

<i>Group</i>	Virtual Education Advisory Council	<i>Date / Location</i> KSDE Board Room (ITV) & Virtual Locations	Thursday, 12/9/10 1:30-3:30 pm
<i>Facilitator</i> <i>Chair</i> <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Cherie Nicholson Bart Goering Mark Evans	<i>Recorder</i>	Pat Scrivner

KSDE Mission	Leadership and Support for Student Learning
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- Objectives*
1. Redesign the delivery system to meet our students' changing needs
 2. Provide an effective educator in every classroom
 3. Ensure a visionary and effective leader in every school
 4. Improve communication with all constituent groups and policy partners

Members - (present at meeting X, absent at meeting left blank)

X	Brooke Blanck	X	Marla Elmquist	X	Gary Lewis	X	Elizabeth Ann Sanders
	Matt Berens	X	Mark Evans	X	Kim Myers	X	Robin Surland
		X	Julie Ford	X	Cherie Nicholson		Kim White
	Brenda DeGroot	X	Bart Goering	X	Larry Patrick		
X	David Dennis	X	Denise Guy	X	Sherry Reed		
	Duane Dorshorst	X	Sherri Hurn		Colleen Riley		

Agenda Items	Key Points Discussed	Action or follow-up
I. Welcome	Bart Goering welcomed the group and role was called.	
II. Approval of Agenda and September Minutes	Agenda and minutes – Gary moved to approve the agenda and accept the minutes as distributed via email. 2nd Mark Evans Motion Passed	Agenda and Minutes were approved.
III. Virtual School Performance Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Related to other schools in state b. Growth of Language Learners c. Growth of Exceptional Learners d. Graduation Information 	Bart – The PowerPoint information on data is appreciated. Let's look through that now. Cherie will lead this discussion. Let's start by looking at the Reading graph. This data is not broken out by subgroup. If you would like that data it can be done later. The data is what was reported on the end of year report submitted by all virtual schools and or programs. This report is filed by all approved programs. Service center students are not in this data set, their information went back to the local schools. This year, 2010-2011, we will be able to pull more data.	

Previously, virtual program students were reported as part of the whole school and was not available separately in the KIDS (Kansas Individual Data on Students) system.

Looking at the Reading scores. Overall, we look pretty good.

Let's look at math. This graph is of concern. What do you think is happening with our scores. Why is math considerably lower than our state data?

- How much professional development is given to the math teachers? Are they doing it in isolation?
 - Our teachers attend every pd activity in our district.
 - Have developed math improvement plans for every student.
 - When we look at our data it actually looks better than this.
 - Mobility factor for our school is very high. They come in low and so we are trying to get them brought up with direct interventions. We are now stronger in the use of the data than we were just a couple of years ago. We are better able to intervene more quickly today.
 - Tutorial sessions are bringing in students for face to face intervention.
 - Part of the problem is also the type of student we inherit in this program. Many are not the average Kansas student.
 - At the secondary level we are working hard to train our teachers. Many of our high school students coming in have not been enrolled in math the previous year or years and we are working hard to reduce these deficits.
- Subgroup breakout would be helpful.
- Is the student data being reported based on students who have been enrolled since 9/10 or is just a participation cumulation of scores?

In the virtual schools, how long do you expect a student to be in a program before you see impact?

- I expect growth in one year but more in the second year. I have this kind of data for my students over time.
- Our math teacher provides in person tutoring every day. I would guess that programs/schools who do not use full time teachers may not

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be able to offer this..

Do we have different students enrolling in math than reading? Our reading scores are so much better than our math. This may vary more at the high school level.

Students may arrive with better reading skills than math.

Inter activity for math students?

Do virtual teachers attend the staff development activities.

- They attend the same pd as all other staff. PD has been cut a major amount with the budget cuts the last two years. Our current pd is deficient. It is not what we want it to be.

Professional Learning communities being used? Yes.

Our teachers do feel like math is one of the more challenging areas to teach online. We are doing development to enhance these skills. We do have separate development from our brick and mortar as our needs are different.

Students coming in to our program, we give a pre-assessment and place them in course work based on where they are. They may be coming in classed as a jr but math skills are pre-algebra level so that is where we focus our teaching. We cannot bring all of these students up to grade level in a one year time. We try to grow them as fast as we can starting from where they are.

Graduation Information

- Is not part of reauthorization but is part of non-regulatory guidance from the federal level. The idea is to report graduation consistently across the nation. Many technical issues are attached to it.
- Input is needed from the field. Information will go out in webinars in January. Most information is coming from the guidance.
- 9th graders in 2006 are now in a cohort and graduate in 2010.
- Exit codes have changed some. Some better some worse. No penalty for
 - Transfers out to another district
 - Student who dies
 - Immigrates back to another country

- Homeschools and non accredited private schools exits will hurt the district.
- 9th graders determine the cohort a student is in.
- Students will always be indentified with any specialities, SPED, ELL, etc. That they enter 9th grade with.
- New graduation rate for Kansas is 80% and we anticipate this will go up another year.
- New targets – graduation fact sheet. Must show growth toward targets.
- Data will be available in January and reviewed.
- Only the all students group will determine the rate this year.
- Safe harbor use will lead to disaggregated data being used in the calculation.
- N=30
- Next year all subgroups will be calculated
- Next year a 5 yr cohort group will also be claculated.

Schools should expect graduation rate to drop this year, some substantially. Larger schools will see more difference than small. Mobile communities may also be heavily impacted.

Governors task for on Graduation and Drop out Prevention will meet tomoroo for their last meeting. Expect about 21 rec's to come out and go to the governor. Many state agencies have been invoved, labor, commerece, ed, regents. All have been involved in discussions.

One possible outcome may be a state diploma. Issued for students who move alot and meet the state minimum for requirements but don't meet the districts requirements for graduation. Kids in foster care are often adversely impacted in the current system.

Also looking at finances and how communities are impacted, involved..

Exit interviews have not been compiled to determine reasons for student exits.

New groups has been formed an is starting the development of an early identification warning system. Attendance is one huge factor. Being behind in reading or math, expulsions, truancy, etc. also impact future dropout rates. This new system will allow teachers to target students falling behind earlier.

State General Adjunct National Gaurd office was vocal on promoting GED students.

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	<p>Larry, local recruiting offices have changed their requirements and are not allowing GED students in.</p> <p>Lt. Gen. Freakly says they are not seeking GED students as they dropped out of school , they will drop out of the military program too.</p> <p>My understanding is that the only way they really get in with a GED is with a very high ASVAB.</p> <p>Suggestion to regulate homeschools if we are going to penalize schools on graduation data if they go to non accredited private schools or home schools.</p> <p>Why should schools take a hit if the state recognizes homeschools? Information will be sent on to the appropriate people. You need to make your voice heard.</p> <p>Charter/Virtual Directors Meeting Feb. 15</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • all charter and virtual schools will be coming. • One component will be on math. • If you have ideas for that day please email Cherie. T • he focus is to bring charter and virtual folks together to share practices that are working well in their school/program. • The other piece is we will cover regulation changes and /or pieces we need to discuss. • How will we operate uniquely to meet the needs of our students in our charter/virtual school. • Bring two practices that are successful for your students to share. I am looking for depth, not fluff. <p>What if our vendor is not meeting our needs? Change vendors. Find one that is working. Teacher certification will be a topic. Assessment proctoring will b addresssed.</p>	
<p>IV. Discussion-Study Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Types of Leadership in virtual schools b. Successes and Challenges c. Trends 	<p>Studies inform our constituents –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs to focus around what type of leader does it take to be in a virtual school? Not thinking of certification but thinking beyond? Certifications are in place. What difference is there? What skills will they need that are different from traditional schools? This information will be collected and then put out to all Virtual Schools. • What makes us different without money? • How many active Virtual schools/programs do we have that submitted a waiver to KSDE in the last three years? 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How do we help our parents and students grow to meet accountability • How many of you have invited your state board member to your virtual school/program? • How many have advocated for your charter? • What are the unique benefits in being virtual? • Ann – Parental involvement and college success. How does this tie in? College ready and success. Is there something we should frame there? Tying teacher performance to student performance. • I think the board would be interested in the data we have seen today. But needs to include growth information. Where did the students begin? <p>This will be building on to what we studied last year and did yesterday.</p>	
<p>V. Visits - How conducted this year</p>	<p>Visits will be different this year. The state has been divided into eight parts. There will be 5 program/schools reviewed at each site. Following the regulations, you will present your information to the group and it will be reviewed and commented on by all present.</p> <p>Is everyone ok with this new style?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, i like it, • It provides opportunity to learn from one another. • It cant do anything but help us all. • Good idea. • Sound good. <p>When - April, last part of the month. There will be 11 sites. We will get the dates set and work with the contacts information.</p>	
<p>VI. Updates</p>	<p>Do we need to put a letter out stating our position on homeschooling and truancy in regard to the graduation information?</p> <p>Who would like to help draft a letter? Timeframe – next couple of weeks</p> <p>Need to include an urban perspective on truancy.</p> <p>Bart will put a rough draft for additional clarification.</p> <p>Has anyone heard anything on Gov. Brownbacks position on virtual? Concept seems to be accepted.</p>	<p>Bart will assist in putting a draft together. We will get it out to all of you before the holiday for comment and be sent out by the end of December. Robin will assist also.</p> <p>Please send comments to Bart to help Bart begin the draft. Get comments to Bart while it is still fresh by the first part of next week.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of State is on 11th. We have been trying to find out what he will say. Dave Dennis • Senator Brownback stated in September that he was very interested in virtual schooling and particularly how it could help the small, rural schools. <p>Larry Patrick will be sharing some thoughts and ideas he is having on a new initiative at our next meeting.</p> <p>Proctoring of exams, have students sign in with the teacher. We need documentation.</p> <p>Thank you all</p>	

		Next Meeting	
		<i>Date / Time:</i>	February 21, 2010 1:30-3:30pm
		<i>Location:</i>	Various Locations