

TASK FORCE REPORT



Graduation Requirements Task Force

DECEMBER 16, 2021 MEETING SUMMARY

Jim McNiece and Jarred Fuhrman briefed Task Force members on the status report they provided to the State Board of Education on Dec. 15. In addition to their co-chair summary, subcommittee chairs each described the scope of their work and focus areas. The presentation gave Board members a high-level overview of the first six months of activity. General comments or questions included: addressing barriers to assist students who aren't on track to graduate, maintaining rigor within the graduation requirements, and seeking stakeholder input from multiple audiences such as parents and students.

The Task Force, which has been meeting virtually, will conduct its first in-person meeting on Thursday, Jan. 20, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the KASB office building in Topeka. Among the agenda items that day will be reports from each of the subcommittees, legal insight on adjusting regulations and policies, plans to share proposed recommendations with the public, and feedback from the workgroup on special needs students. Mr. Fuhrman noted that Task Force members will serve as messengers and advocates as information is widely disseminated.

Reflection from stakeholders will be very important. Comments will be gathered through in-person events as well as online in the form of a questionnaire or survey. These details are being finalized. Task Force members are welcome to suggest specific groups to contact. Please share that information with Mr. McNiece and Mr. Fuhrman. An initial stakeholder list will be provided soon. When student input is gathered, it was noted that reaching diverse groups will be critical, including those students who face barriers to successfully graduating on time.

The next portion of the meeting allowed the three sub-committees to work in breakout rooms as they focus on their specific proposals.

Recordings of all Task Force meetings are available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=atIZKHmmyNY>

Next meeting:

Date: Thursday, Jan. 20, 2022

Format: In person; a Zoom link remains available for those unable to travel.

Time: 1 to 4 p.m.

Location: KASB offices, 1420 SW Arrowhead, Topeka

Task Force Leadership: Jim McNiece jmcniece@ksde.org Jarred Fuhrman jfuhrman@usd458.org