Mah moved that the Kansas State Board of Education, for the purpose of applying earned degrees and credits toward the issuance/renewal of any license by the Kansas State Board of Education, accept degrees and college credits from universities or colleges accredited by the following accrediting bodies: New England Commission of Higher Education, Middle States Commission of Higher Education, The Higher Learning Commission (HLC), Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, Western Association of Schools and Colleges Senior Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Association for Biblical Higher Education. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(02:09:00)

## RECESS FOR LUNCH

### STUDENT APPRENTICE AT KSDE: REYLLI LOPEZ

(03:39:01)

Denise Kahler and Kathi Grossenbacher introduced the apprentice program and KSDE's first apprentice Reylli Lopez. This is the first time in the State of Kansas that the apprenticeship program has been in action. Reylli Lopez gave a speech:

"Hello, good afternoon, Madam Chair, Commissioner Watson, and members of the board. I thank you all for having me here today to speak about myself. I want to start off by introducing myself. My name is Reylli Lopez. I was born and raised in Topeka. My parents are from Mexico, I grew up learning Spanish and English at the same time. I had trouble as a kid learning both languages as I had gotten confused with the two.

The thing that made me escape that trouble was music, the different ways it could be made. I began with playing the viola, then the piano, and finally the cello. I went to high school at Highland Park and participated in regional playing contest and earned a number 1 rating back in 2021. I also enjoyed helping out the community and found out about key club through a friend. Key club is a student led organization that encourages leadership through serving others. With all this in mind, I never had an interest in technology. I've always wanted to help or to inspire people. I ultimately wanted to give out private lessons at a low rate to students who couldn't afford the usual price.

It all changed, though, when I received an email from the school I was attending. This email was an invite to students who were interested in information technology. I wasn't interested myself, but I thought, "What if this opens doors for me? What if it shines a new light of hope, directing me towards a good path? So I created my resume the best I can and went on in to do my interview. And let me tell you, this was the most nerve wrecking experience I have ever had.

I walked in thinking it would be a typical one-on-one interview about my skills, but no, it was not two, but four or five individuals' interviewing me. I was thinking to myself "come on man don't start sweating as if it were a hot summer day. I sat down and took a quick breath and spoke until I could stop. I answered sincerely and spoke professionally. But then again I started panicking. I was new to technology, what if music isn't a good combination with technology. After overthinking to myself, I decided to bring music to the topic and here comes Tim who is my current supervisor to calm me down. He shows me a tattoo he has in his forearm, it made me realize this could be a place not only for people who have interests in technology but for music as well.

Tim was one out of many who have made this experience welcoming. He is an example of a teacher who has taught me and has given me the opportunity to go into something that is difficult to understand but he has inspired me to keep going into the computer science path. Eric is another example who I would call a teacher. Every time I would have a question, he would try to solve it or give me ways in how to possibly solve it.

The whole security department is a huge help to me and how I grew to enjoy computer science and how it works. It may be complex but it isn't impossible. I have learned how to better understand how security works and how to prevent cyber-attacks from happening. I also understand how to take apart or diagnose a computer with its problem. There is still plenty of information to learn, and I am all ready for it. I want to go ahead and talk about the First day working at KSDE was like jumping in the water without learning how to swim. I felt anxious and clueless. I thought I had to write code maintain a security

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*

system. The ones around me reminded me you are here to learn. That is what I always needed to remind myself. I would always think I needed to be the best and be the know it all but no that is not the case. The main point is to take things in and use them in the future.

With technology you never know when something is about the break. The more on hand experience I had with computers the more I taught myself to troubleshoot. Let me just say that Tim has trust in me, I can say that as he let me run the livestream. Man, I am glad I didn't say what was on my mind when he told me if I would run the livestream solo. I was thinking "I am gonna mess this up". But no, he had more trust in me then I do myself. I run the livestreams now solo and monitor if everything is running fine.

Without the support Tim gave me, I wouldn't be here, nor would I be here without the support my Dad gave me, asking me if I would rather go back to fast foods. I salute the people who work in fast food. I mean, I have experience, and let me tell you, it was probably the worst experience. I also want to thank Kathy for her support in providing me an IT individual and allowing me to work with KSDE as a full-time employee. You not only gave me a job but opened my eyes to the world of technology.

I started from being a nobody to somebody who understands the importance of future technology and the impact on future generations. Now that I have been exposed to different software and coding languages, the future I want is to create something that protects. If not to create, then to monitor people from online threats and to raise awareness of different scams that are happening.

I also want to mention that I am a full-time student at Washburn University studying computer science. I want to end by encouraging others. I know it may be difficult, but I know you can do it. If I can start from the bottom and now I'm here progressing, I know you can too.

Just don't fear heights, shoot for the stars. Thank you for listening."

The Board members asked questions and Dr. Watson explained how this apprentice program works.

### **INFORMATION ON KSBE ROLE IN TRANSFERRING TERRITORY BETWEEN SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Scott Gordon, General Counsel, KSDE, described how school districts can change in terms of territory. There are three ways: land transfers, consolidations, and disorganization. Mr. Gordon was careful to explain the KSBE cannot create a new school district.

#### **Transfers:**

There are two methods to transfer territory: 1) Based on the written agreement of any two school boards. This would then need to be approved by the KSBE. The Board shall issue its order within 90 days of receiving the agreement. 2) A unilateral petition is filed by one school board. This requires the State Board to conduct a public hearing, to publish a general notice in the newspaper of the "giving" district, and final notice between three and ten days prior to hearing. The Board then issues its order within 90 days of receiving the agreement.

#### **Consolidation:**

The next type of change is the consolidation by agreement. There are requirements such as identifying the home county of the consolidated, date of election for approval, method of election and voting plan, description of member districts and a temporary board must be appointed. If this is agreed upon, then the State Board must approve it – and then the special election is held in the home county of the consolidated district. All electors within both school districts could vote on that. If it passes, the State Board issues an order following a favorable election.

(04:03:00)

#### Disorganization:

The third type is to disorganize a school district. There are four methods: 1) Petition by election. An election is called by a county election officer, if a majority of votes approve it, KSBE issues an order. The State Board is now responsible to attach the school district territory. 2) If the school board petitions to disorganize it does not choose where the students go. If the conditions are met, State Board issues an order July following the petition. The order would attach the school district to one or more appropriate school district and decides what to do with the building. There is no local election. The school board itself can disorganize. 3) The school board may petition to disorganize and attach to a single district: local school board would file petition, election would happen, if yes, the receiving district has 30 days to approve or disapprove the suggested attachment. If the receiving district approves, the State Board issues an order. 4) If a school board petitions to disorganize and asks to attach to multiple districts, two or more, the State Board must approve this first, then the local school board initiates an election and if yes, the receiving districts have 30 days to unanimously approve. It must be unanimous among all receiving districts.

There can be a hearing officer to deal with these situations. Information that needs to be obtained: certified boundary dimensions of the district and neighboring districts and whatever changes are proposed, estimated land value/new tax revenue to be acquired by the receiving districts, estimated expense to the receiving districts, and population by grade level of students to be re-allocated. Mr. Gordon gave the steps he would hypothetically go through as the hearing officer. There is a presentation by the petitioning school district. There is a presentation by the responding districts and a limited forum of district patrons. There would then be questions from the hearing officer, and finally closing statements from the responding and petitioning school district. The public hearing would take place in the district that would have the most change. Within 90 days, the hearing officer would provide a written report to the State Board. Finally, the State Board would vote on the petition.

#### **KESA ACCREDITATION FRAMEWORK UPDATE WITH SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING DISCUSSION**

Dr. Ben Proctor, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Learning Services, KSDE, made a presentation on KESA 2.0, marking what is the first monthly State Board collaboration. Every month the team will bring a presentation to the Board about the ongoing progress of the new accreditation model. The school improvement work group is divided into the priority projects (absolutely must be done) and the supporting projects (supporting the long term roll out of the framework).

(04:30:26)

Dr. Proctor listed supporting projects, such as Star Recognition Alignment, KansasStar, Needs Assessment Alignment, Curriculum and Materials Audit, etc. He addressed the 3-cueing method, a literary strategy used in balanced literacy, in opposition to the structured literacy, which is what our Kansas schools are presently committed to. So, a survey asking who is using the 3-cueing method will be able to show whether schools are moving towards structured literacy, the most effective system for reading, and away from balanced literacy. If a school is using 3-cueing, it shows they are not teaching the science of reading.

In speaking about the amount of work that KESA 2.0 asks of local administrators, Dr. Proctor shared that the issue is not simply to get schools to be compliant, but rather to have conversations, to engage in the hard work of having conversations with the goal of moving outcomes. Starting with data, the school district needs to have the conversation about how the gaps will be closed. Then there is another conversation about whether the school was able to close that gap, and if not, then why and what comes next.

Dr. Proctor opened the conversation on social and emotional learning (SEL) and what the common definition and understanding of SEL in Kansas. He brought up the questions of how to teach these "soft skills" and how do we know that students learn them? What do our students, families, educators, and communities say about these types of skills?

**RECEIVE \$250,000 GRANT TO OLATHE USD FOR COMMON ASSESSMENTS**

Beth Fultz, Director, Career Standards and Assessment Services, explained the testing process, and why they need a grant to have help creating these tests. A common assessment model is a quarterly test that would be available to the classroom teacher on an ongoing basis. Presently work is being done in Kansas City, Olathe, and Blue Valley Public Schools where they are developing a multi-dimensional standard based benchmark assessment system for Math and English-language arts reading standards. This item will be voted on in February.

(05:16:00)

**BREAK**

**PRESENTATION ON THE FENTANYL CRISIS**

Jennifer Ebert, Riley County Health Coordinator, explained how she goes into the classrooms to educate and raise awareness about the opioid drug crisis. She told the story about her son Jayson who tragically died on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, from fentanyl poisoning. Her family were not aware that one pill of fentanyl can end a life. It helps to talk publicly about her son and to feel that maybe something she is doing can help another family. The death rates are rising.

(05:47:44)

Mrs. Ebert explained pharmaceutical type street drug use has risen very quickly while the illicit substances like cocaine and heroin, are being used less. She shared a graph that shows many kids know nothing about fentanyl, 39% had not heard about it. Fentanyl is a pharmaceutical drug that is used for severe pain. Illicit manufactured Fentanyl is now the cause of the leading cause of death for young people. Kids are stressed and overwhelmed. They are accustomed to pharmaceuticals; they have had prescriptions. They believe prescribed medicine is safe. They often stay away from cocaine or heroin, but they feel a pill is not going to be harmful. Seven out of ten counterfeit pills have a lethal dose.

Big profits are coming from fentanyl, if you don't die, you will become addicted. In the past someone might be addicted for years to drugs, but today it is more like a minefield, the first time could be the last time. There are no second chances. Fentanyl blocks the body's drive to breathe and stops the heart. Narcan can knock the Fentanyl off the brain receptors. (Mrs. Ebert's presentation included many videos that she didn't have time to show.) Narcan nasal spray is non-prescription. She showed the signs of an overdose: small, constricted pinpoint pupils, falling asleep or loss of consciousness, slow shallow breathing, choking or gurgling sounds, limp body, cold limbs.

Many schools now have Narcan accessible for students and staff. Prevention includes, strong relationships, promoting positive social norms, community education, medication disposal, and medication safe storage. In 2023 72.5 million fake prescription pills were seized. It is a growing problem. Students feel small groups are helpful and reading about this on social media.

Tony Mattivi, Director, Kansas Bureau of Investigations, started by stating what a tragedy fentanyl is. Today is his one-year anniversary in his position. Fentanyl trafficking is a priority for the agency. This drug is deadly is such a small dose. It is highly available. He stated it is everywhere. It is mixed in every other drug that is sold, except heroin. It is the same. Fentanyl is made into something that looks like heroin. It is added to other drugs, sprayed on marijuana, into meth, and so those users can die of fentanyl poisoning.

Fentanyl is the most profitable drug our society has ever seen. The drug cartels figured out how profitable this drug is. Mexican cartels create these pills in Mexico and then use the same pathways to sell them throughout America. The cost of pills has dropped dramatically. The pills are now down to \$2.30 in Kansas. These pills in the southern pills are now down to .30 cents. Fentanyl is highly lethal, very available, and cheap. Cell phones are a trafficking method. Recently KBI had an undercover transaction for 2000 pills, and it was done entirely on Snapchat. Mr. Mattivi says this is not an accident, it is a poisoning. Law enforcement needs to understand this is a crime, not an accident. The cartel business model is to addict as many people as you can. It is the unpredictable nature of fentanyl that makes it so dangerous.

In a pharmacy in a sterile lab with mechanical mixers, and they are stirred for hours until the entire amount of the drug within the binder is the same. In Mexico it is manufactured with the binding agent in a big pot, stirred with a wooden stick. There are empty spots and hot spots. Some pills have no fentanyl, and the other pills might be completely full of fentanyl. Mr. Mattivi stated this illegal drug is lethal, created through unpredictable manufacturing, cheap, and highly available.

Seven out of ten DEA tested pills with fentanyl are potentially deadly. Narcan is something he has given, back when he was an emergency technician. He has given it and considers it to be miraculous. He has seen people dying of fentanyl overdose and Narcan saves that person. The Narcan save ratio is 2 to 1. 500 overdose fatalities, without Narcan that would have been 1500. The availability is incredibly important.

The KBI is working to train dogs to find fentanyl. The dogs can smell other drugs as well, but the fentanyl is new. They are going after motor carriers, busses, aircraft, hotel, and motel stops, and common carriers. He is going to any place that wants a presentation. He is going to Hays next week to speak to the schools there. When the KBI sees a spike in communities they will do a targeted presentation and supplement the local law enforcement.

Last May, there were white powder letters that went to legislators. For the next 96 hours the KBI was the lead investigator on that case. On Monday they got information about a load of fentanyl that had come into Kansas. On Tuesday they turned the legislature case over to the FBI and they went, tired and exhausted, to try and stop the load of fentanyl but they missed it. They don't have enough resources to do what they need to do.

Mr. Mattivi ended by saying, "We can't enforce our way out of this problem. We have to educate. The only other way out of this crisis is that enough people are killed that it stops the demand. Awareness, education." A final note was to tell the Committee, and everyone who was listening, that the organization DECCA will send Narcan free, and it can be ordered online. It is a nasal spray, easy to administer, and it can save a life.

#### **ACT ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION (PPC)**

Scott Gordon, KSDE General Counsel and Dr. Jen Holt, Chair of PPC, presented the cases.

(07:04:41)

GRANT

Mr. Hershberger moved that the Kansas State Board of Education adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of law of the Professional Practices Commission and follow all recommendations in the issuance of the license in case 23-PPC-26. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(07:08:25)

DENY

Dr. Horst moved that the Kansas State Board of Education deny or revoke the licenses in the cases of 23- PPC-30; 23-PPC-33; 23-PPC-38; 23-PPC-41; 23-PPC-42; 23-PPC-43; and 23-PPC-45. Mr. Zeck seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(07:10:49)

**BREAK** (10 min)

#### **ACT ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

Dr. John Hess, Director, Fiscal Services and Operations, showed the Board how to find bills and calendars on the Legislative Website. He went through some of the deadlines and membership on the Senate Ed and House Ed Committee and the legislative leadership. He then moved to a report on the Special Education Task Force held January 5, 2024. He went over the five recommendations that came out of that Committee.

(07:11:00)  
(07:20:06)

**RECESS INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL MATTERS OF NON-ELECTED EMPLOYEES**

Mr. Porter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education recess into Executive Session to discuss the subject of an individual employee's performance, which is justified pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, in order to protect the privacy interest of the individuals to be discussed. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(07:47:00)

The Board went into Executive Session.

After the executive session, Mr. Porter moved to employ Dr. Frank Harwood as the Deputy Commissioner for Fiscal and Administrative Services. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(08:05:00)

Mr. Porter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education recess into Executive Session to discuss the subject of an individual employee's performance, which is justified pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under the Kansas Open Meetings Act, in order to protect the privacy interest of the individuals to be discussed. With Board members only for 20 minutes. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(08:05:21)

The Board went into Executive Session when they returned the meeting was adjourned by the Chair.

**ADJOURN** till 9:00 a.m. Wednesday morning, January 10<sup>th</sup>.

(08:06:00)

---

Melanie Haas, Chair

---

Deborah Bremer, Board Secretary

# MINUTES



## Kansas State Board of Education

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Haas called the Wednesday meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, January 10, 2024, in the boardroom of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas.

(00:01)

### ROLL CALL

The following Board Members were present:

Betty Arnold (On Zoom)	Deena Horst
Michelle Dombrosky	Ann Mah
Melanie Haas	Jim Porter
Dennis Hershberger	Danny Zeck
Cathy Hopkins	Jim McNiece

### APPROVAL OF TODAY'S AGENDA

Mrs. Mah moved to approve the agenda for today, January 10<sup>th</sup> as written. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(00:20)

### CAREER AND TECHNICAL STUDENT ORGANIZATION (CTSO) CITIZENSHIP DAY

Natalie Clark, Asst. Director, Career Standards & Assessment, KSDE, and Kathy Camarena, Business Education Program Consultant and KSDE Liaison for Business Professionals of America (PBA), Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA), and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), together gave an overview of today's gathering in Topeka of students from across the state representing student career and technical organizations.

(00:56)

Unfortunately, the weather in Topeka was extremely cold and stormy; many of the students were not able to attend.

Mrs. Clark stated that at the end of 2023 there were 24,856 members in CTSO organizations statewide. Research shows that students that are involved in these type of organizations have higher levels of motivation, civic engagement, employment skills, engagement in academics and leads to raises a student's educational aspirations.

Kathy Camarena, Business Education Program Consultant and KSDE Liaison for BPA, DECA, and FBLA described the three organizations she represents.

Alexis Dominic, Blue Valley Southwest High School, was not able to attend. Mahathi Reddy, Blue Valley Northwest High School, was not able to attend but wrote a description of how DECA has affected her life. Bailey Langley, Pleasant Ridge High School, was not able to attend, but wrote a statement. Ava Gustin, Mission Valley High School was present and shared her experience with Family Career and Community leaders of America. She described the family and home focus of this club.

Guy Shoulders, KSDE Agricultural Advisor and the State Advisor for Future Farmers of America (FFA) spoke and shared the very active work of this student organization. It is the oldest CTSO with nearly 100 years of history. It is a model for other CTSOs and other organizations. There are 945,000 members nationwide. In Kansas there are 230 chapters with 13,000 members.

Kathy Camarena read the impact statement of Emma Eckstein, Frontenac High School, who is part of HOSA, Future Health Professionals of Kansas. Grace Ruark, Labette County High School, spoke on behalf of her organization *SkillsUSA* Kansas. Jayce Quirin, Parsons High School, shared his experience of Technology Student Associations (TSA). He is presently the state president of TSA, which has had a profound effect on his life. He is interested in politics and law.

**BREAK** (10 min)

(47:44)

**RECEIVE UPDATED KANSAS EARLY LEARNING STANDARDS (KELS)**

(1:00:43)

Amanda Petersen, Director, Early Childhood, KSDE, asked the Board to approve the updated Early Learning Standards (birth to pre-kindergarten) which have been in the process of revision; and presented to the Board for the past two months. Mrs. Petersen reminded the Board that these standards are intended to share guidance to early childhood educators. They are not mandates, they are voluntary guidance about children's growth and development. Mrs. Petersen thanked the KELS Revision Core Team, led by Natalie McClane and Kimberly Kennedy for months of hard work put into this revision.

There was a conversation with the Board members on the purpose of standards, especially for young children, and whether the word standards should be replaced with guidance. Dr. Watson noted that a primary purpose of the Board is to set standards for preK-12 students. The word itself, in this context, describes both guidance and goals.

Mrs. Mah moved that the Kansas State Board of Education adopt the Kansas Early Learning Standards as presented. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 7-3. Mrs. Dombrosky, Mrs. Hopkins and Mr. Zeck voted no.

MOTION  
(01:38:52)

**CONSENT AGENDA (e, f and g removed)**

(1:41:15)

- a. Receive monthly personnel report
- b. Receive personnel appointments to unclassified positions
- c. Act on recommendations for licensure waivers
- d. Act on Recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee

Mr. Porter moved the Kansas State Board of Education approve the items on the consent agenda. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(1:42:00)

**Items removed from the Consent Agenda: e, f, and g,**

- e. Act to approve Kansas Registered Teacher Apprenticeship Pilot MeadowLARK grant funds.

Shane Carter, Director, Teacher Licensure, appeared before the Board to explain item e.

Mr. Porter moved the Kansas State Board of Education approve item e from the Consent Calendar. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 9-1. Mrs. Dombrowsky voted no.

MOTION  
(1:48:33)

(1:49:00)

- f. Act to authorize the funding of contracts necessary for the Provision of Special Education and Title Services System of Technical Assistance.

Dean Zanjic and Kerry Haag, Special Ed and Title Services staff, appeared before the Board to discuss item f and answer any questions.

Mr. McNiece moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve item f. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 9-0-1. Mrs. Dombrosky abstained.

MOTION  
(1:59:54)

- g. Act to enter into Contract for Summer Academies Keynote Speaker.

(2:00:21)

David Fernkopf, Assistant Director, Career Standards and Assessment Services, shared what the purpose of a keynote speaker is for the Summer Academies.

Mrs. Mah moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve item g. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-1. Mrs. Dombrosky voted no.

MOTION  
(2:00:40)

(2:04:56)

#### **CHAIR REPORT**

Chair Haas reported that the Juvenile Justice Oversight Committee asked for a Board representative and Mrs. Arnold has volunteered for that position. The Chair shared her gratitude to all who have supported her during her health issue. She was diagnosed with breast cancer in October 2023 and has been through several successful surgeries. She thanked the Board for all their cards, emails, calls and prayers. Mrs. Haas has been in the care of a wonderful team at KU Medical center and is so grateful to have caught this cancer early and is now well on her way to recovery. She encouraged everyone to go ahead and have those early prevention checks.

#### **BOARD TRAVEL**

Mrs. Hopkins moved to approve Board travel requests as presented. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION  
(2:07:16)

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mrs. Mah brought up the pending legislative bill on safe and secure schools. She invited the members to share their opinions about the bill with her.

#### **BOARD ATTORNEY REPORT**

Due to the deadline for the Board to get across town and have lunch with the student organizations, Mr. Ferguson stated he would report more next month. He did make a few brief comments about "standards."

**REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Porter requested that the Board invite the Spanish speaking FFA student to come and speak.

Mrs. Arnold would like a presentation of outreach guidelines to help kids connect to the established anchors, such as the CTSO clubs, that can be lifechanging to them.

Mrs. Mah requested that the list of questions that Dr. Proctor had for discussing Social Emotional Learning (SEL) would be a useful basis as the Board discusses how they define SEL.

Dr. Deena Horst requested a presentation on the Four Day School Week.

Chair Haas adjourned the January Board meeting at 12:32 p.m.

(2:32:01)

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board will meeting next on February 13 and 14, 2024.

---

Melanie Haas, Chair

Deborah Bremer, Board Secretary

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*