Dr. Randy Watson

Kansas Commissioner of Education

Dr. Randy Watson, Kansas Commissioner of Education, has been working in education for the past 34 years. In addition to a bachelor’s degree in history, Dr. Watson holds a Master’s of Science in secondary administration, staff supervision and staff development, building level certification and a Doctorate of Education in secondary administration, school law, curriculum development and instructional leadership, and district level certification.

His varied experience includes classroom instruction at the high school and university levels. He has been an administrator at the building and district levels, most recently serving as Superintendent of McPherson Public Schools for the past ten years.

Dr. Watson was named Commissioner by the Kansas State Board of Education in November 2014, he began his service in July 2015. As the State’s chief education officer, he provides leadership to the Kansas State Department of Education in carrying out the policies and programs prescribed by the State Board of Education, to ensure the necessary oversight and support is provided to assist Kansas schools, educators and students in achieving their goals.

Throughout his career, Dr. Watson has been sought out by schools, districts, education organizations and others for his educational insights as well as his clear thinking around the issues and challenges facing policy makers, educators and students.