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# June 2022

## Accreditation & Design- Year End Update

Over the course of this last semester, the Kansans Can School Redesign team has formally merged with the Accreditation Team. These two teams are now under one umbrella of ‘Accreditation and Design’. Our newly crafted team consists of:

Jay Scott, Director of Accreditation and Design

Myron Melton, Assistant Director of Accreditation and Design

Sarah Perryman, Accreditation and Design Coordinator

To complete our team, we are searching for an [Administrative Specialist](https://jobs.sok.ks.gov/psp/sokhrprdcg/APPLICANT/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS_CG_SEARCH_FL.GBL?Page=HRS_APP_JBPST_FL&Action=U&FOCUS=Applicant&SiteId=1&JobOpeningId=204668&PostingSeq=1).

ADT will be regionalizing our support beginning with the 2023-2024 school year.  For the 2023-2024 school year, Perryman will transition to being the Northeast Kansas regional executive for ADT. We will hire three regional executive positions (Southwest, Northwest, Southeast) by July 1, 2023.  
  
Regional executives will be field-based and oversee support and accountability for districts in that region.

Thank you for all you are doing to improve education for students across Kansas.

To the moon,

Jay, Myron, and Sarah

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### Year-End Recap

### KESA Regional Training Pilot

This past year, our new team, in collaboration with Kansas MTSS and our Educational Service Center partners, has been working to pilot what regional training might look like for systems entering year one of the accreditation cycle. We had eleven systems work with us over the course of five meeting dates during the 2021-2022 school year. During this time, we have engaged in data analysis, goal setting, and we are ending this year with some intentional work around strategy selection. These eleven districts have not only engaged in training, but they have ‘turnkeyed’ their learning by taking the activities and conversations back to their buildings for further exploration. Consistently, our training feedback shows that: this training is of high quality, attendees are confident in their understanding of the information/content presented, and that this training is successfully providing tools/resources for practical application. We look forward to learning more about how this training can be scaled to support more districts in the coming months/years. Thank you to our pilot systems and service centers for their time and work this year!

### Kansans Can School Redesign Project

Over the last five years, the Kansans Can School Redesign Project has worked with 194 schools from 72 districts across six cohorts: Mercury, Gemini I, Gemini II, Apollo, Apollo II, and Apollo III. Out of those 194 schools, 173 have launched, 4 are on track to launch next year, and 17 have either paused or postponed their work. That means, our current success rate for schools going through the Redesign Plan Year is 89% but we are on track to end with a 91% success rate!

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| **Resource List**  Throughout the years, Redesign has utilized many resources and tools to support our schools in the ongoing work of school improvement. Here are some resources you might want to keep on-hand as you continue your innovative work:   * Timelines: [Plan Year](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=tSZkEaiD934%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630), [Launch Year](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=tSZkEaiD934%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630), [Ascent Years](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=sg3Hq2X6CL0%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630) * [Redesign Success Rubric](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=HJy8ieR-ObU%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630) * [Redesign Leadership Competencies](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=JeYYFh0hRkc%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630) * Personalized Learning – [Fact Sheet](https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/Communications/KC_School_Redesign/Personalized%20Learning%20Fact%20Sheet.pdf?ver=2020-09-30-124429-557) & [Research Brief](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=0_LDlsH8LGE%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630) * [Redesign Launch Readiness Rubric](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=vnD9-j4k9No%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630) * [Strategy Report](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=FAj9ZlqSPZE%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630) * [Redesign Communication/Action Plan](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=t0NmZDfrCNk%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630) * [Redesign Business/Community Engagement Plan](https://www.ksde.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=tlhg1W_H1tM%3d&tabid=1207&portalid=0&mid=3630) |

Throughout the Redesign process, we have learned that the following elements are essential to the success and sustainability of school improvement work:

* Teacher leadership!
* Whole school involvement through Goal Area Investigation Teams!
* Shared Vision and Collective Why!
* Keeping compelling scoreboards related to your strategies!

If you would like to learn more about the Redesign Plan Year and more, check out our webpage and the documents section at the bottom of the page.

<https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Fiscal-and-Administrative-Services/Communications-and-Recognition-Programs/Vision-Kansans-Can/Kansans-Can-School-Redesign-Project>

### Year-End Recap

### Accreditation Review Council

The Accreditation Review Council is the body of education professionals who review systems in year 5 of their accreditation cycle and make a recommendation to the State Board regarding each system’s accreditation status. The ARC bylaws state:

1. The purpose of the Accreditation Review Council shall be to:
   1. Review and provide input to Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) staff concerning accreditation procedures and documentation necessary to make systems accreditation status recommendations.
   2. Advise KSDE staff of concerns or issues related to procedures and documentation necessary to formulate accreditation recommendations to the State Board of Education.
   3. Provide accreditation status recommendations to the Kansas State Board of Education for final accreditation approval as specified in the Accreditation Review Council Handbook.

This year, the ARC has been working to review and recommend for accreditation 92 systems. Next year, the ARC will be working to review 177 systems.

As a reminder, the Accreditation Review Council reviews systems for an accreditation recommendation based on the following definitions:

* “**Accredited**” means the system is in good standing (compliance) with the state board and that they provided conclusive evidence of growth in student performance.  In addition, the system provided conclusive evidence of an intentional, quality growth process.
* “**Conditionally Accredited**” means the system is in good standing (compliance) with the state board and either the system did not provide conclusive evidence of growth in student performance or the system was not able to provide conclusive evidence of an intentional, quality growth process.
* “**Not Accredited**” means one of two things; 1) the system is not in good standing (compliance) with the state board, 2) the system did not provide conclusive evidence of growth in student performance AND the system was not able to provide conclusive evidence of an intentional, quality growth process.

### Year-End Recap

### Accreditation Advisory Council

The Accreditation Advisory Council is a group of approximately 30 education professionals from across the state who represent a myriad of roles and perspectives in education. We have classroom teachers, higher education professionals, education association representatives, school and system administrators, and others! According to the bylaws:

1. The purpose of the Accreditation Advisory Council shall be to:
   1. Review and provide input to Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) staff concerning accreditation documents and procedures;
   2. Advise KSDE staff of field needs, concerns and issues;
   3. Act as accreditation advocates for the state’s accreditation system in the field and as liaisons to other groups;
   4. Provide feedback and recommendations to the State Board of Education on issues of policies, such as regulations, school improvement plans, sanctions, levels of accreditation, etc.

This past year, the AAC has helped the KESA team:

* Revise the KESA Guidance Document;
* Create a gap analysis regarding KESA’s current state and desired state;
* Gather feedback on various projects/ideas like the Regional Training Model, creating accreditation ‘standards’, and what a uniform needs assessment might look like.

While some of the work of the AAC becomes public-facing, there is a lot of work that our AAC does behind the scenes to inform and influence the Accreditation and Design Team. We value and appreciate the work of this council.

### Summary of Focus Group Feedback

Throughout the spring semester, the Accreditation and Design Team held focus groups with multiple sets of education leaders across Kansas. These groups included: curriculum leaders; Regional Training Pilot district leaders; Accreditation Advisory Council members; superintendent meeting participants; and Regional Training Pilot advisors. Our State Comprehensive Support Center (out of McRel) summarized and synthesized the feedback generating a few of the following findings (this is a brief snapshot of those findings):

* Three key topics/themes emerged in the conversations: Purpose, Process, and Product.
* Purpose Findings:
  + The purpose of KESA needs to be clearly defined. Expectations for what constituents ‘conclusive evidence’ of improvement needs to be more clearly articulated.
  + The role and responsibility of the OVT and the ARC are not fully understood and need to be better articulated and supported.
  + Consistency in messaging, expectations, and initiatives is needed in order to ensure success of KESA.
* Process Findings:
  + The expectations around doing the work of school improvement, while unclear at times, were helpful in engaging systems in setting and measuring goals.
  + The process encouraged systems to engage teachers in the work of school improvement and intentionally develop culture.
  + The process piece involved with selecting and utilizing the OVT, and doing the work of an OVT in general, has been a challenge. As one participant said, “*Being a colleague is an easy sell, but the report is a hard sell”.*
* Product Findings:
  + The reporting needs to be simplified and aligned with reasonable yearly expectations.
  + Reports should focus on needs, goals, and progress towards goals yearly with other elements like State Board Outcomes and Foundational Structures being focused on only once throughout a cycle.
  + Consistency! Whatever report method is established needs to be maintained and not changed annually.

Thank you to all of the folks who participated in these focus groups. Your feedback is incredibly valuable and meaningful to us.

### Eye on the Future

Here are the goals we as an Accreditation and Design Team have set for 2022-2023:

* ARC Goal for 22-23
  + By July 15, 2023, the ARC will review 177 systems to determine an accreditation status, and they will review an indeterminate number of systems for a redetermination who were initially conditionally accredited.
* Years 1 - 4 Goal for 22-23
  + By August 1, 2022, we will communicate the changes to system and OVT reporting for systems in years 1 - 4 in the 2022-2023 school year.
* Growth Goals
  + By October 1, 2022, business rules will exist for how growth and/or reaching state goal levels should be measured and the resulting impact on accreditation status.
  + By February 1, 2023, we will have a definition of what constitutes a ‘trend’ in data.
* Process Goals
  + By July 1, 2022 develop and create the structure for how our Accreditation and Design Team will support districts in accreditation and design.
  + By August 1, 2022, all systems in years 1-4 will have access to, and support (virtual modules) to complete the Data Analysis and Setting Goals phases (including a needs assessment).

We hope to provide updates on our team goals throughout the school year.

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| **Resource List** Here are some KESA documents/resources that you might want to have handy as you do your work of continuous improvement and reporting to the Kansas Department of Education:   * [KESA Guidance Document](https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/TLA/Accreditation/KESA%20Resources/Kansas%20Education%20Systems%20Accreditation%20Guidance%202021-2022.pdf?ver=2022-01-21-142733-230) * [ARC Criteria](https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/TLA/Accreditation/Accreditation%20Criteria%20-%20Finalr16.pdf?ver=2019-12-18-153701-107) * [Foundational Structures Rubrics](https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Teacher-Licensure-and-Accreditation/KESA/Resources/Foundational-Structures) * [Star Recognition Rubrics](https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Fiscal-and-Administrative-Services/Communications-and-Recognition-Programs/Vision-Kansans-Can/Kansans-Can-Star-Recognition) * [Compliance Areas and Contacts](https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/TLA/Accreditation/KESA%20Resources/Compliance%20Areas%20and%20Contacts%20-%20Current.pdf?ver=2021-11-23-075005-793)   You can find all of these documents and more on the KESA webpage: <https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Teacher-Licensure-and-Accreditation/KESA> |

## KSDE Events – Save the Date

### Summer Academies ([**Flyer**](https://drive.google.com/file/d/19Mgl2x1EIluS9bDC2DifgesVufpl8eJZ/view?usp=sharing))

June 7 & 8, 2022

Manhattan

June 21 & 22, 2022

Goddard

July 12 & 13, 2022

Garden City

July 19 & 20, 2022

Virtual

(Register: [**https://www.greenbush.org/ksde-summer-academies/**](https://www.greenbush.org/ksde-summer-academies/))

### Special Education & Title Services Leadership Conference

July 26-28, 2022 Wichita – Hyatt

(Register: [**https://reg.learningstream.com/reg/event\_page.aspx?ek=0009-0020-5041e0b7f25f420cb1363225ff91c557**](https://reg.learningstream.com/reg/event_page.aspx?ek=0009-0020-5041e0b7f25f420cb1363225ff91c557))

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### Great Ideas in Education Conference

October 19-21, 2022 Wichita

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| For more information, contact:  Kansas Department of Education  Division of Learning Services Accreditation & Design Team  [accreditation@ksde.org](mailto:accreditation@ksde.org) |  | Kansas State Department of Education  900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102  Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212  (785) 296-3201  [www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org/) |
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