



900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 600  
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Janet Waugh District 1	Melanie Haas District 2	Michelle Dombrosky District 3	Ann E. Mah District 4	Jean Clifford District 5
Dr. Deena Horst District 6	Ben Jones District 7	Betty Arnold District 8	Jim Porter District 9	Jim McNiece District 10

## TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 MEETING AGENDA

- |                 |  |       |
|-----------------|--|-------|
| 10:00 a.m.      | 1. Call to Order — Chair Jim Porter  |       |
|                 | 2. Roll Call   |       |
|                 | 3. Mission Statement, Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance   |       |
|                 | 4. Approval of Agenda  |       |
|                 | 5. Approval of March Minutes   | pg 5  |
| 10:05 a.m. (IO) | 6. Report on how school districts teach financial literacy through multiple content standards  | pg 23 |
| 10:30 a.m.      | 7. Citizens' Open Forum  | pg 24 |
| 10:40 a.m.      | 8. Commissioner's Report and Announcement of STAR Recognition award recipients — Dr. Randy Watson                                      | pg 25 |
| 11:20 a.m.      | Break  |       |
| 11:30 a.m. (IO) | 9. Information on development of Navigating Next guidance  | pg 26 |
| Noon            | Lunch ( <i>State Board Policy Committee meets</i> )  |       |
| 1:30 p.m. (IO)  | 10. Recognition of 2021 US Senate Youth Program Delegates and Alternates   | pg 27 |
| 1:50 p.m. (IO)  | 11. Information on effective use of Restorative Justice practices in schools and report on learning services for incarcerated students | pg 28 |

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Location: Landon State Office Building at 900 SW Jackson St., Board Room Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612  
References: (AI) Action Item, (DI) Discussion Item, (RI) Receive Item for possible action at a later date, (IO) Information Only  
Safety: Visitors must wear face masks or shields, screen for temperature, and be distanced in the Board Room.  
Services: Individuals who need the use of a sign language interpreter, or who require other special accommodations, should contact Peggy Hill at 785-296-3203, at least seven business days prior to a State Board meeting.  
Website: Electronic access to the agenda and meeting materials is available at [www.ksde.org/Board](http://www.ksde.org/Board)  
Next Meeting: April 19, virtual special meeting; May 11 and 12, regular monthly meeting.

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

2:20 p.m. (IO)	12. Information from Education Commission of the States on resources for state education leaders	pg 29
2:35 p.m. (IO)	13. Announcement of Kansas Career and Technical Education Scholars for 2021 and update on CTE pathways	pg 30
2:55 p.m.	Break	
3:10 p.m. (AI)	14. Act on process for distribution of ESSER III and EANS II federal funds to support COVID-19 response efforts in Kansas schools	pg 31
3:40 p.m. (AI)	15. Possible approval of public school expenditure plans for ESSER II federal COVID-19 relief funds	pg 32
3:50 p.m. (AI)	16. Act on appointment of State Board member to serve on the KSHSAA Board of Directors for 2021-23	pg 33
3:55 p.m. (AI)	17. Act on Board Attorney contract renewal	pg 35
4:00 p.m. (IO)	18. Legislative Matters and Board Legislative Liaisons' Report	pg 37
4:40 p.m. (AI)	19. Consent Agenda	
	a. Receive monthly personnel report	pg 38
	b. Act on personnel appointments to unclassified positions	pg 39
	c. Act on recommendations for licensure waivers	pg 40
	d. Act on licenses for new commercial driver training schools	pg 41
	e. Act on recommendations for funding Kansas Preschool Pilot grants for 2021-22	pg 42
	f. Act on recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee for higher education program approval	pg 48
	g. Act on request from the following districts to hold bond elections: USD 418 McPherson, USD 289 Wellsville	pg 54
	h. Act on requests from the following districts for capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid: USD 418 McPherson, USD 289 Wellsville	pg 59
	i. Act on request to continue a contract for the Kansans Can Competencies Framework	pg 64
	j. Act to initiate contract bid process for operation of a statewide program for the identification and training of education advocates for students with disabilities	pg 65
4:45 p.m.	<b>RECESS</b>	



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## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021 MEETING AGENDA

- |                |   |       |
|----------------|---|-------|
| 9:00 a.m.      | 1. Call to Order - Chair Jim Porter                                       |       |
|                | 2. Roll Call  |       |
|                | 3. Approval of Agenda   |       |
| 9:05 a.m. (IO) | 4. Presentation and discussion on ACT WorkKeys and Work Ready Communities | pg 67 |
| 10:05 a.m.     | Break   |       |
| 10:20 a.m.     | 5. Chair Report   | pg 72 |
|                | (AI) a. Act on Board Travel   |       |
|                | (AI) b. Act on updates to Navigating Change document since Jan. 12        |       |
|                | (AI) c. Designate members to attend KSSB and KSD graduations in May       |       |
|                | d. Committee Reports  |       |
|                | e. Commissioner's Task Force Report                                       |       |
|                | f. Board Attorney's Report  |       |
|                | g. Future Agenda Items  |       |
| 10:50 a.m.     | <b>ADJOURN</b>  |       |

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# KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## MISSION

To prepare Kansas students for lifelong success through rigorous, quality academic instruction, career training and character development according to each student's gifts and talents.

## VISION

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

## MOTTO

Kansans CAN.

## SUCCESSFUL KANSAS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

A successful Kansas high school graduate has the

- Academic preparation,
- Cognitive preparation,
- Technical skills,
- Employability skills and
- Civic engagement

to be successful in postsecondary education, in the attainment of an industry recognized certification or in the workforce, without the need for remediation.

## OUTCOMES FOR MEASURING PROGRESS

- Social/emotional growth measured locally
- Kindergarten readiness
- Individual Plan of Study focused on career interest
- High school graduation rates
- Postsecondary completion/attendance



## MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim Porter called the monthly meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 9, 2021, in the Board Room of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas. Mr. Porter welcomed guests attending in person and those viewing online.

(00:10:00)

### **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

### **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 AGENDA**

Chairman Porter announced that the purpose has changed for Agenda Item 16 (West Elk USD 282 petition for charter school status) because the district has rescinded its request. The item will remain on the agenda for the explanation. Secondly, he asked the State Board's legislative liaisons to provide their report with Legislative Matters rather than during Committee Reports. Mr. Jones moved to approve the Tuesday agenda. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:13:01)

### **APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES**

Mrs. Mah moved to approve the minutes of the Feb. 9 and 10 regular Board meeting. Mrs. Clifford seconded. Motion carried 10-0. Next, Mrs. Haas moved to approve the minutes of the Feb. 22 Special Board meeting. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTIONS**  
(00:13:32)  
(00:13:55)

### **RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL ESEA DISTINGUISHED SCHOOLS FROM USD 475 AND USD 505**

Two Kansas schools have been named National ESEA Distinguished Schools as part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act's program to recognize qualifying schools for their positive educational advances. Sheridan Elementary School in Geary County USD 475 and Chetopa Elementary in Chetopa-St. Paul USD 505 are the honorees for 2020. The program showcases the success of schools in particular categories. Sheridan Elementary was notable for exceptional student performance and academic growth for two or more consecutive years; Chetopa Elementary was notable for closing the achievement gap between student groups for two or more consecutive years. KSDE Assistant Director Tate Toedman introduced guest Superintendents, Principals and Title I Coordinator from the selected schools to share their experiences while earning this distinction. They are eligible to attend the National ESEA Conference in person next year.

(00:14:23)

**CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM**

Chairman Porter declared the Citizens' Forum open at 10:25 a.m. then recessed for a five-minute break to allow any potential speakers time to sign up for the 10:30 a.m. open forum. There were no speakers this month. Chairman Porter declared the Citizens Forum closed at 10:32 a.m.

(00:35:42)

**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Dr. Randy Watson presented aggregate data from different sources as a preliminary look at pandemic-related losses in student achievement. He showed both state and national results for reading, math and social-emotional. Dr. Watson cautioned, however, that no data set tells the complete picture especially because of varying demographics in Kansas. Districts should track specific data on their students and identify those who need intensive help. Dr. Watson reported to Board members on the different phases of federal COVID-19 relief provided through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund and Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) allowing an opportunity for schools to make a great impact. There was discussion about risk categories, use of interim predictive assessments, impact to students' post-secondary plans and supplementing after-school programs with community partnerships. Dr. Watson then answered questions.

(00:42:52)

**UPDATE ON COMPUTER SCIENCE STANDARDS IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Last year, the State Board of Education approved five recommendations brought forth from the Computer Science Education Implementation Task Force. Board members receive progress updates on the status of implementation. Dr. Stephen King, KSDE Education Program Consultant for Computer Science, informed the Board that while schools are all encouraged to offer computer science, not all buildings do. A guidance document is being created to help the field with how to offer computer science. There has been some difficulty in determining what qualifies as a computer science course and securing enough staff trained to teach computer science. Two other recommendations — counting computer science as a core graduation requirement and a computer science licensure endorsement — are in process. Katie Hendrickson, Director of State Government Affairs with Code.org, reported on the number of districts in Kansas that are teaching computer science. She talked about her organization's support as well as the need to fill computing jobs. Mr. Porter wanted to know the barriers for not meeting all of these recommendations and asked for additional reports this spring.

(01:50:24)

Chairman Porter recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:20 p.m.

**LUNCH**

**RECOGNITION OF STUDENT WINNERS IN KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION ART DESIGN CONTEST**

At 1:30 p.m., Chairman Porter reconvened the meeting and welcomed Mark Thompson, KSDE Annual Conference project director. Each year, the Kansas State Department of Education invites all Kansas K-12 students to participate in a contest to design art for the KSDE Annual Conference. This contest encourages students to use their creativity by entering artwork using the current conference theme. Students selected as winners for the *Kansans Can: Soar!* theme were recognized at the Board meeting since the annual conference did not occur last fall because of the pandemic. Appearing virtually were winners: Nadia Kaewsai (first place), Andover Middle School, Andover USD 385; Annabelle Stohr (second place), Stohr Christian Academy, Inman; Jade Willard (third place), Sunflower Elementary School, Paola USD 368.

**P.M. SESSION**  
(03:40:21)

**ACTION ON PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS ON MICROCREDENTIALS FOR LICENSED EDUCATORS**

Board members have been discussing opportunities for licensed Kansas educators to achieve competency-based microcredentials to advance their instructional practice through individualized

(03:48:41)

professional learning. Last month, work of the Professional Standards Board (PSB) was presented, including the definition and required components of a microcredential. Teacher Licensure and Accreditation Director Mischel Miller presented the information on behalf of the PSB. She explained that achieving a microcredential can count toward licensure renewal, but is not the same as an endorsement. Mr. Jones moved to endorse educator microcredentials at the local level, as a viable option for individualized, personalized professional learning to improve instruction in Kansas. After discussion, Mr. Jones amended the motion to approve the definition of a microcredential, as a personalized professional unit of study that is competency based and results in a credential, and to encourage local professional development councils to create opportunities for personalized learning paths for educators, using formal and informal professional learning experiences. Mr. McNiece seconded. There was additional questions for clarification. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(03:53:09)  
**AMENDED MOTION**  
(03:53:54)

**ACTION ON ACCREDITATION REVIEW COUNCIL'S RECOMMENDATION TO UPGRADE ACCREDITATION STATUS FOR ST. PATRICK ELEMENTARY**

Systems that have been Conditionally Accredited by the State Board of Education have the opportunity to address the areas for improvement and seek redetermination. St. Patrick Elementary, Kansas City, has made such a request. KSDE Assistant Director Jeannette Nobo explained that St. Patrick Elementary has provided sufficient documentation to the Accreditation Review Council to merit reconsideration. Director Mischel Miller reviewed the accreditation process, definitions of status categories, and goal for demonstrating evidence of growth process. Mrs. Waugh moved to accept the recommendation to change the accreditation status of St. Patrick Elementary from Conditionally Accredited to Accredited and commend them on making changes that were necessary. Mr. McNiece seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

(03:58:21)

**MOTION**  
(04:06:53)

**RECEIVE PRELIMINARY INFORMATION ON SYSTEMS' ACADEMIC AND SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL PROGRESS WHILE PAUSED FROM ACCREDITATION ACTIVITY**

In October 2020, the State Board of Education approved allowing public and private systems, as a voluntary option, to suspend Kansas Education System Accreditation activities through June 30, 2021, or to continue in the KESA process as normal. This action was intended to help alleviate stress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic on school systems. The Board directed KSDE to have systems account for social-emotional and academic data. KSDE staff Mischel Miller and Jeannette Nobo presented the questions asked of districts through a survey in January. They reported on preliminary findings collected on these two areas. The summary included examples of social-emotional supports to staff. A detailed survey will be sent to all systems later this spring to capture more in-depth information. A final report on the data is anticipated in July.

(04:10:20)

**ACTION ON TEACHER VACANCY AND SUPPLY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR KANSAS CITY TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM**

The Teacher Vacancy and Supply Committee continues to research alternative pathways toward an elementary teaching license at the request of the State Board. One recommendation is pursuing the Kansas City Teacher Residency (KCTR) model as a viable pilot opportunity for Kansas educators and school systems. KSDE Director Mischel Miller along with Dr. Charles King and Andrew Stuart with the Kansas City Teacher Residency program last month explained how the model works. This month, there was an opportunity for Board members to ask more questions about the timetable, process for districts and participants, mentoring, cost and KCTR support. Mrs. Haas moved to approve the Kansas City Teacher Residency Program as an alternative elementary licensure pilot for elementary teaching. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

(04:22:40)

**MOTION**  
(04:35:25)

There was a break until 2:45 p.m.

**BREAK**

**UPDATE: WEST ELK USD 282 RESCINDS PETITION FOR ESTABLISHING A CHARTER SCHOOL**

West Elk USD 282 initially planned to petition the State Board to seek charter school status with the goal of enhancing a traditional virtual education platform. The district reconsidered its request and decided to pursue virtual status with the intent to become a Kansans Can School Redesign Project in the future. Deputy Commissioner Brad Neuenswander presented the new information on behalf of West Elk. He also explained the history of charter schools in Kansas. There was no need for action.

(04:55:31)

**ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

Mr. Jones moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Mah seconded. Motion carried 10-0. In the Consent Agenda, the Board:

**MOTION**  
(05:02:43)

- received the monthly Personnel Report for February.
- confirmed the unclassified personnel appointments of Parker Erikson as Applications Developer on the Information Technology team, effective Feb. 21, 2021, at an annual salary of \$69,992; Aishwary Kumar as Database Administrator on the Information Technology team, effective Feb. 2, 2021, at an annual salary of \$56,430.40.
- accepted the following recommendations for licensure waivers valid for one school year: *Early Childhood Special Education* — Amy Dickinson, USD 290; Stephanie Long, USD 500; Megan Stevens, D0617. *Gifted* — Abby Brandt, D0610. *High Incidence Special Education* — Barbara Kephart, USD 383; Amie Kreis, USD 405; Keenan Martin, Melynda Hanson, USD 409; Abby Vest, USD 475; Amanda Johnson, Linda Becker, Kasey Lane, USD 495; Sommer Brecheisen, Cicily Rights, USD 497; Beatriz Sanchez, USD 500; Ricky Prato, USD 501; Kimberly Davis, D0602; Chelsea Harper, Regena Lance, D0603; William Dohogne, D0610; Amber Rizzo, Tayvia Kemp, D0718; Austin Filtingberger, D0725. *Low Incidence Special Education* — Susan Morgan, USD 260; Demetra Johnson, USD 500.
- accepted recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee. *Approved cases:* 3353, 3354, 3359, 3362, 3365, 3366, 3370, 3371, 3372.
- accepted the following recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee: accreditation for Bethany College through Dec. 31, 2027; and higher education program approvals as follows: **McPherson College** - Biology 6-12, continuing program through June 30, 2027; **University of Kansas** - High Incidence K-6, 6-12, continuing program through Dec. 31, 2026.

*authorized the Commissioner of Education to negotiate and*

- enter into a contract with Gizmo Pictures for production of a Body Venture Virtual Learning Module in an amount not to exceed \$20,000 for the period April 15, 2021 through Sept. 15, 2021;
- continue a contract with KU Medical Center's Area Health Education Center to provide state advisor services for Kansas HOSA in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025;
- continue a contract with Kansas State University to provide Carl D. Perkins leadership grant activities for the position of Executive Director of FFA, in an amount not to exceed \$301,708 from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025;
- continue a contract with the Kansas Chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), under the direction of Connie Lindell to provide state advisor services in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025;

- continue a contract with Fort Hays State University to provide state advisor services for Kansas DECA in an amount not to exceed \$80,000 from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2025;
- initiate the contract bid process for the purpose of investigating special education complaints in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000 for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026.

**LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

Dr. Craig Neuenswander gave a status report on selected House and Senate bills followed during “turnaround,” the first major legislative deadline of the session. He reviewed specifics of a number of bills with potential impact to education and answered questions throughout the report. Deena Horst and Ben Jones serve as the State Board’s Legislative Liaisons. They added information about specific bills and their preparation of written testimony on behalf of the Board. Chairman Porter commented on three introduced bills that impede the State Board’s Constitutional authority and asked Board Attorney Mark Ferguson to conduct research on the issue.

(05:03:07)

**ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION**

Jennifer Holt, Chair of the Professional Practices Commission, presented licensure recommendations for State Board consideration this month. She gave an overview of the situations and answered questions. Mrs. Mah moved to issue a Professional Teaching License, with public censure, to Licensee 19-PPC-34 and Applicant 20-PPC-11. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(05:38:38)

**CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

**Action on Board Travel** — Board members had the opportunity to make changes to the travel requests for approval. Mr. McNiece moved to approve the travel requests and updates. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

(05:42:00)

**Committee Reports** — Updates were given on the Communication Committee’s informational postcard series; the Policy Committee’s discussion of consent agenda language/practice; considerations of the School Mental Health Advisory Committee; and the latest Vaping Task Force meeting.

**Board Attorney’s Report** — Board Attorney Mark Ferguson commented on the process of review when a case involves the Civil Service Board.

**Requests for Future Agenda Items —**

- Information on ways school districts are implementing financial literacy into content standards. (Mr. Porter)
- Follow-up report, requested by the May meeting, on status of computer science being counted as a core graduation requirement. (Mr. Porter)
- Follow-up report on the status of computer science licensure endorsement. (Mr. Porter)
- Student transportation services, i.e. how do schools assist elderly caregivers who cannot transport children to school. (Mrs. Arnold)
- Information on development of Navigating Next and how concerns were highlighted. (Mrs. Arnold)
- Information on what districts are doing to promote equity. (Dr. Horst)
- Student entrepreneurship success stories. For example, Blue Valley student who started own landscaping business as a 5<sup>th</sup> grader and continues to operate it as a sophomore. (Mrs. Dombrosky)

**Chair's Report** — Mr. Porter reminded members about the Kansas Teacher of the Year Regional Banquets, which will be conducted virtually this year March 27 and 28. He also announced that the annual visits to the Kansas School for the Deaf and Kansas State School for the Blind are planned for May this year instead of April.

**RECESS**

Chair Porter recessed the meeting at 3:53 p.m. until 9 a.m. Wednesday.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Porter, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Hill, Secretary

## MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education

Wednesday, March 10, 2021

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Jim Porter called the Wednesday meeting of the State Board of Education to order at 9 a.m. on March 10, 2021.

(00:10:55)

### **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

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mr. McNiece moved to approve the Wednesday agenda as presented. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:11:08)

### **UPDATE ON COMMISSIONER'S TASK FORCE ON ESSER II AND EANS FUNDING OVERSIGHT**

The purpose of the Commissioner's Task Force is to ensure schools maximize use of federal funds to meet acute needs of Kansas students in line with the federal regulations and Kansas' K-12 priorities. The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and the Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS) provide federal assistance to schools to support COVID-19 response efforts. Commissioner of Education Randy Watson noted that the Task Force is not meant to be restrictive, but to ensure compliance with the federal law which names authorized uses of the funds for pandemic-related expenses. He explained key differences between what the law outlines for ESSER (assistance to public schools) and EANS (assistance to private schools). Potential additional rounds of federal funding are currently being voted on in Congress. Dr. Watson also defined the Task Force's responsibilities and scope of work. The Task Force's first meeting was Feb. 26. Because the private school applications have a stricter timeline, he suggested a Special Board meeting on April 19 to receive and act upon the applications and expenditure plans following review by the Task Force. Dr. Watson and Assistant Director Tate Toedman answered a number of questions about the funding, application process, monitoring, spending priorities, allowable expenses, communication and reporting.

(00:11:28)

### **ACTION TO SCHEDULE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING APRIL 19**

Mrs. Clifford moved to conduct a Special Board meeting via video conference at 10 a.m. Monday, April 19 for the purpose of receiving and acting on private school applications for use of federal Emergency Assistance to Nonpublic Schools (EANS). The meeting would be within the strict timeline for acting upon the private school requests. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:54:33)

Board members took a break from 9:45 to 9:55 a.m.

**BREAK**

**WORK SESSION: REVIEW OF KANSANS CAN VISION; NAVIGATING NEXT FRAMEWORK**

Commissioner Randy Watson and Deputy Commissioner Brad Neuenswander summarized the origin of the Kansans Can vision adopted by the State Board in 2015, and which states *Kansas leads the world in the success of each student*. Dr. Neuenswander reflected on the statewide tours to gather data from community groups and business leaders about the characteristics desired in a successful 24-year-old. Focus group responses provided the basis for development of a bold, different vision reflecting what Kansans said were critical, including non-academic qualities such as perseverance, integrity and civic engagement. The State Board then established the following priority outcomes: social-emotional growth measured locally, kindergarten readiness, Individual Plan of Study focused on career interest, high school graduation and postsecondary completion/attendance. The plan is to schedule other listening tours statewide to learn from parents and communities what's changed since the vision was developed.

(01:07:17)

Board members assembled into small groups to discuss more specifically the outcomes, further emphasis on the Kansans Can competencies, real-world learning, skill training, school redesign principles and accreditation. Dr. Watson then discussed the STAR Recognition Program to honor school achievement at high levels. There were comments and questions throughout the work session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Porter adjourned the meeting at 12:18 p.m. The next meeting is April 13 and 14, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Porter, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Hill, Secretary

## MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Porter called the monthly meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2021, in the Board Room of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas. Board members met in person while maintaining precautions to limit guests and non-agency presenters gathered in a confined space. The meeting was livestreamed for the public to observe and listen.

(00:08:54)

Mr. Porter thanked the Kansas Association of Independent and Religious Schools for hosting Board members virtually for a panel discussion as part of the association's annual meeting. He acknowledged the observance of February as Black History Month, citing the many contributions of Lucinda Todd, a civil rights activist and one of the plaintiffs in the landmark US Supreme Court case *Brown v Board of Education* to desegregate schools.

### 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

### 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 AGENDA

Mrs. Dombrosky asked for discussion on two consent agenda items — 17 h. (contract with Kansas Association of Education Service Agencies) and 17 i. (contract with Kansas State Department of Agriculture). Dr. Horst moved to approve the Tuesday agenda noting Mrs. Dombrosky's request. Mr. Jones seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:15:38)

### APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Mr. McNiece moved to approve the minutes of the January Board meeting. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:16:04)

### COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Dr. Randy Watson began his monthly report with a reminder that the State Board's vision is very purposeful, both in terms of achievement and equity. Civic engagement remains a top priority as one of the outcomes for measuring student success. He then presented proposed updates to the Navigating Change document, reflecting consensus from the advisory team of health professionals regarding low-risk transmissions. A modified Gating Criteria chart allows for middle schools

(00:16:22)

and high schools to remain in an in-person or hybrid learning environment even when county metrics recommend a remote-only environment if school districts meet mitigation protocols. Dr. Watson outlined the precautions to enable middle and high schools to safely reopen, including testing strategies and cohorting of students. Board members had questions or comments about cohorting, vaccine distribution and testing. Commissioner Watson also announced plans to form a 19-member task force to oversee the spending plans presented by school districts for use of the federal COVID relief funds. State Board Chair Jim Porter and Vice Chair Janet Waugh will serve on the Task Force. Mr. Porter will serve as the group's chair. Others will include superintendents, teachers, local school board members, legislators and private school representatives. The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds must be spent on pandemic-related expenses according to federal law. The Task Force will also oversee federal relief money designated for private schools.

**CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM**

Chairman Porter announced the opening of Citizens Forum at 10:40 a.m. Only written comments were accepted this month. He acknowledged the following submissions: Amber Doyle, concerns about social studies state test and standardized testing; Gail Withers, acceptance of Western Governors University master's program for certification; Kansas School Counselor Association, National School Counseling Week; Kristen Palmer, concerns about declining test scores; Amanda Swart, concerns about hybrid learning model; Melissa Masoner, youth voting as a measure of Kansas Can Vision success.

(00:51:03)

**DISCUSSION ON NAVIGATING NEXT FRAMEWORK FOR SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Dr. Brad Neuenswander and Dr. Craig Neuenswander co-presented information pertaining to the Navigating Next guidance as schools contend with the ongoing pandemic and make plans for transitioning out of it. Learning environments have been in person, hybrid or remote. Navigating Next, an extension of Navigating Change, is intended to help districts think about strategies to re-engage staff, students and families during the remainder of the current school year as well as consider preparations for the 2021-22 school year. Bart Swartz from the Greenbush Service Center explained how the seven educational service centers are providing support resources for school personnel such as those in the online Teaching and Leading Project. Federal funds distribution was explained, with an emphasis on first helping students academically and with social-emotional needs. Dr. Craig Neuenswander talked about the spending timelines, federally determined categories of COVID-related expenses, separate funding for nonpublic schools and extra support planned for special education. Questions were asked throughout the report.

(00:52:55)

Members took a break until 11:50 a.m.

**BREAK**

**ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KANSAS EDUCATION SYSTEMS ACCREDITATION**

At last month's meeting, members received Executive Summaries and accreditation recommendations from the Accreditation Review Council for one public system and five private systems as part of the process for Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA). Mischel Miller, Director of Teacher Licensure and Accreditation, stated the definitions for each status, based on evidence of intentional quality growth process. Systems receiving the status of Conditionally Accredited can respond to ARC recommendations and seek full accreditation before the next accreditation cycle. Mr. Jones moved to accept the recommendations of the Accreditation Review Council and award the status of Accredited to USD 445 Coffeyville, John Paul II Elementary, Cure of Ars, St. Thomas Aquinas; and the status of Conditionally Accredited to St. Paul Elementary and Our Lady of Unity. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

(01:58:36)

**MOTION**  
(02:05:13)

**UPDATE ON 2021 KANSAS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

Assistant Director Beth Fultz gave an overview of the assessment team’s roles and responsibilities including work of the education program consultants and Assessment Advisory Group. Kansas’ balanced approach to assessments was portrayed as three main areas: formative, interim and summative. Other topics covered in the updated were testing dates, ACT and WorkKeys, delay of NAEP exams, and rigor of standards-based assessments. Dr. Brad Neuenswander described how mathematics and English Language Arts assessment scores are relative to ACT college readiness benchmarks.

(02:06:54)

Chairman Porter recessed the meeting at 12:32 p.m. for the lunch break.

**LUNCH**

**RECOGNITION OF KANSAS CERTIFICATE IN CHILD NUTRITION MANAGEMENT RECIPIENTS**

Chairman Porter called the meeting back to order at 1:30 p.m. The Kansas Certificate in Child Nutrition Management is a program sponsored by Child Nutrition and Wellness, and approved by the State Board of Education. To receive this certificate, individuals must complete 120 hours of management classes that have been approved by KSDE’s Child Nutrition and Wellness. CNW Director Cheryl Johnson notified Board members that two child nutrition professionals have completed the requirements. Those recognized for this achievement were Jessica Phillips, USD 234 Fort Scott and Melissa Miller, USD 232 DeSoto. Mrs. Phillips connected to the meeting remotely to talk about her work to fuel Kansas’ future.

**P.M. SESSION**  
(03:39:01)

**RECEIVE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS ON MICROCREDENTIALS FOR LICENSED EDUCATORS**

The Professional Standards Board has been working to establish microcredentials as a recognized method to personalize professional learning for Kansas educators. Earning a microcredential is one way that educators can choose to improve their learning and teaching, with an opportunity to advance their instructional practice. The PSB has defined a microcredential along with the appropriate components. Teacher Licensure and Accreditation Director Mischel Miller presented the information on behalf of the PSB. Next steps are to consider how to tie microcredentials into the relicensure plan. Ms. Miller also shared an example of how one district—Lansing USD 469—is implementing the microcredential initiative for its educators.

(03:47:10)

**RECEIVE REPORT ON KANSAS CITY TEACHER RESIDENCY PROGRAM**

The Teacher Vacancy and Supply Committee continues to research alternative pathways toward an elementary teaching license. The State Board has asked for continued exploration and so the TVSC shared information regarding the Kansas City Teacher Residency model as a potential pilot opportunity for Kansas educators and school systems. KSDE Director Mischel Miller along with Dr. Charles King and Andrew Stuart with the Kansas City Teacher Residency program described steps in their model, which currently serves about 50 schools in the KC Metro area. Participants work toward a master’s degree while gaining experience in an elementary classroom. Board members asked questions about cost, partnership with AmeriCorps and the potential for growing the teacher pipeline in other areas of the state.

(04:03:35)

**DISCUSSION ON VAPING AND TOBACCO-RELATED 2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

The State Board’s Legislative Priorities support the passage of Tobacco 21 legislation, plus bans on flavoring for electronic nicotine devices and marketing of such products to youth. The E-Cigarette / Vaping Task Force was established in 2019 has since worked to address increases in use by youth, even as the public health focus shifted to COVID-19. Task Force Coordinator Mark Thompson, along with Jordan Roberts from KDHE and Sara Prem from the American Lung Association in Kansas and Greater Kansas City, provided an update on work of the Task Force concerning education about prevention, cessation resources and status of tobacco-control legislation.

(04:39:40)

Board members had comments or questions about educating youth in younger grades about the dangers of vaping and how the pandemic may have impacted youth use.

**INFORMATION ON CONNECTING STATE BOARD INITIATIVES WITH GOVERNOR'S EDUCATION COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS**

Multiple intergovernmental agencies, including KSDE, are collaborating through the Governor's Council on Education to help integrate real-world learning and work experiences into student education. Among the benefits are greater postsecondary enrollment rates, increased appeal for scholarships and better prepared entry-level talent. Presenters were Stacy Smith, Natalie Clark and Jay Scott from KSDE; Dr. Cynthia Lane, Susan Wally (PrepKC), Donna McDaniel (Kauffman Foundation) and Bob Kreutzer from the Governor's Council on Education. The purpose is to further join efforts to connect Board initiatives with the Council's recommendations for a comprehensive policy approach. Regionally vetted Market Value Assets (MVA) and a student's Individual Plan of Study combined together become an equity strategy. MVA are industry valued and recognized skills acquired in high school that create a more seamless transition to postsecondary or the workplace. During the report, an emphasis was placed on professional experiences and career preparedness. Discussion followed to include equity issues, reaching all students and creating more opportunities for authentic work experiences.

(05:14:35)

Members took a break from 4:03 to 4:20 p.m.

**BREAK**

**LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

Dr. Craig Neuenswander gave a status report on selected House and Senate bills followed in the 2021 legislative session. He noted that many presentations to the various committees are occurring remotely rather than in person at the Statehouse as a safety practice. He summarized legislative requests to the agency for data, then reported on several bills that have been introduced, their status and key points of those related to education. Highlighted bills dealt with expansion of the tax credit scholarship program, adding private school students - both from accredited and nonaccredited schools - to the ACT, WorkKeys and pre-ACT assessments at no cost; reinstating high density at-risk weighting; and changes to the definition of an at-risk student.

(06:30:30)

**ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Dombrosky earlier asked for discussion on consent items 17 h. and 17 i., but she confirmed that her questions have since been answered. Mr. McNiece moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0. In the Consent Agenda, the Board:

**MOTION**  
(07:02:11)

- received the monthly Personnel Report for January.
- confirmed the unclassified personnel appointments of Courtnie Cowser as Accountant on the Fiscal Services and Operations team, effective Jan. 24, 2021, at an annual salary of \$46,363.20; Shanna Bigler McKenzie as Education Program Consultant on the Special Education and Title Services team, effective Jan. 4, 2021, at an annual salary of \$56,118.40; Kayla Love as Senior Administrative Assistant on the Special Education and Title Services team, effective Jan. 11, 2021, at an annual salary of \$29,161.60; Annie Diederich as Education Program Consultant on the Teacher Licensure and Accreditation team, effective Jan. 4, 2021, at an annual salary of \$56,118.40.
- accepted the following recommendations for licensure waivers valid for one school year:  
*Early Childhood Special Education* — Ashley English, USD 501. *Gifted* — Jacob Pike, USD 500.  
*High Incidence Special Education* — Estrella Watkins, USD 259; Kristine Kirk, April Halcomb, USD 260; Kelsey Whaley, USD 353; Tiffany Harms, USD 383; Theresia Matthews, Natalie Crook, Tessa Wadel, USD 457; Angela Martinez, USD 475; David Bean, Joshua Gray, Melissa

Engbroten, Kelly Meyer, USD 500; Clinton Keckeisen, Elizabeth Mollet, Connie Overstreet, Lori Gowan, Kathryn Locke, Slayton Fargo, USD 501; Lisa Jackson, D0607; Rebecca Fiedler, Alyssa Rogers, D0608; Jodi Hammerbacher, Melissa May, D0618; Tonya Bernauer, D0620. *Library Media Specialist* — Sherry Giddens, USD 259. *Low Incidence Special Education* — Amy Hajdukovich, USD 260; Amity Ihrig, D0602; Brooklyn Sipp, D0618.

- authorized USD 375 Circle, Butler County, to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds in excess of the district's general bond debt limitation.
- authorized USD 375 Circle, Butler County, to receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid as authorized by law.

*authorized the Commissioner of Education to negotiate and*

- enter into a contract amendment with the Achievement and Assessment Institute at the University of Kansas for the purpose of providing the interim predictive assessments in Braille with the amount not to exceed \$80,000 annually through the end of the current contract;
- enter into a contract with the recommended vendor resulting from the bidding process required by the Department of Administration and Division of Purchasing for the purpose of providing a product linked to English Language Arts and mathematics scale score on the Kansas state summative assessments and resources for students, parents and teachers aligned to the scientific measure of a student's reading or mathematics ability with a contract amount not to exceed \$1,350,000 through June 30, 2026;
- amend contract with the Kansas Association of Education Service Agencies to implement key components of the Navigating Change and Navigating Next guidance, in an amount not to exceed \$320,000 for the period through Dec. 31, 2021.
- enter into a contract with the Kansas Department of Agriculture for the purpose of completing on-site health inspections of unlicensed Summer Food Service Program meal preparation and service sites at the rate of \$180 per inspection, not to exceed \$22,500.

#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

**Action on Board Travel** — Board members had the opportunity to make changes to the travel requests for approval. Mr. Jones moved to approve the travel requests and updates. Mrs. Waugh seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

(07:03:18)

**Committee Reports** — Legislative Liaison Dr. Horst reported on written testimony that has been presented on behalf of the State Board. Communications committee member Mrs. Haas referenced a series of informational postcards being created to share with lawmakers. Mrs. Mah gave an update on the School Redesign Advisory Committee.

**Board Attorney's Report** — Board Attorney Mark Ferguson commented on the purpose of the consent agenda for routine, non-controversial items, plus the process, according to Board Policy, to remove something from the consent agenda for discussion or separate action. He also spoke of the process for adding an item to the main agenda.

#### **Requests for Future Agenda Items —**

- Endorsement of microcredentials as a viable option for educators (Mr. Porter)
- Dyslexia update and additional dialogue (Mrs. Dombrosky)

- Commissioner's Report on progress with legislative committees regarding civics test bill (Mr. Porter)
- Full retreat on vision, goals, objectives and outcomes

**Action on updates to Navigating Change document —**

Commissioner Watson recounted recommendations from the advisory group of medical professionals prompting updates to Navigating Change and modifications to the Gating Criteria chart. He reviewed the recommended mitigation safety protocols and testing strategies. Dr. Watson then answered questions, noting that guidance is being presented, not mandated. Mr. Porter read the motion for Mrs. Waugh who moved to accept updates to the Navigating Change document reflecting changes and new information since State Board approval Dec. 8. This included updating the Gating Criteria chart to recommend middle schools and high schools to remain in an in-person or hybrid learning environment even when county metrics recommend a remote-only environment if school districts meet mitigation protocols. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The vote was 8-1-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky opposing and Mrs. Mah abstaining.

**MOTION**  
(07:27:10)

**Chair's Report —** Mr. Porter was contacted by a US Marine Corps recruiter who would like to visit with Board members about student opportunities. Mr. Porter suggested that remote conversations could be set up in groups of three if members were interested in voluntarily participating.

**RECESS**

Chair Porter recessed the meeting at 5:23 p.m. until 9 a.m. Wednesday.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Porter, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Hill, Secretary

## MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Porter called the Wednesday meeting of the State Board of Education to order at 9 a.m. on Feb. 10, 2021. Board members met in person while maintaining precautions to limit the number of guests gathered in a confined space. The meeting was livestreamed for the public to observe and listen.

(00:00:48)

### 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

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Clifford moved to approve the Wednesday agenda as presented. Mrs. Haas seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:05:01)

### INFORMATION ON ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO ENRICH STUDENTS' CIVICS UNDERSTANDING

The Kansas standards for History Government Social Studies incorporate civics connections and competencies. Education Program Consultant Marci Fiorentino described the standards' mission as preparing students to be informed, thoughtful, engaged citizens as they enrich their communities, state, nation, world and themselves. Guest Thomas Fulbright, social studies teacher at Hope Street Academy in Topeka, participated remotely to share examples of student engagement projects and strategies for effective civic learning. Encouraging civic engagement at all grade levels is demonstrated through the standards as well as programs such as the Civic Advocacy Network awards. Board members had questions or comments about civics questions on the state assessments, the broad nature of the standards and future civics conferences.

(00:05:31)

### REPORT FROM REP. STEVE HUEBERT

Rep. Steve Huebert chairs the House Education Committee. He spoke with Board members about the importance of working together and communicating, especially during the pandemic as groups deal with changing situations and elevated emotions. Mr. Porter mentioned several areas where past cooperation has been evident — Emergency Safety Intervention, dyslexia, school mental health and bullying awareness/prevention. Currently House Bill 2039, proposed within the House Education Committee, requires students to pass an American Civics test in order to graduate with a high school diploma. Chair Porter stated that the constitutional sole responsibility for graduation requirements rests with the State Board of Education. Other potential cooperative areas were identified, including computer science education and financial literacy. There was a desire to have a follow-up meeting to work cooperatively on accomplishing common goals and to further build relationships to solve problems.

(00:32:56)

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

Members took a break from 10:02 until 10:13 a.m.

**BREAK**

**WORK SESSION: REVIEW OF KANSANS CAN VISION; NAVIGATING NEXT FRAMEWORK**

Commissioner Watson summarized origin of the Kansans Can vision, adopted by the State Board in 2015, and which states *Kansans leads the world in the success of each student*. He reflected on the statewide tours to visit with community groups and business leaders about the characteristics desired in a successful 24-year-old. Focus group responses provided the basis for development of a bold, different vision reflecting what Kansans said were critical, including non-academic qualities such as perseverance, integrity and civic engagement. He reviewed the establishment of priority outcomes and the plan for another listening tour to learn from parents and communities what's changed since the vision was developed. A more in-depth retreat will be scheduled soon to re-evaluate goals and outcomes.

(01:21:01)

**ACTION ON NAVIGATING NEXT FRAMEWORK AND DISTRIBUTION PLAN FOR COVID-19 FEDERAL EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDS TO SCHOOLS**

Deputy Commissioners Brad Neuenswander and Craig Neuenswander described how the Navigating Next guidance for schools aligns with the Kansans Can purpose and vision, but the pathway has changed as a result of the pandemic. The online document will support schools through the remainder of this school year and guide them as they plan for the 2021-22 school year. Among the action plan considerations are attention to the current graduating class, assessing student learning, communication with families, social-emotional support, and evaluating learning loss when school buildings were closed because of COVID-19. Educational service centers and other educational partners are assisting with support and resources. Dr. Craig Neuenswander reviewed approved uses for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds and COVID relief funds for nonpublic schools, primarily to assist students who are struggling. During discussion, Mrs. Dombrosky expressed she would like more time to review the document. There were questions or comments about the Task Force's role in oversight of the ESSER federal funds to support initiatives moving forward, and the need to provide leadership during this time. Mrs. Waugh also wanted to clarify that districts could use some, all or none of the Navigating Next guidance, but federal criteria must be followed for ESSER fund use.

(01:42:43)

Mrs. Waugh moved approve the Navigating Next framework as guidance for school districts transitioning out of the pandemic and to approve the distribution plan for COVID-19 federal emergency relief. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky abstaining.

**MOTION**  
(02:13:08)

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Porter adjourned the meeting at 11:21 a.m. The next meeting is March 9 and 10, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Porter, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Peggy Hill, Secretary

## MINUTES



### Kansas State Board of Education - Special Meeting

Monday, February 22, 2021

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Porter called the special meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10 a.m. Monday, Feb. 22, 2021. The meeting was conducted by video conference and was livestreamed for the public to observe and listen.

(00:03:18)

#### ROLL CALL

The following Board members were present at the Call to Order:

Betty Arnold	Ann Mah
Jean Clifford	Jim McNiece
Melanie Haas	Jim Porter
Deena Horst	Janet Waugh

Members Ben Jones and Michelle Dombrosky joined the video conference a few minutes later.

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Horst moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mrs. Mah seconded. Motion carried 8-0 with Mr. Jones and Mrs. Dombrosky absent for the vote.

#### **ACTION ON REQUESTS TO CONTRACT WITH UNITED SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS OF KANSAS, THE BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP AND THE KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICE AGENCIES FOR ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT OF ESSER II AND EANS FEDERAL COVID RELIEF FUNDS**

Commissioner Randy Watson explained the purpose of the special session which is to present three contracts of a time-sensitive nature that directly relate to oversight of federal COVID relief funds. These federal assistance funds are in two categories: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) and Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS) — both intended to help state schools safely reopen and measure learning loss. The 19-member Commissioner's Task Force on ESSER II and EANS Funding Oversight will conduct its first meeting Feb. 26. The contracts are for administrative work connected to fund distribution and work of the Task Force.

Dr. Watson summarized each of the requests:

**United School Administrators of Kansas** will serve as the umbrella group that includes the Kansas Educational Leadership Institute and Kansas Association of School Boards to train administrators and local boards of education on how to effectively plan for and use the distribution according to federal guidelines.

**Boston Consulting Group (BCG)** will assist with the application process, allocation, oversight and reporting of the federal assistance for pandemic-related expenses. BCG was approved by the State Finance Council to aid with recovery and COVID relief.

**Kansas Association of Educational Service Agencies** will give direct oversight of services to private schools. Private schools can't directly receive federal money, so therefore they will apply for services outlined in the Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS). The timeline for private applications and requests for aid is much shorter than for the public systems.

Commissioner Watson and Deputy Commissioner Brad Neuenswander answered questions regarding depth of training and mentoring, accountability for spending, accountability for addressing learning loss, and reporting processes. Chair Porter noted that the Task Force for oversight is not a requirement, but an assurance arm and safeguard.

Mrs. Waugh moved to authorize the Commissioner of Education to negotiate and enter into contracts with the United School Administrators of Kansas, the Boston Consulting Group and the Kansas Association of Educational Service Agencies for the purpose of administrative oversight of ESSER II and EANS federal COVID relief funds in the amounts and contract periods specified. (See Page 2 and 3 of Link: [https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=ktGtyg\\_D\\_4o%3d&portalid=0](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=ktGtyg_D_4o%3d&portalid=0)) Mrs. Haas seconded. There was additional explanation about the do-not-exceed amounts in the contracts. Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky abstaining.

**MOTION**  
(00:30:31)

Chairman Porter adjourned the meeting at 10:30 a.m.

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Jim Porter, Chair

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Peggy Hill, Secretary

**Agenda Number:** 6

**Meeting Date:** 4/13/2021



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**Item Title:** Report on how school districts teach financial literacy through multiple content standards

**From:** Brad Neuenswander

Kansas schools provide personal financial literacy education in a variety of ways, utilizing the manner and platform best suited for their district. KSDE staff are updating a 2016 survey of Kansas school districts on the implementation and use of financial literacy within their curriculum. The results will be shared with the State Board. Past survey examples represented differing levels of rigor, and included embedded financial literacy instruction in math and/or Family and Consumer Science classes.

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Dr. Deena Horst District 6	Ben Jones District 7	Betty Arnold District 8	Jim Porter District 9	Jim McNiece District 10

**Item Title:** Citizens' Open Forum

During the Citizens' Open Forum, the State Board of Education provides an opportunity for citizens to share views about topics of interest or issues currently being considered by the State Board.

Each speaker shall be allowed to speak for three minutes. Any person wishing to speak shall complete a presenter's card, giving his or her name and address, and the name of any group he or she is representing. (Ref. Board Policy 1012) The speaker's card should be completed prior to 10:30 a.m.

If written material is submitted, 13 copies should be provided.

**Notes about Citizens Open Forum and Safety Protocol:**

- Masks or face coverings must be worn within the Landon State Office Building.
- There is a self-screening station at the public entrance for temperature checks.
- Audience capacity within the Board Room will be determined by adequate social distancing.

**Agenda Number:** 8

**Meeting Date:** 4/13/2021



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**Item Title:** Commissioner's Report and Announcement of STAR Recognition award recipients

Commissioner Randy Watson's monthly update to the State Board will include announcement of the school systems being recognized for exceptional achievements in the various Board-identified outcomes. These areas are social-emotional growth, kindergarten readiness, Individual Plans of Study, high school graduation preparedness, high school graduation, civic engagement and postsecondary success. The Kansans Can STAR Recognition and Commissioner's Award Program considers both quantitative and qualitative measures. Dr. Watson will explain how this recently developed recognition program originated. The current award recipients will be publicly announced.

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**Agenda Number:** 9

**Meeting Date:** 4/13/2021



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**Item Title:** Information on development of Navigating Next guidance

**From:** Brad Neuenswander

Navigating Next guidance builds on previous guidance – Navigating Change: Kansas’ Guide to Learning and School Safety Operations – and serves as a key resource to support school systems for effectively and successfully completing the 2020-21 school year as well as preparing for the start of the 2021-22 school year. Additionally, Navigating Next supports school districts in determining options for use of federal COVID-19 relief funds. KSDE staff will explain how the guidance was developed and how school districts are utilizing the content.

**Agenda Number: 10**

**Meeting Date: 4/13/2021**



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**Item Title:** Recognition of 2021 US Senate Youth Program Delegates and Alternates

**From:** Denise Kahler

The Kansas State Board of Education will have the opportunity to hear from the 2021 US Senate Youth program Kansas delegates and alternates at the April Board meeting.

**2021 Kansas Delegates**

Sean-Patrick Hurst, Yates Center High School, USD 366

Seth Jarvis, Burlington High School, USD 244

**2021 Kansas Alternates**

Charles Birt, Shawnee Mission East High School, USD 512

Sean Wentling, Derby High School, USD 260

The US Senate Youth program for high school juniors and seniors was established in 1962 by a United States Senate Resolution. The Program, and its accompanying scholarships, have been made possible through annual grants from the William Randolph Hearst Foundation.

Two student delegates and two alternates are selected to represent each state. The program looks for students who are truly interested in government, history and politics. The qualified student needs to demonstrate a desire to serve others in a leadership role and have high academic achievements, high aspirations for college and career and be self-motivated.

The Hearst Foundations provide each student with a \$10,000 undergraduate college scholarship with encouragement to continue coursework in government, history and public affairs.

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**Agenda Number:** 11

**Meeting Date:** 4/13/2021



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**Item Title:** Information on effective use of Restorative Justice practices in schools and report on learning services for incarcerated students

**From:** Kent Reed, Rachel Beech

The State Board of Education will hear information regarding the educational services provided to incarcerated students across the state of Kansas, including students at local detention facilities, youth correctional facilities, and adult correctional facilities. The brief report will cover the number of facilities and students served in each, plus information regarding the service providers. Rachel Beech, Education Program Consultant with SETS, will provide this update.

Restorative Justice is a framework of principles that focus on addressing the needs of those impacted by harm through relational processes of accountability and repair. Restorative Justice values and principles are applicable in response to harm as well as in its prevention and cessation through relational community building and problem solving, and thus have been implemented in some Kansas schools. Kent Reed, Education Program Consultant with CSAS, will introduce staff from Kansas City USD 500 who will share information relative to restorative practices they have implemented.



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Dr. Deena Horst District 6	Ben Jones District 7	Betty Arnold District 8	Jim Porter District 9	Jim McNiece District 10

**Subject:** Information from Education Commission of the States on resources for state education leaders

Education Commission of the States, headquartered in Denver, partners with education policy leaders across the United States to address issues, share resources and provide expertise. Kansas has a long history of involvement with ECS. Jim McNiece is the current ECS State Board representative for Kansas.

ECS acknowledges the diverse interests, needs and traditions of states while examining a broader view of how national education policy impacts all. Research, reports, 50-state comparisons and counsel are some of the services ECS provides.

Jeremy Anderson, ECS President, and Joel Moore, ECS State Relations Strategist, will participate virtually to give an overview of the services and resources provided to states. There will be a time for Q & A.

**Agenda Number: 13**

**Meeting Date: 4/13/2021**



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**Item Title:** Announcement of Kansas Career and Technical Education Scholars for 2021 and update on CTE pathways

**From:** Stacy Smith

This is an annual announcement of the Kansas students who have applied and are now recognized by the Kansas State Department of Education as Career and Technical Education (CTE) Scholars. These students exemplify with distinction the characteristics of the successful high school graduate. In addition to their academic, cognitive, technical, employability and civic engagement accomplishments, they also stand out for demonstrated leadership and a vision for their future. The honorees for 2021 will be announced at the State Board meeting.

The Kansas CTE Scholar initiative began in 2017 as an opportunity to recognize well-rounded outstanding Career and Technical Education students.

KSDE staff will also present information to the State Board regarding student participation in state approved CTE pathways and alignment with workforce needs.

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**Item Title:**

Act on process for distribution of ESSER III and EANS II federal funds to support COVID-19 response efforts in Kansas schools

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve prioritizing the ESSER III 10 percent set-aside money through 2024.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

Additional phases of federal aid have been signed into law to assist schools in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funds are made available through the Elementary and Secondary School Relief (ESSER) fund and the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) fund. The most recent allocations for states are referred to as ESSER III and EANS II. The third ESSER award was included with the March 2021 American Rescue Plan Act signed by President Biden.

Commissioner Randy Watson and KSDE staff will explain the general rules, restrictions, authorized uses and application process for these latest phases of assistance.

## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Number: 15

Staff Initiating:

Deputy Commissioner:

Commissioner:

Meeting Date: 4/13/2021

Tate Toedman

Brad Neuenswander

Randy Watson

### **Item Title:**

Act on public school expenditure plans for ESSER II federal COVID-19 relief funds (tentative)

### **Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education accept the recommendations of the Commissioner's Task Force on ESSER II, ESSER III and EANS Distribution of Money and approve the current submission of school district expenditure plans.

### **Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

Federal assistance to schools has been made available through the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund and Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS). The federal law outlines allowable expenditures directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and to support student learning and student needs associated with the pandemic.

Commissioner of Education Dr. Randy Watson has created a Task Force to

- provide guidance and oversight of school districts' plans (public and private) for expenditure of those federal funds.
- maximize the use of federal K-12 relief funds to meet the acute needs of Kansas students in line with federal regulations and Kansas K-12 priorities.

The Task Force and KSDE staff will review the applications and expenditure plans to evaluate whether the requests are tied to a pandemic-related need, are reasonable and meet the allowable uses. The information will then be presented to the State Board of Education for approval. A placeholder will be on each month's agenda for the immediate future in anticipation of submissions.

**Item Title:**

Act on appointment of State Board of Education member to serve on the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) Board of Directors for 2021-23

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education confirm its appointment of a member to serve on the KSHSAA Board of Directors, beginning July 1, 2021.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

The Kansas State High School Activities Association Board of Directors consists of not less than 60 members. At least two directors shall be representatives of the State Board of Education, appointed by the State Board. (K.S.A. 2014 SUPP. 72-130).

KSHSAA Board of Director members are limited to a maximum term of six consecutive years. Current representatives from the State Board of Education are Deena Horst, whose term continues through June 30, 2022, and Jim McNiece, whose term ends June 30, 2021. Dr. Horst also serves on the KSHSAA Executive Board.

Mr. McNiece is eligible for an additional two-year term on the Board of Directors. See attached letter from KSHSAA regarding appointments.



# Kansas State High School Activities Association

601 SW Commerce Place, Box 495 | Topeka, KS 66601-0495 | Phone: 785-273-5329 | Fax: 785-271-0236 | kshsaa@kshsaa.org | www.kshsaa.org

**BILL FAFLICK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Assistant Executive Directors: Cheryl Gleason, Francine Martin, Mark Lentz, Jeremy Holaday, Craig Manteuffel, Rod Garman

Member of the National Federation of State High School Associations

January 15, 2020

Dr. Randy Watson  
Commissioner  
Kansas State Department of Education  
900 SW Jackson Street, Suite 600  
Topeka, KS 66612

## RE: KSHSAA Board of Director and Executive Board Appointments

Dr. Watson:

As we begin the second half of the 2020-21 school business year, my records indicate the need for the **Kansas State Board of Education to appoint one of their members to a two-year term on the KSHSAA Board of Directors for 2021-2023.**

Deena Horst – Board of Directors Term (2020-22)

\* No action needs to be taken for Deena, as she will continue with the second year of her term.  
(She will have served three years on our BOD at the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year.)

Jim McNiece – Board of Directors Term (2019-21)

\* Jim could be reappointed to a two-year term if the state board desires.  
(He will have served three years on our BOD at the conclusion of the 2020-21 school year.)

KSHSAA Board of Director members are limited to a maximum term of six consecutive years. Jim McNiece has served three years consecutively and is eligible for an additional two-year term if the KSBE chooses.

Additionally, Deena is in the middle of her two-year term on the **KSHSAA Executive Board (2020-2022)**. Her term on the KSHSAA Executive Board will not end until June 30, 2022. If Deena does not continue to serve, Jim would be the only State Board member eligible to serve on the KSHSAA Executive Board. A new appointment to the Board of Directors would be required to serve one year prior to joining the Executive Board.

KSHSAA Board of Director and Executive Board elections occur during the month of April which enables us to gather all the data necessary for publication of the Handbook and Directory. **Having the appointments from the Kansas State Board of Education by May 1 or sooner would be of great assistance.** Should there be questions regarding these procedures, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bill Faflick  
Executive Director

Cc: Peggy Hill, KSDE

**Item Title:**

Act on Board Attorney contract renewal

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve renewal of Contract ID 47925 with Gates Shields Ferguson Swall Hammond, P.A. for providing legal services for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with no increase in rates.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

The firm of Gates Shields Ferguson Swall Hammond P.A., Overland Park, Kansas, currently provides legal services to the Kansas State Board of Education under contract 47925. The contract period is July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, with the option to renew for four additional 12-month periods. A contract renewal is requested for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with no increase in rates. This will be the first one-year extension option for continued legal services under the contract awarded in 2020.



Office of Procurement and Contracts  
900 SW Jackson St., Room 451 South  
Topeka, KS 66612

Phone: 785-296-2376  
Fax: 785-296-7240  
[www.admin.ks.gov/offices/procurement-and-contracts](http://www.admin.ks.gov/offices/procurement-and-contracts)

DeAngela Burns-Wallace, Secretary

Laura Kelly, Governor

### AMENDMENT

**Amendment Date:** March 25, 2021

**Amendment Number:** One

**Contract ID:** 000000000000000000047925  
**Event ID:** EVT0007114  
**Replace Contract:** N/A

**Procurement Officer:** Trenice N Saunders  
**Telephone:** 785/296-3126  
**E-Mail Address:** [trenice.n.saunders@ks.gov](mailto:trenice.n.saunders@ks.gov)  
**Web Address:** <http://admin.ks.gov/offices/procurement-and-contracts>

**Item:** Legal Services  
**Agency/Business Unit:** Department of Education  
**Period of Contract:** July 01, 2020 through June 30, 2022  
 (With the option to renew for three (3) additional twelve-month periods)

**Contractor:** GATES SHIELDS FERGUSON SWALL HAMMOND PA  
 10990 QUIVIRA RD STE 200  
 OVERLAND PARK, KS 66210-1284

**Vendor ID:** 0000052376  
**FEIN:** 48-0958768  
**Contact Person:** Mark Ferguson  
**E-Mail:** [markferguson@gateshields.com](mailto:markferguson@gateshields.com)  
**Toll Free Telephone:** N/A  
**Local Telephone:** 913-661-0222  
**Cell Phone Number:** 913-707-5125  
**Fax:** 913-491-6398

**Conditions: By mutual agreement of both parties, this contract is being renewed through June 30, 2022.**

**Contractor:** GATES SHIELDS FERGUSON SWALL HAMMOND PA **Agency:** Kansas Department of Education

By: \_\_\_\_\_ By: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that the competitive bid/procurement laws of the State of Kansas have been followed.

**State of Kansas**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Richard E. Beattie  
Director of Purchase



900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212  
(785) 296-3201  
[www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org)

**Item Title:** Legislative Matters

**From:** Craig Neuenswander, Deena Horst, Ben Jones

KSDE staff and the State Board's Legislative Liaisons will report on bills tracked in the Kansas Legislature that may impact PreK-12 education. The Legislative Session is scheduled for spring break April 10-May 2. Veto session begins May 3.



900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102  
 Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212  
 (785) 296-3201  
 www.ksde.org

**Item Title:** Personnel Report

**From:** Marisa Seele, Wendy Fritz

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
<b>Total New Hires</b>	3	2	1	1	3	4	4	2	5			
Unclassified	3	2	1	1	3	4	4	2	5			
Unclassified Regular (leadership)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
<b>Total Separations</b>	5	1	9	5	0	3	4	1	2			
Classified	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Unclassified	5	1	7	5	0	3	4	1	2			
Unclassified Regular (leadership)	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0			
<b>Recruiting (data on 1st day of month)</b>	7	7	9	11	6	2	5	6	5			
Unclassified	7	7	9	11	6	2	5	6	5			
Unclassified Regular (leadership)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0			

Total employees 243 as of pay period ending 3/20/2021. Count does not include Board members. It also excludes classified temporaries and agency reallocations, promotions, demotions and transfers. Includes employees terminating to go to a different state agency (which are **not** included in annual turnover rate calculations).

**REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION**

**Agenda Number: 19 b.**

**Staff Initiating:**

**Director:**

**Commissioner:**

**Meeting Date: 4/13/2021**

Marisa Seele

Wendy Fritz

Randy Watson

**Item Title:**

Act on personnel appointments to unclassified positions

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education confirm the personnel appointments of individual(s) to unclassified positions at the Kansas State Department of Education as presented.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

The following personnel appointments are presented this month:

Jenna Petesch to the position of Auditor on the Fiscal Auditing team, effective March 1, 2021, at an annual salary of \$43,992. This position is funded by Indirect Costs and CACFP.

Joshua Fairman to the position of Auditor on the Fiscal Auditing team, effective March 1, 2021, at an annual salary of \$43,992. This position is funded by Indirect Costs and School Food Service Audit.

Angela Feyh to the position of Quality Assurance Technician on the Information Technology team, effective March 7, 2021, at an annual salary of \$51,126.40. This position is funded by IDEA Admin and the Consolidated Pool.

Elaine Rodriguez to the position of Administrative Specialist on the Teacher Licensure and Accreditation (Kansas Volunteer Commission) team, effective March 21, 2021, at an annual salary of \$36,504. This position is funded by the State General Fund.

Alicia Newland to the position of Consultant on the Child Nutrition and Wellness team, effective March 31, 2021, at an annual salary of \$49,920. This position is funded by the State General Fund, Summer Food Program and School Food Service Audit.

**REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION**

Agenda Number: 19 c.

**Staff Initiating:****Director:****Commissioner:****Meeting Date: 4/13/2021**

Susan Helbert

Mischel Miller

Randy Watson

**Item Title:**

Act on recommendations for licensure waivers

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education accept the attached recommendations for licensure waivers.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

SBR 91-31-42 allows any school district to request a waiver from one or more of their accreditation requirements imposed by the State Board. Requests by schools to waive school accreditation regulation SBR 91-31-34 (appropriate certification/licensure of staff) are reviewed by the staff of Teacher Licensure and Accreditation. The district(s) must submit an application verifying that the individual teacher for whom they are requesting the waiver is currently working toward achieving the appropriate endorsement on his/her license. A review of the waiver application is completed before the waiver is recommended for approval.

The attached requests have been reviewed by the Teacher Licensure and Accreditation staff and are being forwarded to the State Board of Education for action. If approved, school districts will be able to use the individuals in an area outside the endorsement on their license, and in the area for which they have submitted an approved plan of study. The waiver is valid for one school year.

<b>District</b>	<b>Dist Name</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Last</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Recomm.</b>
D0253	Emporia	Rachel	Pedigo	Gifted	Approved
D0253	Emporia	Aubrey	Jenkins-Kehres	High Incidence Special Ed.	Approved
D0253	Emporia	Amalia	Gonzalez	Early Childhood Special Ed.	Approved
D0253	Emporia	Jesse	Gonzales	High Incidence Special Ed.	Approved
D0438	Skyline Schools	Melissa	Jacobs	Gifted	Approved*
D0720	East Central KS Sp. Ed. Coop.	Helen	Woolsey	Early Childhood Special Ed.	Approved
	*First Renewal			**Final Renewal	

**REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION**

**Agenda Number: 19 d.**

**Staff Initiating:**  
Robyn Meinholdt

**Director:**  
Mischel Miller

**Commissioner:**  
Randy Watson

**Meeting Date: 4/13/2021**

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**Item Title:**

Act on licenses for new commercial driver training schools

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education issue licenses to the recommended Kansas Driver Training Schools listed below, for the period April 13, 2021 to Dec. 31, 2021:

- Johnny Rowlands Driving School West, Shawnee
- Johnson County Community College, Overland Park
- Premier Driving School Dodge City, Dodge City
- KS International Drivers Ed (KIDE) Dodge City, Dodge City
- Kansas City Kansas Community College, Kansas City

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

The Driver's Training School License Act (K.S.A. 8-273 et seq.) requires that any person, partnership, or corporation providing driving instruction to ten (10) or more persons per calendar year for the purpose of meeting requirements of licensed driving of motor vehicles in Kansas, must secure a license from the State Board of Education. If approved, the proposed driver training schools will be able to provide driving instruction to each qualified enrollee. The Driver's Training School License Act (K.S.A. 8-273 et seq.) was established in 1965. Each year the driving schools must be audited by the Department of Education.

**REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION**

**Agenda Number: 19 e.**

**Staff Initiating:**

Amanda Petersen

**Director:**

Amanda Petersen

**Commissioner:**

Randy Watson

**Meeting Date: 4/13/2021**

**Item Title:**

Act on recommendations for funding Kansas Preschool Pilot grants for 2021-2022

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve grant awards for the Kansas Preschool Pilot for 2021-2022, subject to legislative approval of funding. If a program is unable to spend funds awarded, the Kansas State Department of Education is authorized to reallocate funding among programs in an amount not to exceed \$8,332,317.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

See attached list of programs and grant amounts awarded for 2021-2022.

Kansas established the Kansas Preschool Pilot in 2006. This program funds projects that provide high-quality education for preschool-aged children. Allocated funding has increased from \$2 million dollars in 2006-07 to \$8,332,317 by 2018-19. Two funding sources support this Kansas Preschool Pilot. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) is federal funding. State tobacco master settlement agreement revenue supports the Children’s Initiatives Fund (CIF).

Other sources of funding are larger, more sustainable options for districts to invest in preschool. These include federal Head Start grants, state school finance formula funds (state enrollment aid and accompanying weightings for preschool students with disabilities and four-year-old preschool-aged at-risk students) and special education funds.

The amount of Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding requested exceeds anticipated funding available. In 2021, 108 entities requested \$14,588,327 in funding for the 2021-2022 school year. KSDE does not anticipate an increase in the funding available in 2020-21 (\$8,332,317).

Due to local challenges related to the COVID-19 pandemic, KSDE recommends using grantees’ 2020-21 level of funding as the starting point for 2021-22 awards.

Some applicants requested less funding for 2021-22 than for 2020-21, and some current grantees did not re-apply. Those funds are available to award to other grantees. Available funds were reallocated first to one new applicant. When considering funding increases from the 2020-21 school year, KSDE used grant reviewers’ scores to rank-order proposals. The Request for Proposals directed applicants to submit a budget that included all costs related to providing preschool to all preschool students enrolled in the district. KSDE reviewed complete budgets and recommends increased funding levels to supplement existing sources of funding for seven applicants.

(continued)

KSDE collaborated with the Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund to begin aligning program requirements and application processes between the Kansas Preschool Pilot and the Early Childhood Block Grant. The Kansas State Department of Education, in consultation with the Kansas Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund and the Kansas Department for Children and Families, will continue work to increase efficiency and alignment for these sources of state preschool funding for the 2022-23 school year. In 2022-23, Kansas Preschool Pilot funds will be awarded to supplement gaps between existing funding available to support preschool and program costs.

USD	County	Name	2020-2021 Grant Award (as of March 2021)	2021-2022 Grant Request	2021-2022 Grant Award
257	Allen	Iola	\$180,000	\$324,943	\$210,800
365	Anderson	Garnett	\$44,400	\$58,674	\$44,400
428	Barton	Great Bend	\$18,000	\$65,000	\$18,000
431	Barton	Hoisington	\$95,100	\$160,000	\$95,100
234	Bourbon	Fort Scott	\$80,000	\$261,345	\$80,000
430	Brown	South Brown County	\$60,000	\$33,990	\$33,990
206	Butler	Remington-Whitewater	\$28,500	\$114,001	\$28,500
375	Butler	Circle	\$90,000	\$152,472	\$90,000
402	Butler	Augusta	\$54,000	\$129,127	\$54,000
490	Butler	El Dorado	\$24,000	\$52,997	\$24,000
492	Butler	Flinthills	\$30,000	\$83,490	\$30,000
499	Cherokee	Galena	\$22,500	\$91,772	\$22,500
379	Clay	Clay Center	\$22,500	\$43,434	\$22,500
243	Coffey	Lebo-Waverly	\$37,200	\$125,740	\$37,200
244	Coffey	Burlington	\$30,000	\$48,000	\$30,000
245	Coffey	LeRoy-Gridley	\$10,000	\$77,186	\$10,000
462	Cowley	Central	\$15,000	\$54,020	\$15,000
465	Cowley	Winfield	\$24,000	\$80,000	\$24,000
246	Crawford	Northeast	\$36,000	\$97,087	\$36,000
248	Crawford	Girard	\$102,000	\$150,000	\$102,000
	Crawford	<b>Family Resource Center, Inc.</b> USD 249 - Frontenac Public Schools USD 250 - Pittsburg	\$178,760	\$212,440	\$178,760
294	Decatur	Oberlin	\$52,500	\$87,441	\$52,500
393	Dickinson	Solomon	\$30,000	\$85,126	\$30,000
435	Dickinson	Abilene	\$37,500	\$44,298	\$44,300
348	Douglas	Baldwin City	\$54,000	\$90,199	\$54,000
491	Douglas	Eudora	\$30,000	\$80,445	\$30,000
363	Finney	Holcomb	\$43,190	\$46,200	\$43,190
457	Finney	Garden City	\$277,800	\$759,800	\$366,120
443	Ford	Dodge City	\$34,500	\$272,258	\$34,500
459	Ford	Bucklin	\$10,000	\$13,475	\$10,000
289	Franklin	Wellsville	\$30,000	\$22,272	\$22,270
475	Geary	Geary County Schools	\$336,300	\$667,559	\$336,300
477	Gray	Ingalls	\$15,000	\$52,555	\$15,000
386	Greenwood	Madison-Virgil	\$45,000	\$88,500	\$45,000

USD	County	Name	2020-2021 Grant Award (as of March 2021)	2021-2022 Grant Request	2021-2022 Grant Award
361	Harper	Chaparral Schools	\$60,000	\$128,354	\$60,000
373	Harvey	Newton	\$19,500	\$45,865	\$19,500
439	Harvey	Sedgwick Public Schools	\$30,000	\$50,482	\$30,000
440	Harvey	Halstead	\$45,000	\$58,237	\$45,000
335	Jackson	North Jackson	\$22,500	\$35,295	\$22,500
343	Jefferson	Perry Public Schools	\$24,000	\$59,000	\$24,000
512	Johnson	Shawnee Mission Pub Sch	\$163,500	\$339,501	\$163,500
216	Kearny	Deerfield	\$31,500	\$92,765	\$31,500
503	Labette	Parsons	\$52,740	\$61,300	\$52,740
505	Labette	Chetopa-St. Paul	\$60,000	\$73,000	\$60,000
506	Labette	Labette County	\$112,500	\$88,701	\$88,700
458	Leavenworth	Basehor-Linwood	\$48,000	\$293,537	\$48,000
469	Leavenworth	Lansing	\$22,500	\$27,470	\$22,500
252	Lyon	Southern Lyon County	\$135,000	\$207,900	\$135,000
397	Marion	Centre	\$25,000	\$79,978	\$25,000
398	Marion	Peabody-Burns	\$18,000	\$38,605	\$18,000
380	Marshall	Vermillion	\$56,630	\$98,366	\$56,630
400	McPherson	Smoky Valley	\$42,000	\$35,000	\$35,000
418	McPherson	McPherson	\$64,060	\$127,197	\$64,060
423	McPherson	Moundridge	\$78,000	\$156,350	\$78,000
448	McPherson	Inman	\$39,000	\$58,835	\$39,000
225	Meade	Fowler	\$30,000	\$20,026	\$20,030
367	Miami	Osawatomie	\$54,500	\$182,800	\$54,500
272	Mitchell	Waconda	\$37,500	\$48,869	\$37,500
273	Mitchell	Beloit	\$45,000	\$56,339	\$56,340
445	Montgomery	Coffeyville	\$15,620	\$25,934	\$25,930
417	Morris	Morris County	\$60,000	\$92,966	\$60,000
218	Morton	Elkhart	\$51,000	\$92,987	\$51,000
101	Neosho	Erie-Galesburg	\$67,500	\$173,019	\$67,500
413	Neosho	Chanute Public Schools	\$75,000	\$222,500	\$75,000
106	Ness	Western Plains	\$24,000	\$27,805	\$24,000
420	Osage	Osage City	\$19,010	\$34,000	\$19,010
434	Osage	Santa Fe Trail	\$52,500	\$68,500	\$52,500
392	Osborne	Osborne County	\$42,000	\$105,398	\$42,000
495	Pawnee	Ft Larned	\$43,770	\$267,679	\$43,770
322	Pottawatomie	Onaga-Havensville-Wheaton	\$78,270	\$94,156	\$78,270
382	Pratt	Pratt	\$54,140	\$109,081	\$54,140
308	Reno	Hutchinson Public Schools	\$120,000	\$383,529	\$120,000

USD	County	Name	2020-2021 Grant Award (as of March 2021)	2021-2022 Grant Request	2021-2022 Grant Award
309	Reno	Nickerson	\$105,000	\$262,615	\$232,870
310	Reno	Fairfield	\$30,000	\$66,055	\$30,000
311	Reno	Pretty Prairie	\$18,000	\$116,517	\$18,000
312	Reno	Haven Public Schools	\$36,230	\$74,060	\$36,230
313	Reno	Buhler	\$162,550	\$237,495	\$162,550
109	Republic	Republic County	\$31,500	\$51,309	\$31,500
383	Riley	Manhattan-Ogden	\$269,500	\$353,753	\$353,750
270	Rooks	Plainville	\$49,500	\$72,095	\$49,500
271	Rooks	Stockton	\$45,000	\$50,000	\$45,000
403	Rush	Otis-Bison	\$40,200	\$52,339	\$40,200
399	Russell	Paradise	\$16,500	\$28,236	\$16,500
305	Saline	Salina	\$202,500	\$170,065	\$170,070
307	Saline	Ell-Saline	\$10,000	\$65,300	\$10,000
259	Sedgwick	Wichita	\$60,000	\$260,104	\$60,000
262	Sedgwick	Valley Center Pub Sch	\$30,000	\$35,485	\$30,000
263	Sedgwick	Mulvane	\$45,000	\$45,000	\$45,000
267	Sedgwick	Renwick	\$33,000	\$218,485	\$33,000
268	Sedgwick	Cheney	\$60,000	\$82,688	\$60,000
	Sedgwick	<b>Kansas Children's Service League</b> USD 259 - Wichita USD 261 - Haysville USD 266 - Maize Rainbows United YMCA of Greater Wichita	\$487,338	\$487,338	\$487,338
	Sedgwick	<b>The Opportunity Project (TOP) Early Learning Centers</b> USD 259 - Wichita USD 260 - Derby	\$380,940	\$380,940	\$380,940
483	Seward	Kismet-Plains	\$42,000	\$37,138	\$37,140
	Shawnee	<b>United Way of Greater Topeka</b> USD 345 - Seaman USD 372 - Silver Lake USD 437 - Auburn Washburn USD 501 - Topeka Public Schools Patterson Family Child Care, LLC	\$653,369	\$700,282	\$653,369
	Shawnee	TDC Learning Centers, Inc.	N/A	\$12,195	\$0
349	Stafford	Stafford	\$45,160	\$31,130	\$31,130

USD	County	Name	2020-2021 Grant Award (as of March 2021)	2021-2022 Grant Request	2021-2022 Grant Award
452	Stanton	Stanton County	\$34,800	\$38,500	\$34,800
356	Sumner	Conway Springs	\$24,000	\$63,167	\$24,000
315	Thomas	Colby Public Schools	\$51,000	\$172,073	\$51,000
605	Various	<b>South Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative</b> USD 254 - Barber - Barber County North USD 255 - Barber - South Barber USD 300 - Comanche - Comanche County USD 511 - Harper - Attica USD 331 - Kingman - Kingman - Norwich USD 332 - Kingman - Cunningham Z0031 - Kingman - St Patrick Catholic Elem USD 422 - Kiowa - Kiowa County USD 350 - Stafford - St John-Hudson	\$430,470	\$568,546	\$430,470
329	Wabaunsee	Wabaunsee	\$39,000	\$94,348	\$39,000
223	Washington	Barnes	N/A	\$75,964	\$75,960
224	Washington	Clifton-Clyde	\$34,800	\$87,000	\$34,800
461	Wilson	Neodesha	\$54,000	\$173,785	\$54,000
484	Wilson	Fredonia	\$30,000	\$117,468	\$30,000
366	Woodson	Woodson	\$39,150	\$109,680	\$39,150
202	Wyandotte	Turner-Kansas City	\$60,000	\$75,000	\$60,000
500	Wyandotte	Kansas City	\$175,000	\$235,000	\$175,000

Total Awarded:

\$8,332,317

## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Number: 19 f.

**Staff Initiating:**

Catherine Chmidling

**Director:**

Mischel Miller

**Commissioner:**

Randy Watson

**Meeting Date:** 4/13/2021

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**Item Title:**

Act on recommendation of the Evaluation Review Committee for higher education program approval

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education accept the following recommendation of the Evaluation Review Committee for "Program Approval" for Pittsburg State University.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

Following the institutional application and receipt of a complete institutional report, a review team of trained evaluators was appointed to review a teacher education program for the above institution based on adopted State Board policies, procedures and regulations. These are available for review by any member or members of the State Board. The review team's report and institution's response to the report, along with the institutional report, were submitted to the Evaluation Review Committee (ERC) of the Teaching and School Administration Professional Standards Advisory Board. The ERC, in accordance with procedures adopted by the State Board, prepared written initial recommendations regarding the appropriate status to be assigned to each education preparation provider or teacher education program.

The initial recommendation was submitted to the teacher education institution and the institution was given 30 days to request a hearing to appeal the initial recommendation. If requested, the ERC conducted a hearing and prepared a written final recommendation regarding the appropriate status to be assigned to the teacher education program. If a request for a hearing was not submitted or the institution accepted, the initial recommendations became the final recommendations.

These final recommendations were approved by the Kansas State Board of Education on July 9, 2019. The listed title of the program as it was approved was later found in need of correction. The program as previously approved, with an amended title, is now submitted to the State Board, as attached, for consideration and approval of the ERC recommendation for program approval status.

A copy of the regulations covering this process is also attached.

If approved, new programs are assigned the status of "new program approved with stipulation." New programs must be operationalized within two years, after which they submit a new program progress report, and if recommended, are added to the institution's continuing program review schedule.

March 19, 2021

To: Dr. Randy Watson, Commissioner

From: Evaluation Review Committee

Subject: Final Recommendation for program approval for Pittsburg State University

**Introductory Statement:**

On March 18, 2021, the Evaluation Review Committee reviewed information for program approval for Pittsburg State University.

Documents that were received and considered include the Institutional Program Report, KSDE Team Report, and Institutional Rejoinder to the KSDE Team Report.

**PROGRAM APPROVAL RECOMMENDATION**

Recommend "New Program Approved with Stipulation" for the following program through June 30, 2021.

Program was approved by SBOE on July 9, 2019 with the title "High Incidence, A, K-6 MAT". This is to be amended to "Innovative/Experimental High Incidence, I, K-6 MAT."

No change to standards findings or areas for improvement.

Innovative/Experimental High Incidence, I, K-6 MAT, New

Areas for Improvement:

Standards 1-5, 8

None

AFI 6.1 [Standard 6 - Met]: It is unclear how the assessment [Assessment 2] is scored to produce the minimum 80% to pass.

**Rationale 6.1:** Assessment 2 does not have a scoring guide. Response to rejoinder: Rejoinder addresses Assessment #6, not Assessment #2.

AFI 7.1 [Standard 7 – Met]: Assessment 7 rubric is not clear.

**Rationale 7.1:** It is not clear how candidates are assessed using the assessment 7 rubric. The point system on the rubric is unclear. Response to rejoinder: Numbers were adjusted on the revised rubric, but scoring is not clear on the assessment 7 rubric. Descriptions of the scoring guide are not clear.

New programs may be given the status of 'New program approved with stipulation,' or 'Not approved.' New programs may be approved-with-stipulation for 2 years during which they are operationalized. A progress report is due after the second semester of operation to address the new program stipulation.

## PROGRAM REVIEW PROCESS

The responsibilities of the Commissioner and State Board regarding unit accreditation under regulations 91-1-231(d), 91-1-232b and 91-1-70a are as follows:

KSDE's Evaluation Review Committee (ERC) renders program approval recommendations for the initial teacher preparation and advanced program levels of the unit.

## PROGRAM DECISIONS

New program approval decisions are:

- New Program Approved with Stipulation
- Not Approved.

Renewal program decisions are:

- Approved
- Approved with Stipulation
- Not Approved.

The responsibilities of the Commissioner and State Board regarding program approval are under regulations 91-1-235 and 91-1-236.

### **91-1-235. Procedures for initial approval of teacher education programs.**

(a) Application.

(1) Each teacher education institution that desires to have any new program approved by the state board shall submit an application for program approval to the commissioner. The application shall be submitted at least 12 months before the date of implementation.

(2) Each institution shall submit with its application a program report containing a detailed description of each proposed program, including program coursework based on standards approved by the state board, and the performance-based assessment system that will be utilized to collect performance data on candidates' knowledge and skills. Each program report shall be in the form and shall contain the information prescribed by the commissioner. The program report shall include confirmation that the candidates in the program will be required to complete the following successfully:

- (A) Coursework that constitutes a major in the subject at the institution or that is equivalent to a major;
- (B) at least 12 weeks of student teaching; and
- (C) a validated preservice candidate work sample.

(b) Review team. Upon receipt of a program report, a review team shall be appointed by the commissioner to analyze the program report. The chairperson of the review team shall be designated by the commissioner. The number of review team members shall be determined by the commissioner, based upon the scope of the program to be reviewed. Any institution may challenge the appointment of a review team member. The institution's challenge shall be submitted in writing and received by the commissioner no later than 30 days after the notification of review team appointments is sent to the institution. Each challenge to the appointment of a review team member shall be only on the basis of a conflict of interest.

(c) Program review process.

(1) In accordance with procedures adopted by the state board, a review team shall examine and analyze the proposed program report and shall prepare a report expressing the findings and conclusions of the

review team. The review team's report shall be submitted to the commissioner. The report shall be forwarded by the commissioner to an appropriate representative designated by the teacher education institution.

(2) Any institution may prepare a response to the review team's report. This response shall be prepared and submitted to the commissioner no later than 45 days of receipt of the review team's report. Receipt of the review team's report shall be presumed to occur three days after mailing. The review team's report, any response by the institution, and any other supporting documentation shall be forwarded to the evaluation review committee by the commissioner.

(d) Initial recommendation. The evaluation review committee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the state board, shall prepare a written initial recommendation regarding the appropriate status to be assigned to the proposed program, which shall include a statement of the findings and conclusions of the evaluation review committee. The recommendation shall be submitted to an appropriate representative designated by the teacher education institution and to the commissioner.

(e) Request for hearing.

(1) Within 30 days of receipt of an initial recommendation of the evaluation review committee, the teacher education institution may submit a written request by certified mail to the evaluation review committee for a hearing before the committee to appeal the initial recommendation. Receipt of the initial recommendation of the evaluation review committee shall be presumed to occur three days after mailing. This request shall specify, in detail, the basis for the appeal, including an identification of each item disputed by the institution.

(2) If a request for a hearing is submitted, the evaluation review committee shall conduct a hearing. The committee shall then prepare a written final recommendation regarding the appropriate status to be assigned to the proposed program, which shall include a statement of the findings and conclusions of the evaluation review committee. The final recommendation shall be submitted to an appropriate representative designated by the teacher education institution and to the commissioner. The final recommendation shall be submitted by the commissioner to the state board for its consideration and determination.

(3) If a request for a hearing is not submitted by certified mail within the time allowed under paragraph (e) (1), the initial recommendation of the evaluation review committee shall become the final recommendation of the review committee. The committee's final recommendation shall be submitted by the commissioner to the state board for its consideration and determination.

(f) Approval status. Each new program shall be approved with stipulation or not approved.

(g) Annual report.

(1) If a new program is approved with stipulation, the institution shall submit a progress report to the commissioner within 60 days after completion of the second semester of operation of the program and thereafter in each of the institution's annual reports that are due on or before July 30.

(2) Each progress report shall be submitted by the commissioner to the evaluation review committee for its examination and analysis. Following review of the progress report, the evaluation review committee may remove any areas for improvement and change the status to approved until the institution's next program review.

(h) Change of approval status.

(1) At any time, the approval status of a teacher education program may be changed by the state board if, after providing an opportunity for a hearing, the state board finds that the institution either has failed to meet substantially the program standards or has materially changed the program. For just cause, the duration of the approval status of a program may be extended by the state board. The duration of the current approval status of a program shall be extended automatically if the program is in the process of

being reevaluated by the state board. This extension shall be counted as part of any subsequent approval period of a program.

(2) At the time of an institution's next on-site visit, the new program shall be reviewed pursuant to K.A.R. 91-1-236.

(3) For licensure purposes, each teacher education program that is approved with stipulation shall be considered to be approved. (Authorized by and implementing Article 6, Section 2(a) of the Kansas Constitution; effective Aug. 6, 2004; amended Aug. 12, 2011; amended July 7, 2017.)

#### **91-1-236. Procedures for renewing approval of teacher education program.**

(a) Application for program renewal.

(1) Each teacher education institution that desires to have the state board renew the approval status of one or more of its teacher education programs shall submit to the commissioner an application for program renewal. The application shall be submitted at least 12 months before the expiration of the current approval period of the program or programs.

(2) Each institution shall also submit a program report, which shall be in the form and shall contain the information prescribed by the commissioner. The program report shall be submitted at least six months before the expiration of the current approval period of the program or programs. The program report shall include confirmation that the candidates in the program will be required to complete the following:

(A) Coursework that constitutes a major in the subject at the institution or that is equivalent to a major; and

(B) at least 12 weeks of student teaching.

(b) Review team. Upon receipt of a complete program report, a review team shall be appointed by the commissioner to analyze the program report. The chairperson of the review team shall be designated by the commissioner. The number of review team members shall be determined by the commissioner, based upon the scope of the program or programs to be reviewed. An institution may challenge the appointment of a review team member only on the basis of a conflict of interest.

(c) Program review process.

(1) In accordance with procedures adopted by the state board, each review team shall examine and analyze the program report and prepare a review report expressing the findings and conclusions of the review team. The review team's report shall be submitted to the commissioner. The report shall be forwarded by the commissioner to an appropriate representative of the teacher education institution.

(2) Any institution may prepare a written response to the review team's report. Each response shall be prepared and submitted to the commissioner within 45 days of receipt of the review team's report. The review team's report, any response filed by the institution, and any other supporting documentation shall be forwarded by the commissioner to the evaluation review committee.

(d) Initial recommendation. The evaluation review committee, in accordance with procedures adopted by the state board, shall prepare a written initial recommendation regarding the appropriate status to be assigned to the program or programs, which shall include a statement of the findings and conclusions of the evaluation review committee. The recommendation shall be submitted to an appropriate representative of the teacher education institution and to the commissioner.

(e) Request for hearing.

(1) Within 30 days of the receipt of an initial recommendation of the evaluation review committee, the teacher education institution may submit a written request to the commissioner for a hearing before the evaluation review committee to appeal the initial recommendation of the committee. This request shall

specify, in detail, the basis for the appeal, including an identification of each item disputed by the institution.

(2) If a request for a hearing is submitted, the evaluation review committee shall conduct a hearing. The committee shall then prepare a written final recommendation regarding the appropriate status to be assigned to the program or programs, which shall include a statement of the findings and conclusions of the evaluation review committee. The final recommendation shall be submitted to an appropriate representative of the teacher education institution and to the commissioner. The final recommendation shall be submitted by the commissioner to the state board for its consideration and determination of program approval status according to paragraph (f)(1).

(3) If a request for a hearing is not submitted within the time allowed under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the initial recommendation of the evaluation review committee shall become the final recommendation of the review committee. The committee's final recommendation shall be submitted by the commissioner to the state board for its consideration and determination.

(f) Approval status.

(1) The status assigned to any teacher education program specified in this regulation shall be approved, approved with stipulation, or not approved.

(2) Subject to subsequent action by the state board, the assignment of approved status to a teacher education program shall be effective for seven academic years. However, the state board, at any time, may change the approval status of a program if, after providing an opportunity for a hearing, the state board finds that the institution either has failed to meet substantially the program standards adopted by the state board or has made a material change in a program. For just cause, the duration of the approval status of a program may be extended by the state board. The duration of the approval status of a program shall be extended automatically if the program is in the process of being reevaluated by the state board.

(3) (A) If a program is approved with stipulation, that status shall be effective for the period of time specified by the state board, which shall not exceed seven years.

(B) If any program of a teacher education institution is approved with stipulation, the institution shall include in an upgrade report to the commissioner the steps that the institution has taken and the progress that the institution has made during the previous academic year to address the deficiencies that were identified in the initial program review.

(C) The upgrade report shall be submitted by the commissioner to the evaluation review committee for its examination and analysis. After this examination and analysis, the evaluation review committee shall prepare a written recommendation regarding the status to be assigned to the teacher education program for the succeeding academic years. The recommendation shall include a statement of the findings and conclusions of the evaluation review committee. The recommendation shall be submitted to an appropriate representative of the teacher education institution and to the commissioner. If the institution does not agree with this recommendation, the institution may request a hearing according to the provisions in subsection (e).

(D) For licensure purposes, each teacher education program that is approved with stipulation shall be considered to be approved.

(4) Students shall be allowed two full, consecutive, regular semesters following the notification of final action by the state board to complete a program that is not approved. Summers and interterms shall not be counted as part of the two regular semesters. Students who finish within these two regular semesters may be recommended for licensure by the college or university. (Authorized by and implementing Article 6, Section 2(a) of the Kansas Constitution; effective Aug. 6, 2004; amended Aug. 12, 2011.)

## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Number: 19 g. (1)

Staff Initiating:

Deputy Commissioner:

Commissioner:

Meeting Date: 4/13/2021

Craig Neuenswander

Craig Neuenswander

Randy Watson

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### Item Title:

Act on request from USD 418 McPherson, McPherson County, to hold a bond election

### Recommended Motion:

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education issue an Order authorizing USD 418 McPherson, McPherson County, to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds in excess of the district's general bond debt limitation.

### Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:

Under KSA 72-5461 et seq., a school district may request that the State Board of Education authorize the district to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds in an amount which would cause the district's bonded indebtedness to exceed the district's general bond debt limitation. USD 418 McPherson, McPherson County, has made such a request. If approved, the district could hold an election on the question of whether additional bonds be issued. If the voters approve such action, the district could issue the bonds.

USD 418 plans to use the bond proceeds to pay the costs to: Construct, furnish and equip improvements and renovations to four elementary schools; construct, furnish and equip improvements and renovations to McPherson Middle School to make existing facility a 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade education center, District office, and District central kitchen; Construct, furnish and equip improvements and renovations to McPherson High School, a new 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade education center, and Middle School and High School football and track facility; Purchase computer and communications technology, and make safety and security improvements to District facilities.

Based upon the following criteria, staff recommends that this bond application be approved.

1. The vote to submit the bond application by the local board of education was unanimous.
2. The district is experiencing a growth in enrollment.
3. The community was involved in the process of the building proposal.
4. All required forms were properly filed with us, along with an appropriate notice for the election.
5. The district outlined the needs for the building project by responding to all questions required by the state board of education.
6. An outside consultant was utilized in determining the school district needs.
7. The age of the existing building(s) appears to justify a bond election.
8. The application indicates that the building(s) are in need of major repairs in order to provide the necessary student programs.

## Summary of Appeal to State Board of Education to Allow Local Vote on Exceeding Debt Limit

<b>Unified School District 418 (McPherson)</b>	<b>County: McPherson</b>
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1. Current equalized assessed tangible valuation *	<u>\$279,150,782</u>
2. Percentage of bond debt limit	<u>14%</u>
3. Amount of bond debt limit	<u>\$39,081,109</u>
4. State Aid Percentage	<u>0%</u>

\* Includes assessed valuation of motor vehicle

		Percent of Equalized Assessed Valuation - Current Year
5. Amount of bond indebtedness at present time	<u>\$10,435,000</u>	<u>3.7%</u>
6. Amount of bond indebtedness requested	<u>\$112,800,000</u>	<u>40.4%</u>
7. Total amount of bond indebtedness if request approved (Lines 5 + 6)	<u>\$123,235,000</u>	<u>44.1%</u>
8. Estimated amount of bond indebtedness authorized without approval	<u>\$39,081,109</u>	<u>14.0%</u>
9. Amount of bond indebtedness above bond debt limit requested	<u>\$84,153,891</u>	<u>30.1%</u>

### Forms Requested

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>( X ) 5-210-118 General Information</li> <li>(X) 5-210-106 Resolution</li> <li>(X) 5-210-108 Publication Notice</li> <li>(X) 5-210-110 Application</li> <li>(X) 5-210-114 Equalized Assessed Valuation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(X) Schematic floor plan of the proposed facilities</li> <li>(X) Map of the school district showing present facilities</li> <li>(X) Small map of the school district showing the adjoining school districts</li> <li>(X) Map of the school district showing proposed facilities</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

March 15, 2021  
Date

March 15, 2021  
Date

Veryl Peter  
Director, School Finance

Craig Neuenswander  
Deputy Commissioner

## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Number: 19 g. (2)

Staff Initiating:

Deputy Commissioner:

Commissioner:

Meeting Date: 4/13/2021

Craig Neuenswander

Craig Neuenswander

Randy Watson

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### Item Title:

Act on request from USD 289 Wellsville, Franklin County, to hold a bond election

### Recommended Motion:

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education issue an Order authorizing USD 289 Wellsville, Franklin County, to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds in excess of the district's general bond debt limitation.

### Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:

Under KSA 72-5461 et seq., a school district may request that the State Board of Education authorize the district to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds in an amount which would cause the district's bonded indebtedness to exceed the district's general bond debt limitation. USD 289 Wellsville, Franklin County, has made such a request. If approved, the district could hold an election on the question of whether additional bonds be issued. If the voters approve such action, the district could issue the bonds.

USD 289 has two questions on the ballot and plans to use the bond proceeds (not to exceed \$18,105,000) to pay the costs to:

Proposition 1 = \$11,625,000 for "Base Projects" which includes: replace HVAC systems; repair and replace roofing at elementary, middle and high school; asphalt and concrete paving at middle and high school; exterior and interior renovations at middle and high school (façade, entry additions, equipment screens, locker rooms, restrooms, corridors, and a secure entry); remodel and secure entry to elementary school.

Proposition 2 = \$18,105,000 for "Supplemental Projects" (\$6,480,000) plus "Base Projects" (\$11,625,000). Supplemental Projects include: renovations to middle school and high school classrooms, including construct, equip and furnish a new **makerspace**; construct, equip and furnish a wrestling room and weight room addition to the middle school and high school.

Based upon the following criteria, staff recommends that this bond application be approved.

1. The vote to submit the bond application by the local board of education was unanimous.
2. The community was involved in the process of the building proposal.
3. All required forms were properly filed with us, along with an appropriate notice for the election.

(continued)

4. The district outlined the needs for the building project by responding to all questions required by the state board of education.
  5. An outside consultant was utilized in determining the school district needs.
  6. The age of the existing building(s) appears to justify a bond election.
  7. The application indicates that the building(s) are in need of major repairs in order to provide the necessary student programs.
- 
- "To define a **school makerspace** by its purpose and simplest of terms, it is a place where young people have an opportunity to explore their own interests; learn to use tools and materials, both physical and virtual; and develop creative projects" Laura Flemming Worlds of Making.
  - The maker movement is about teaching and learning that is focused on student-centered inquiry. This is not the project done at the *end* of a unit of learning, but the actual vehicle and purpose of the learning.
  - Makerspaces provide hands-on creative ways for students to design, experiment, and invent as they engage in science, engineering and tinkering.

## Summary of Appeal to State Board of Education to Allow Local Vote on Exceeding Debt Limit

<b>Unified School District 289 (Wellsville)</b>	<b>County: Franklin</b>
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1. Current equalized assessed tangible valuation *	<u>\$71,793,730</u>
2. Percentage of bond debt limit	<u>14%</u>
3. Amount of bond debt limit	<u>\$10,051,122</u>
4. State Aid Percentage	<u>0%</u>

\* Includes assessed valuation of motor vehicle

		Percent of Equalized Assessed Valuation - Current Year
5. Amount of bond indebtedness at present time	<u>\$700,000</u>	<u>1.0%</u>
6. Amount of bond indebtedness requested	<u>\$18,105,000</u>	<u>25.2%</u>
7. Total amount of bond indebtedness if request approved (Lines 5 + 6)	<u>\$18,805,000</u>	<u>26.2%</u>
8. Estimated amount of bond indebtedness authorized without approval	<u>\$10,051,122</u>	<u>14.0%</u>
9. Amount of bond indebtedness above bond debt limit requested	<u>\$8,753,878</u>	<u>12.2%</u>

### Forms Requested

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(X) 5-210-118 General Information</li> <li>(X) 5-210-106 Resolution</li> <li>(X) 5-210-108 Publication Notice</li> <li>(X) 5-210-110 Application</li> <li>(X) 5-210-114 Equalized Assessed Valuation</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(X) Schematic floor plan of the proposed facilities</li> <li>(X) Map of the school district showing present facilities</li> <li>(X) Small map of the school district showing the adjoining school districts</li> <li>(X) Map of the school district showing proposed facilities</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

March 15, 2021  
Date

March 15, 2021  
Date

Veryl Peter  
Director, School Finance

Craig Neuenswander  
Deputy Commissioner

## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Number: 19 h. (1)

Staff Initiating:

Deputy Commissioner:

Commissioner:

Meeting Date: 4/13/2021

Craig Neuenswander

Craig Neuenswander

Randy Watson

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### **Item Title:**

Act on request from USD 418 McPherson, McPherson County, to receive Capital Improvement (Bond and Interest) State Aid

### **Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education issue an Order authorizing USD 418 McPherson, McPherson County, to receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid as authorized by law.

### **Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

Under KSA 72-5461 et seq., a school district may request that the State Board of Education authorize the district to receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid. USD 418 McPherson, McPherson County, has made such a request. If approved, the district would receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid as provided by law. If the request is not approved, the district will not receive any capital improvement state aid. The bond hearing for state aid was held March 11, 2021.

USD 418 plans to use the bond proceeds to pay the costs to: Construct, furnish and equip improvements and renovations to four elementary schools; construct, furnish and equip improvements and renovations to McPherson Middle School to make existing facility a 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade education center, District office, and District central kitchen; Construct, furnish and equip improvements and renovations to McPherson High School, a new 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade education center, and Middle School and High School football and track facility; Purchase computer and communications technology, and make safety and security improvements to District facilities.

Based upon the following criteria, staff recommends that this bond application be approved.

1. The vote to submit the bond application by the local board of education was unanimous.
2. The district is experiencing a growth in enrollment.
3. The community was involved in the process of the building proposal.
4. All required forms were properly filed with us, along with an appropriate notice for the election.
5. The district outlined the needs for the building project by responding to all questions required by the state board of education.
6. An outside financial consultant was utilized in determining the school district needs.
7. The age of the existing building(s) appears to justify a bond election.
8. The application indicates that the building(s) are in need of major repairs in order to provide the necessary student programs.

**Summary of Appeal to State Board of Education for  
Capital Improvement State Aid**

<b>Unified School District 418 (McPherson)</b>	<b>County: McPherson</b>
--	--------------------------

1. Current equalized assessed tangible valuation *	<u>\$279,150,782</u>
2. Percentage of bond debt limit	<u>14%</u>
3. Amount of bond debt limit	<u>\$39,081,109</u>
4. State Aid Percentage	<u>0%</u>

\* Includes assessed valuation of motor vehicle

		Percent of Equalized Assessed Valuation - Current Year
5. Amount of bond indebtedness at present time	<u>\$10,435,000</u>	<u>3.7%</u>
6. Amount of bond indebtedness requested	<u>\$112,800,000</u>	<u>40.4%</u>
7. Total amount of bond indebtedness if request approved (Lines 5 + 6)	<u>\$123,235,000</u>	<u>44.1%</u>
8. Estimated amount of bond indebtedness authorized without approval	<u>\$39,081,109</u>	<u>14.0%</u>
9. Amount of bond indebtedness above bond debt limit requested	<u>\$84,153,891</u>	<u>30.1%</u>

<b>Forms Requested</b>	
( X ) 5-210-118 General Information (X) 5-210-106 Resolution (X) 5-210-108 Publication Notice (X) 5-210-110 Application (X) 5-210-114 Equalized Assessed Valuation	(X) Schematic floor plan of the proposed facilities (X) Map of the school district showing present facilities (X) Small map of the school district showing the adjoining school districts (X) Map of the school district showing proposed facilities

March 15, 2021  
Date

Veryl Peter  
Director, School Finance

March 15, 2021  
Date

Craig Neuenswander  
Deputy Commissioner

## REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION

Agenda Number: 19 h. (2)

Staff Initiating:

Deputy Commissioner:

Commissioner:

Meeting Date: 4/13/2021

Craig Neuenswander

Craig Neuenswander

Randy Watson

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### **Item Title:**

Act on request from USD 289 Wellsville, Franklin County, to receive Capital Improvement (Bond and Interest) State Aid

### **Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education issue an Order authorizing USD 289 Wellsville, Franklin County, to receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid as authorized by law.

### **Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

Under KSA 72-5461 et seq., a school district may request that the State Board of Education authorize the district to receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid. USD 289 Wellsville, Franklin County, has made such a request. If approved, the district would receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid as provided by law. If the request is not approved, the district will not receive any capital improvement state aid. The bond hearing for state aid was held on March 19, 2021.

USD 289 has two questions on the ballot and plans to use the bond proceeds (not to exceed \$18,105,000) to pay the costs to:

Proposition 1 = \$11,625,000 for "Base Projects" which includes: replace HVAC systems; repair and replace roofing at elementary, middle and high school; asphalt and concrete paving at middle and high school; exterior and interior renovations at middle and high school (façade, entry additions, equipment screens, locker rooms, restrooms, corridors, and a secure entry); remodel and secure entry to elementary school.

Proposition 2 = \$18,105,000 for "Supplemental Projects" (\$6,480,000) plus "Base Projects" (\$11,625,000). Supplemental Projects include: renovations to middle school and high school classrooms, including construct, equip and furnish a new **makerspace**; construct, equip and furnish a wrestling room and weight room addition to the middle school and high school.

Based upon the following criteria, staff recommends that this bond application be approved.

1. The vote to submit the bond application by the local board of education was unanimous.
2. The community was involved in the process of the building proposal.

(continued)

3. All required forms were properly filed with us, along with an appropriate notice for the election.
4. The district outlined the needs for the building project by responding to all questions required by the state board of education.
5. An outside consultant was utilized in determining the school district needs.
6. The age of the existing building(s) appears to justify a bond election.
7. The application indicates that the building(s) are in need of major repairs in order to provide the necessary student programs.
  - "To define a **school makerspace** by its purpose and simplest of terms, it is a place where young people have an opportunity to explore their own interests; learn to use tools and materials, both physical and virtual; and develop creative projects" Laura Flemming Worlds of Making.
  - The maker movement is about teaching and learning that is focused on student centered inquiry. This is not the project done at the *end* of a unit of learning, but the actual vehicle and purpose of the learning.
  - Makerspaces provide hands-on creative ways for students to design, experiment, and invent as they engage in science, engineering and tinkering.

## Summary of Appeal to State Board of Education for Capital Improvement State Aid

<b>Unified School District 289 (Wellsville)</b>	<b>County: Franklin</b>
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1. Current equalized assessed tangible valuation *	\$71,793,730
2. Percentage of bond debt limit	14%
3. Amount of bond debt limit	\$10,051,122
4. State Aid Percentage	0%

\* Includes assessed valuation of motor vehicle

		Percent of Equalized Assessed Valuation - Current Year
5. Amount of bond indebtedness at present time	\$700,000	1.0%
6. Amount of bond indebtedness requested	\$18,105,000	25.2%
7. Total amount of bond indebtedness if request approved (Lines 5 + 6)	\$18,805,000	26.2%
8. Estimated amount of bond indebtedness authorized without approval	\$10,051,122	14.0%
9. Amount of bond indebtedness above bond debt limit requested	\$8,753,878	12.2%

### Forms Requested

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (X) 5-210-118 General Information          | (X) Schematic floor plan of the proposed facilities                         |
| (X) 5-210-106 Resolution                   | (X) Map of the school district showing present facilities                   |
| (X) 5-210-108 Publication Notice           | (X) Small map of the school district showing the adjoining school districts |
| (X) 5-210-110 Application                  | (X) Map of the school district showing proposed facilities                  |
| (X) 5-210-114 Equalized Assessed Valuation |   |

March 15, 2021  
Date

March 15, 2021  
Date

Veryl Peter  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Director, School Finance

Craig Neuenswander  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Commissioner

**REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION**

**Agenda Number: 19 i.**

**Staff Initiating:**  
Kerry Haag

**Director:**  
Bert Moore

**Commissioner:**  
Randy Watson

**Meeting Date: 4/13/2021**

**Item Title:**

Act on request to continue a contract for the Kansans Can Competencies Framework

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education authorize the Commissioner of Education to continue a contract with Noonan Gaumer Erickson LLC to maintain and continually develop a cadre of recognized Kansans Can Competency Framework trainers to meet the professional development and coaching needs of Kansas schools for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 in an amount not to exceed \$392,040 to be paid out of the federal Title IV Part A funds.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

In 2017 the Kansas State Department of Education selected this vendor through the competitive bid process to provide schools statewide access to professional development supporting schoolwide implementation of integrated, tiered social/emotional competency instruction represented by the Kansans Can Competency (KCC) Framework.

Professional development and coaching activities were developed for KSDE to support teachers and districts who want to embed interpersonal and intrapersonal instruction into their academic content. KCC is a statewide strategy for prevention of both bullying and suicide in schools.

As a result of the development of seven recognized trainers, between September 2017 and February 2021, PreK-12th grade educators and administrators from 209 Kansas school districts have expanded their instructional expertise, implemented evidence-based social-emotional instruction and assessed the growth of more than 10,000 Kansas students.

During the period of this proposed extension, at least four additional trainers will be added to the recognized cadre, as the demand for these resources, training, coaching, feedback and implementation planning is rising. Drs. Noonan and Gaumer Erickson will lead the continued coordination with KSDE staff as well as maintain and refine a system for ensuring trainer fidelity of implementation. Dissemination and refinement of the online individual teacher professional development and resources will continue. Schools will continue to receive implementation support including but not limited to: data-based decision-making, collaboration, multi-tiered systems of support, assessing student impact and schoolwide implementation.

This work supports the State Board’s vision of successful high school graduates by supporting students to become socially and emotionally engaged, career equipped, lifelong learners (*College and Career Competency Framework*, Gaumer Erickson & Noonan, 2012) and its goal for social emotional growth measured locally.

**REQUEST AND RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD ACTION**

**Agenda Number: 19 j.**

**Staff Initiating:**  
Bert Moore

**Director:**  
Bert Moore

**Commissioner:**  
Randy Watson

**Meeting Date: 4/13/2021**

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**Item Title:**

Act to initiate contract bid process for operation of a statewide program for the identification and training of education advocates for students with disabilities

**Recommended Motion:**

It is moved that the Kansas State Board of Education authorize the Commissioner of Education to initiate a bid process and enter into a contract for the purpose of operating a statewide program for the identification and training of education advocates for students with disabilities. The said contract is for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$1,625,000 out of federal funds. The vendor will be determined through the bid process.

**Explanation of Situation Requiring Action:**

The Special Education and Title Services team requests the initiation of a contract with an organization to operate a statewide program for the identification and training of education advocates for students with disabilities, in order to comply with federal and state special education requirements.

This request is made to enable the state to continue to meet its obligation to operate a program which recruits, trains, and assigns qualified individuals to serve as Educational Advocates. This will enable the state of Kansas and the Kansas State Department of Education to continue to meet its legal responsibilities for ensuring the child is afforded the rights specified in the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The qualified vendor will ensure students with disabilities who qualify for an Education Advocate are identified and appointed within 30 days of notification, train qualified persons to become Education Advocates, receive referrals for students, match advocates to children, cancel appointments, develop training curriculum, provide assistance, problem solve situations, collaborate with other state agencies such as the Department for Children and Families and the Juvenile Justice Authority, survey needs, and keep current records of appointments and cancellations as well as persons serving as advocates and trainers.



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Dr. Deena Horst District 6	Ben Jones District 7	Betty Arnold District 8	Jim Porter District 9	Jim McNiece District 10

## WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021 MEETING AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. 1. Call to Order - Chair Jim Porter
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
- 9:05 a.m. (IO) 4. Presentation and discussion on ACT WorkKeys and Work Ready Communities
- 10:05 a.m. Break
- 10:20 a.m. 5. Chair Report
- (AI) a. Act on Board Travel
- (AI) b. Act on updates to Navigating Change document since Jan. 12
- (AI) c. Designate members to attend KSSB and KSD graduations in May
- d. Committee Reports
- e. Commissioner's Task Force Report
- f. Board Attorney's Report
- g. Future Agenda Items
- 10:50 a.m. **ADJOURN**

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Location: Landon State Office Building at 900 SW Jackson St., Board Room Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612

References: (AI) Action Item, (DI) Discussion Item, (RI) Receive Item for possible action at a later date, (IO) Information Only

Safety: Visitors must wear face masks or shields, screen for temperature, and be distanced in the Board Room.

Services: Individuals who need the use of a sign language interpreter, or who require other special accommodations, should contact Peggy Hill at 785-296-3203, at least seven business days prior to a State Board meeting.

Website: Electronic access to the agenda and meeting materials is available at [www.ksde.org/Board](http://www.ksde.org/Board)

Next Meeting: April 19, virtual special meeting; May 11 and 12, regular monthly meeting.

**Agenda Number:** 4

**Meeting Date:** 4/14/2021



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**Item Title:** Presentation and discussion on ACT WorkKeys and Work Ready Communities

**From:** Stacy Smith, Natalie Clark

The ACT WorkKeys assessments measure foundational skills required for success in the workplace, and help measure the workplace skills that can affect job performance. The statewide administration of the ACT WorkKeys is a powerful tool in many Kansas communities. KSDE staff will present information regarding use of the WorkKeys and the benefits of earning a National Career Readiness Certificate.

The ACT Work Ready Communities program empowers counties and states to create a community-based workforce development process with the goal that education and training match the needs of employers, lead to jobs and help individuals advance in their careers. KSDE staff, school district representatives and others directly involved with Kansas Work Ready Communities will share their experiences and successes.

Links to Additional Information:

[Fact Sheet The Benefits of ACT WorkKeys and NCRC \(ksde.org\)](#)

[ACT Work Ready Communities](#)

[ACT Work Ready Communities - ACT Work Ready Communities in Kansas](#)

ACT Work Ready Communities Video: <https://youtu.be/cvMJ1io3Hjl>

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

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS

## HOW WORK READY COMMUNITIES ARE WINNING THE GROWTH GAME

### TOP FIVE DEAL KILLERS

- ▶ Lack of **responsiveness** and poor governmental **leadership**
- ▶ Lack of **buildings and sites**
- ▶ **Lack of skilled workers**
- ▶ Breach of **confidentiality**
- ▶ Lack of **infrastructure**

*Source: [Site Selection Magazine](#), January 2020*

**ACT Work Ready Communities (WRC)** is a framework for community-based workforce development to **drive economic growth**. Regions improve their workforce and **compete on quality** for location consultants, investors, and other decision-makers using data powered by nearly **five million WorkKeys<sup>®</sup> National Career Readiness Certificates**. More than **26,000 employers support the NCRC** nationwide. [Site Selection magazine uses NCRC data yearly](#) to rank state competitiveness.

- ▶ Show prospects how to **reduce risk** and boost **profit** with **skills-based hiring**
- ▶ Pinpoint and **align prospects' workforce needs** with profiled tasks
- ▶ Integrate co-branded resources into **powerful marketing and outreach**, including local and regional certification badges
- ▶ Build track record in serving employer needs for **retention and expansion**

Outstanding program that helps business recruit and retain qualified workers. Congrats on the milestone. As a corollary would recommend that all counties become work ready certified.

—Mr. Dennis Donovan

Location Strategy and Site Selection Advisor

ACT Work Ready is truly the best workforce development marketing tool I have seen.

—Chad Chancellor, Co-Founder/CEO

The Next Move Group

ACT Work Ready Communities are setting themselves apart by intentionally developing their local workforce in support of their existing companies while positioning themselves to attract new companies.—Robby Burgan, Manager Location Strategies Evergreen Advisors

In the last few years when I see that a county is ACT Work Ready I know that they are following the steps in planning for the current and future workforce. Therefore, our tendency at FCG is to look strongly at ACT Work Ready Communities for new site locations. I would encourage all communities to seek that status.

—Mr. Deane C. Foote, CEcD

President & CEO, Foote Consulting Group

Not only does WorkKeys<sup>®</sup> function as a preferred assessment tool in industry today, but the WRC website allows me to compare communities so I can recommend to my clients the counties with the best scores and percentage of population taking the assessment.

—Teresa Nortillo, Nortillo Consulting Group

One of the main reasons that we decided to remain in Pottawatomie County (Kansas) was because of the strong workforce and the county's commitment to workforce readiness through ACT WorkReady program

—Robert Weimann, Sarto Countertops

**82%** Counties use WRC in businesses attraction



**89%** Use WRC to help retain and expand local industry



Source: WRC Leader Survey

Work Ready Communities and WorkKeys® have been one of our biggest recruitment tools. When we can pitch to prospective companies that we have the talent pool they're looking for, and we're continuing to test our emerging workforce, they take interest. And when they recognize the collaboration among all stakeholders that has spawned as a result, that speaks volumes for us. —Justin Hall, Executive Director Marshall County (MS) IDA

Initiatives like ACT's Work Ready Communities are critical to preparing our future generation for high-skill, high-demand jobs, and we are proud to be leading the nation in this effort. —Missouri Governor Mike Parson

It (WRC) says that this county is collaborating and coordinating and you are doing everything that you can to help not only workers get the skills that they need, but really the partnership with the community and business and industry to hire these individuals. —Iowa Governor Kim Reynolds

**ACT** Work Ready Communities

Learn how WRC and ACT WorkKeys® can help your community reach its highest potential

[workreadycommunities.org](http://workreadycommunities.org)

## TIPS

Site Selection consultants offer the following tips for Work Ready Communities to maximize their certification excellence

- ▶ Skilled labor cost and availability remain top factors and barriers
- ▶ Explain unique features and benefits of your WRC to investors (beyond simply claiming to have certification)
- ▶ Demonstrate partnerships of your Work Ready Community and how partnerships can help new and expanding firms
- ▶ Align NCRC data showing how skills meets specific demand
- ▶ Connect prospects to existing employers during site visit for interviews and experiences in the labor market
- ▶ Demonstrate workforce availability, quality, and alignment with [ACT's JobPro database](#) and regional NCRC volume

## OPPORTUNITIES

Economic Development leaders across the nation open many new doors of impact linked to their Work Ready Community efforts

- ▶ Boost job candidate pipeline with solutions for targeted populations such as ex-offenders, immigrants, welfare recipients, etc.
- ▶ Promote WRC certification in [site/building listings](#), community profiles, social media, etc.
- ▶ Enhance partnerships in specific sectors to link targeted training and stackable credentials accelerated by the WorkKeys® National Career Readiness Certificate
- ▶ Disaster recovery, revitalization, and economic resilience

## OUTCOMES

### Locations



- ▶ Recover for resiliency
- ▶ Reduce poverty
- ▶ Improve goodwill and visibility
- ▶ Boost partnership integrations

### Employers



- ▶ Reduce turnover cost
- ▶ Increase hiring efficiency
- ▶ Boost productivity
- ▶ Improve safety and compliance

### Educators



- ▶ Grow credentials
- ▶ Fine-tune pathway training
- ▶ Boost completions
- ▶ Improve compliance





# ACT<sup>®</sup> Work Ready Communities

**We all have a stake in making our country more competitive. Now we have a framework for closing the skills gap that threatens our economy.**

Change starts at the grassroots level by providing a community-based framework that:

- Links workforce development to education
- Aligns with the economic development needs of communities, regions, and states
- Matches individuals to jobs based on skill levels

The foundation for this framework begins at the county level and spans the current, transitioning, and future workforce. The key component: individuals earning and employers recognizing the ACT<sup>®</sup> WorkKeys<sup>®</sup> National Career Readiness Certificate<sup>®</sup>. The ACT<sup>®</sup> WorkKeys<sup>®</sup> NCRC<sup>®</sup> is a portable, industry-recognized credential that identifies an individual's ACT<sup>®</sup> WorkKeys<sup>®</sup> skill levels in workplace documents, applied math, and graphic literacy. These essential foundational skills are required for virtually any job.

Many groups benefit when their states, counties, or regions join the ACT Work Ready Communities initiative.

- **Businesses and industries** learn exactly what foundational skills are needed for a productive workforce and can easily communicate their needs to job seekers
- **Individuals** understand what skills employers require and how to prepare for career success
- **Policymakers** are able to measure skills gaps in a timely manner at the national, state, and local levels
- **Educators** help close skills gaps using stackable, industry-recognized credentials integrated into career pathways
- **Economic developers** have an on-demand reporting tool to document—and market—the quality of the local workforce

**ACT<sup>®</sup> Work Ready Communities**

[workreadycommunities.org](http://workreadycommunities.org)

## Partnerships at all levels are essential for success

PARTNERS	CAPABILITIES
<b>ACT—the nonprofit organization with a track record of producing assessments and credentials</b>	Delivers the process for involving states and counties; the assessment and certification tools; and rich, county-specific workforce skill data updated each month
<b>State ACT Work Ready Communities team</b>	A public-private team of chambers of commerce, business leaders, and education leaders whose purpose is to build a service delivery infrastructure and engage business leaders statewide while implementing processes at the county level
<b>Local ACT Work Ready Communities team</b>	A county-level or regional team that mirrors the state team in composition. This team uses the ACT approach to solve local workforce issues through attaining and maintaining a certified ACT Work Ready Communities status

**How do these partners come together to create change at the county level?** ACT partners with communities and states to build this framework through the ACT Work Ready Communities Boot Camp ([workreadycommunities.org/bootcamp](http://workreadycommunities.org/bootcamp)). ACT accepts applications from states, regions, and communities to participate in the initiative.

By working together and adopting the common criteria ([workreadycommunities.org/resources/Criteria\\_for\\_Certification.pdf](http://workreadycommunities.org/resources/Criteria_for_Certification.pdf)) for a community to be certified as “work ready,” states, regions, and counties are building a sustainable infrastructure to close skills gaps and attain a competitive advantage. The data-driven approach toward achieving certification as an ACT Work Ready Community allows an area to demonstrate they have a skilled workforce that is valued by local employers. The area also benefits by linking education and workforce development, achieving alignment to economic development, and matching people to jobs.

It’s a formula for economic success that benefits *all* stakeholders.

**For more information, please visit the ACT Work Ready Communities website at [workreadycommunities.org](http://workreadycommunities.org) or email [wrc@act.org](mailto:wrc@act.org).**



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**Subject:** Chair's Report and Requests for Future Agenda Items

These updates will include:

- a. Act on Board Travel Requests and any additions or changes.
- b. Act on updates to Navigating Change document since Jan. 12
- c. Designate members to attend graduations at KSSB and KSD
  - o KSSB – 1 p.m. Thursday, May 13 at School for the Blind
  - o KSD – 6 p.m. Thursday, May 27 outside weather permitting, otherwise Murphy Auditorium
- d. Committee Reports
- e. Commissioner's Task Force Report
- f. Board Attorney's Report
- g. Requests for Future Agenda Items

Note: Individual Board Member Reports are to be submitted in writing.