

MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education  
Tuesday, July 9, 2024

**Call to Order**

Chair Melanie Haas called the meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10:00 a. m. Tuesday, July 9, 2024, in the boardroom of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St. , Topeka, Kansas.

00:04:36

**Roll Call**

The following board members were present:

- Mrs. Betty Arnold
- Mrs. Michelle Dombrosky
- Mrs. Melanie Haas, Chair
- Mrs. Cathy Hopkins
- Dr. Deena Horst
- Mrs. Ann Mah
- Mr. Jim McNiece
- Mr. Jim Porter, Vice Chair
- Mr. Danny Zeck

Mr. Dennis Hershberger was not present. He was attending the National Association of State School Boards conference in Washington, DC. The Board Attorney, Mr. Mark Ferguson, and Commissioner Dr. Randy Watson were both in attendance at the board table.

**Kansas State Board mission statement, Kansans Can Vision statement, moment of silence, Pledge of Allegiance**

Chair Haas read both the board's mission statement and Kansans Can Vision statement. She asked for a moment of silence after which all recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of the Agenda**

Chair Haas asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda for both Tuesday and Wednesday. Mrs. Dombrosky requested the removal of items b, e, f, g, h, l, and n, from the consent agenda to vote on separately (as one group).

Mrs. Arnold made a motion to approve the agenda for Tuesday and Wednesday with b, e, f, g, h, l, and n, being removed from consent. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

Motion  
00:07:08

**Approval of the June 11 & 12, 2024 minutes**

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 11 & 12, 2024.

Mrs. Dombrosky moved to accept the minutes of May 14 and 15, 2024 as written.  
Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-0-1. Mrs. Arnold abstained because she was not present at the meeting.

Motion  
00:07:34

### **Commissioner's Report: Focus on KESA and Screen Time**

Dr. Watson  
00:08:06

Dr. Watson gave a history of accreditation in Kansas. Prior to 1992, schools were accredited based on things like how many books were in the library, where the flagpole was set, and whether all the teachers were licensed. In 1992, outcomes based accreditation came into use; it was called Quality Performance Accreditation. In 2001, No Child Left Behind Act was put into action across the United States, testing math and English language arts. There was a transition time, after No Child Left Behind, then KESA 1.0 came into effect in 2018.

The Commissioner compared KESA 1.0 and KESA 2.0. In the original version, there was a great deal of paperwork, and it was focused on buildings, not districts. It was a five-year cycle. KESA 2.0 focuses on the district rather than buildings. There are two major things that are different in KESA 2.0: 1) the entire direct learning services and many of the fiscal staff have been brought into the development of the system, and 2) there were thirty-nine sessions from January – June to get input from across the state. There is a great deal of input from KSDE staff, and the school administrators across Kansas. The challenge is to incentivize school systems to improve and then to effectively support them.

Henry Ford, inventor of the Model-T, had a vision of building a car that all Americans could afford. Dr. Watson described the beginning of travel in cars, how filling stations were born, interstate systems, and roads and bridges. Technology since the Model-T has made improvements, but Henry Ford created a new world.

Another inventor, Alexander Graham Bell, patented the telephone, which revolutionized our culture. In the early years of phone use, live conversation was the sole purpose. In the early seventies, bag phones and flip phones came into use, but they were still focused on conversation. In 2007, the smart phone was invented. iPhone 3G was introduced in 2008 and technology became fast enough to allow for data. The smart phone is hardly a phone at all, it is a computer device that everyone walks around with. Dr. Watson challenged the board to gather with their family and look at the screen time use calculations for each phone. Young people spend a great deal of time on the smart phone. Last week the Surgeon General came out with a warning against social media for

young people. Since the development of smart phones, teen depression, self-harm rates, and overdose deaths have all risen dramatically.

### **Citizen's Forum**

Chair Haas opened the Citizen's Forum at 10:34. No one was present to speak. Chair Haas closed the forum.

Forum  
00:38:01

### **High Quality Instructional Materials (HQIM)**

Dr. Ben Proctor, Deputy Commissioner, Direct Learning Services shared that he has now worked at KSDE for over two years, and he is grateful for the time, for the support of the staff, and all the state-wide experiences he has had with schools. In preparation for sharing his presentation on HQIM, he described the Kansas School Improvement Model, using the Fundamentals, Structures, Lead Indicators and Measures of Progress.

HQIM  
00:39:00

Up to ninety-nine percent of elementary teachers find their own curriculum. Ninety-four percent report turning to Google to find ELA lesson plans and instructional materials. Teachers spend up to seven hours a week trying to find the best materials to use. Developing high quality curriculum recommendations supports teachers and building leaders. Curriculum needs to be well-aligned to state standards, content rich and knowledge building.

Dr. Proctor shared the data that was collected by TNTP about curriculum and instructional materials being used in Kansas. Ninety-seven percent of the school districts and eighty-two percent of private schools responded. He passed out a hard-copy report of TNTP's findings to the board members. There were five considerations recommended as KSDE works to support districts with curriculum recommendations:

1. Conduct annual data collection on core instructional materials.
2. Identify and/or develop guidance, tools, and resources that districts and/or schools can use to select and implement HQIMs.
3. Leverage third-party reviews and information (e. g. EdReports, The Reading League, Louisiana Believes, etc. ) to understand the quality of instructional materials and how the materials reflect the Kansas curricular standards and the necessary instructional shifts.
4. Target content areas and/or grade bands that may need additional support to move away from using lower-quality or older instructional materials.
5. Identify approaches that create requirements or incentives for districts and/or schools to select and implement higher-quality instructional materials.

## Report on Three-Cueing in Curriculum and Instructional Materials

Dr. Proctor continued focusing on the issue of schools which are using three-cueing to teach reading. He described three-cueing as an approach to foundational reading skills, in K-2, which emphasizes *three cues* readers use to identify words in a text: 1) context, 2) grammar, and 3) spelling patterns.

Eight school systems reported using three-cueing which is part of “balanced literacy” a learning to read strategy that is not part of the “science of reading” method that is now the Kansas standard. In the survey, several schools answered that they use three-cueing, but looking further at their curriculum, the staff felt that they do not use three-cueing. Following up, the schools changed their answers, many saying they do not know what three cueing is. At present, fifty-one school districts and thirty private accredited schools have confirmed they are using three-cueing. Dr. Proctor noted that those school systems need support to move from balanced literacy to the science of reading. This survey report was sent to the legislature as they requested.

## **Receive Narcan Policy at the Kansas State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind**

Superintendent Luanne Barron, Kansas School for the Deaf (KSD)

Superintendent Jon Harding, Kansas State School for the Blind (KSSB)

Superintendent Barron began the presentation to the board. She introduced KSD head nurse, Cathy Reynolds. She explained what Narcan is and how it is used to stop an overdose. Ms. Barron gave the history of opioid use and how it presently affects youth. She stated it is important to have Narcan on the campus so trained staff can use it. After describing the way it would be used, she urged the board to approve this policy. Superintendent Harding explained his school has some unique needs but understands that it is good to have a joint policy. He plans to ask parents if they support the use of Narcan. The police and security forces are already trained, so the training would be for the KSSB health staff.

## **Receive Redetermination Recommendations on Conditionally Accredited Systems**

Jay Scott, Director, Accreditation and Design, gave the ARC recommendations for redeterminations. He noted that this accreditation system is still under KESA 1. 0. Anytime a school system is conditionally accredited, the following year there is a review, called a redetermination. There are five systems that have been determined to be accredited after having been conditionally accredited:

Narcan  
01:45:00

ARC  
02:05:28

Ulysses  
LeRoy-Gridley  
Burrton  
Kinsley-Offerle  
Liberal

As this is a receive item, the board will vote on this in August.

### **Presentation on Behavior Issues in Schools**

- Jim Porter, School Board member representing District 9
- Rocky Nichols, Disability Center of Kansas
- Lesli Girard, Families Together
- Tonia Wade, Parent
- Lee Stickle and Linda Wilkerson, TASN and MTSS
- Bert Moore, Director, Special Education & Title Services
- Trish Backman, School Mental Health Services Coordinator, KSDE

Mr. Porter introduced the presentation, and he explained that he wanted to bring the rest of the board up to date with the history of the Kansas Schools, ESI regulations, and student behavior. He proposed that the board needs to reevaluate behavior issues, and that a new group needs to be gathered, to investigate the present situation, especially the issue of room clearing. He recommends Dr. Amanda Martell be part of that group. He explained the presentation today. The first group will be explaining how policy got to where it is. The second group is from TASN and MTSS and will focus on how schools can be supported in this area, and the third is the KSDE department staff from Special Education with a report on the larger picture.

Rocky Nichols shared that his agency, the Disability Center of Kansas, advocates for persons with disability. He noted that since 2023 the policies this State Board approved have been very successful and since then complaints to his agency have dropped fifty percent. He went through the last twenty years, which included struggles with previous State Boards, who did not support changes to the restraint and seclusion policies. There were attempts by the legislature to make changes, but the board did not support regulations against the restraint and seclusion practices that were being used in schools. The legislature passed the 2015 law because the need was undeniable. The board in 2023 created a workgroup and closed the loopholes by changing the regulations.

Behavior  
03:34:53

Tonia Wade spoke as a representative of Kansas parents who experienced how horrible things were prior to the 2015 law. She spoke about her daughter, who is now twenty-five years old and has profound autism and is mostly non-verbal. She told the story of how her child was forced into a small box, about three feet wide. When Tonia came to the school, she found her daughter lying naked on a cold, hard, dirty floor, as she been traumatized by being in the box and had taken off her clothes and had defecated and urinated upon herself. She kept saying, "Mommy, no breath. " The experience gave her terrible anxiety, she lost her ability to be toilet trained, could not sleep alone, and is still afraid of dark, enclosed spaces. She urged the board to be vigilant so that this type of situation will never be repeated.

Lesli Girard, who is part of Families Together, explained that her agency supports families that include a child with a disability, exceptionality, or special needs. She noted that the calls to her agency have been less since the board passed the regulations in 2023.

Lee Stickle, who works for Technical Assistance Support Network (TASN) which support students that receive Title services and students with disabilities. Ms. Stickle's focus is children who have autism and the schools who educate them. She noted that ESI is a last resort. Early de-escalation is what teachers and schools need to focus on. She gave some examples of how to teach with low-intensity strategies. There are many resources on the TASN website. She mentioned four areas: Low-Intensity Strategies, Escalation Cycle, De-escalation Modules, and Universal Checklist.

Linda Wilkerson, is a co-director of Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS), explained how her organization collaborates with schools when they have difficult behavior situations. TASN does systems work. They go into a school system and try to focus on:

- 1) Creating a positive school climate and culture
- 2) Building positive relationships with students
- 3) Developing, teaching, and providing student feedback on school-wide structured expectations

There are strategies that schools, administrators, and teachers can engage in to keep from getting into difficult situations. She noted that ESI is the last resort and not a situation that anyone wants to be in. They are committed to kids NOT getting to the need for ESI.

Trish Backman, coordinator, Special Ed & Title Services, talked about how KSDE supports the field. She explained the concept of LRE, least restrictive environment, which means all students are entitled to a learning environment that is both open and appropriate, but distractions need to be looked at which are causing the loss of academic time in the classroom. She went through the resources KSDE offers. There is school data that must be turned in, and KSDE is responsible for reviewing the data.

Restraint data: 7990, average per building per year

Average duration of restraint is one minute

Average age of student receiving restraint: eight to twelve years old

Seclusion: 11,765

Average duration was six minutes

Average age: eight

Mrs. Backman explained the process of a dispute between a school and a family. She finished by saying there are many successes. Using techniques like restorative practices are powerful.

### **Act on FY 2025-2026 Budget Recommendations**

Dr. Frank Harwood, Deputy Commissioner, Fiscal and Administrative Services, led the board through a series of actions on the 2025-26 budget which will be offered as a recommendation to the Governor.

### **Per Pupil Funding**

Mrs. Mah moved to recommend the funding necessary to implement the Base Aid for Student Excellence (BASE) as established in state law and approved by the Kansas Supreme Court estimated to be \$5,618 for the 2025-2026 school year.

Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1. Mr. Zeck voted no.

### **Supplemental State Aid (LOB)**

Mrs. Arnold moved to recommend the funding necessary to provide Supplemental State as established in state law estimated to be \$625,000,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1.

Mr. Zeck voted no.

### **Bond and Interest State Aid**

Mrs. Mah moved to recommend the funding necessary to provide Capital Improvement State Aid as established in state law estimated to be \$207,500,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

Budget  
04:51:16

Many  
Motions  
were  
introduced

## Capital Outlay State Aid

Dr. Horst moved to recommend the funding necessary to provide Capital Outlay State Aid as established in state law estimated to be \$105,000,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. Hopkins seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1. Mr. Zeck voted no.

## Juvenile Detention Facilities

Mrs. Mah moved to recommend the funding necessary for Juvenile Detention Facilities as established in state law estimated to be \$5,060,528 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

## Special Education

3-year option

Mrs. Mah moved to recommend the funding necessary to provide Special Education State Aid at 92% of excess costs as established in state law with a **three-year** phase-in with an estimated additional cost of \$87,574,215 for the 2025-2026 school year and each of the next two years. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1. Mr. Zeck voted no.

## CTE Transportation

Dr. Horst moved to recommend the funding necessary to provide 100% reimbursement for Career and Technical Education Transportation with an estimated additional cost of \$517,662 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1. Mrs. Dombrosky voted no.

## Mentor Teacher Program

Mrs. Mah moved to recommend the funding necessary to fully fund the Mentor Teacher Program as established in state law with an estimated additional cost of \$1,000,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

## Professional Development

Mrs. Arnold moved to recommend the funding necessary to fully fund Professional Development State Aid as established in state law with an estimated additional cost of \$3,855,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-2. Mrs. Dombrosky and Mr. Zeck voted no.

## National Board Certification

Dr. Horst moved to recommend the funding necessary for the National Board Certification Program as established in state law estimated to be \$360,693 for the



2025-2026 school year. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-3. Mrs. Dombrosky, Mr. Zeck and Mrs. Hopkins voted no.

### **School Lunch**

Mrs. Arnold moved to recommend the funding necessary to meet federal maintenance of effort requirements for School Lunch estimated to be \$2,510,486 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-2. Mrs. Dombrosky and Mr. Zeck voted no.

### **Parents as Teachers**

Mrs. Arnold moved to recommend funding Parents as Teachers at the current level. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-1-1. Mr. Zeck voted no. Mrs. Dombrosky abstained.

### **Pre-K Pilot**

Mrs. Arnold moved to recommend funding the Pre-K Pilot at current the level. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-2. Mr. Zeck and Mrs. Dombrosky voted no.

### **Safe and Secure Schools**

Mr. McNiece moved to recommend the funding necessary to fully fund the Kansas Safe and Secure Schools Grant Program with an estimated additional cost of \$10,000,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Dr. Horst seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-0-2. Mr. Zeck and Mrs. Dombrosky both abstained.

### **E-Rate**

Mrs. Arnold moved to recommend the funding necessary to replace State Fiscal Recovery Funds to provide the state match for school district applications for the federal E-Rate Broadband Infrastructure program estimated to be \$1,000,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 8-1. Mrs. Dombrosky voted no.

### **KSDE Operating Budget**

Mrs. Mah moved to recommend the funding necessary to replace funding from KBOR for the KSDE's administrative work in supporting school districts with the E-Rate funding process estimated to be \$70,000 for the 2025-2026 school year. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-1-1. Mrs. Dombrosky voted no. Mr. Zeck abstained.

(For the following motion, it was suggested that the legislative priorities include this recommendation for Safe and Secure schools funding. ) To request

additional funding for the KSDE Agency Operating Budget for the creation of a new School Safety Auditor position at an estimated cost of \$90,000.

Mrs. Arnold moved to request additional funding for the KSDE Agency Operating Budget for the addition of six FTE staff members needed to comply with new reporting and accountability requirements approved as part of House sub for Senate Bill 387 at an estimated cost of \$626,500. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-1-1. Mrs. Dombrosky voted no. Mr. Zeck abstained.

### **State School Board Member Compensation**

Mrs. Arnold moved to recommend changes to state statute to make compensation rate for members of the Kansas State Board of Education equal to the compensation rate for members of the Kansas Legislature while they are in session with an initial estimated cost increase of \$170,000. Mr. McNiece seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-1-1. Mr. Zeck voted no. Mrs. Dombrosky abstained.

*(Dr. Harwood and the Commissioner assured the board that there will be more options brought to the board about how this could be requested, in terms of whether the daily rate could increase, or a salary could be requested.)*

### **Act on Appointments to Professional Standards Advisory Board**

Joe Midgley, Teacher Licensure, presented applicants who are willing to serve on the Professional Standards Advisory Board.

Dr. Horst moved that the Kansas State Board of Education act on the following recommended new appointments to the Professional Standards Board, effective upon appointment through June 30, 2027.

- Dr. Kelly Feldman to her first term representing Higher Education (Public).
- Michelle Smotherman to her first term representing Administrator, Spec. Ed.
- Kristin Schmitz to her first term representing Administrator, Nonpublic School.

Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

### **Receive recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee (ERC) for higher education accreditation and program approvals**

Dr. Catherine Chmidling, Teacher Licensure, presented the recommendations of the ERC to be voted on in September. She described the Higher Ed Accreditation process. There are five accreditation standards:

1. Content and Pedagogical Knowledge
2. Clinical Partnerships and Practice

Advisory  
06:54:07

Motion  
06:59:32

ERC  
07:01:00

3. Candidate Quality, Recruitment, Selectivity
4. Program Impact
5. Provider Quality, Continuous Improvement and Capacity

Dr. Chmidling described the accreditations for:

- Baker University
- Friends University
- MidAmerica University
- Tabor College
- Washburn University

### **Screening and Social Media in Schools**

Dr. Jake Steel, KSDE Special Projects

Payton Lynn, Intern

Gabrielle Hull, Fiscal and Administration

Dr. Steel introduced the subject noting screen time is defined in this instance as “non educational” screen use. Some of the issues are cell phones in schools, parent oversight of district devices, use in school and at home.

Social media is defined as a platform which has user profiles, networking, user-generated content, and interactivity. Often when people think about the negative effects of screen time, they are talking about social media.

Peyton Lynn presented statistics describing current screen time use. Since 2020, children’s screen time has risen by fifty-two percent. They average seven to ten hours of noneducational screen time, five are spent on social media. Forty-two percent of children say they are online almost constantly. There is little professional guidance for children over the age of five. There is a high correlation between depression, anxiety and social anxiety and mental health. High users show less curiosity, self-control, and emotional stability. There is, however, some evidence that this is not a correlation, for instance, depressed children may spend more time on social media because of their emotional state.

U. S. Surgeon General Murthy stated more than three hours a day on social media doubles the risk of mental health problems.

Parents can model, mentor and monitor. Adults from 25-34 average about 7 hours, 35-44 average about 6 hours. Parents of young children often have high screen times.

Screening  
07:36:05

In *The Anxious Generation*, currently a widely read book on this subject, the author, Jonathan Haidt, recommends no smart phones prior to high school, no social media before age 16, and encourages free play, independent play, and time in nature.

District devices, devices that are issued by schools, are an issue because students can use them for non-educational activities. There are some programming that give parents the ability to turn off internet access, set screen limits, or to block some websites.

Cell phones in schools, seventy-seven percent have a policy prohibiting cell phones for nonacademic use, however ninety seven percent of students use their phones during the school day. There are often policies that are outdated, and they are not often enforced. Teachers say it is difficult to enforce on the classroom level. Parents often want their children's cell phones to be available. Over fifty percent of parents (in one study) say they want their children to have access to their phones. In one study more than fifty percent of parents felt that cell phones are positive for their children.

There has been legislative action across the country; California and Florida have acted with policy banning phones in classrooms. In Kansas, HB 2641 was introduced in 2024, which would have required local boards of education to adopt policies and procedures to prohibit students' use of privately owned cell phones. It died in committee.

Guidance may be more effective than bans. For instance, guidance might be given for time limits and recommending blocking all commercial social media sites.

Miss Lynn ended her presentation by asking, "What is the role of KSDE and the State Board of Education?" This was followed by a robust discussion.

The Chair recessed the meeting until Wednesday, July 10<sup>th</sup>, at 9:00 a. m.

Recess  
08:31:50



**Kansas State Board of Education  
Wednesday, July 10, 2024**

Chair Haas called the meeting to order at 9:00 a. m. All members were present except for Mr. Hershberger who was attending a conference in Washington D. C.

00:04:00

**Discussion and possible action on proposed amendment to accreditation regulation 91-31-35 (minimum high school graduation requirements) regarding FAFSA**

FAFSA  
00:04:10

Scott Gordon presented the possibility of striking the FAFSA part of the graduation requirements, noting that he will have to research the best way to make this happen. Dr. Proctor shared that this could be put into the Accreditation process, to assure that families are aware of the FAFSA and the benefits of filling out the application. Much board discussion occurred.

Mrs. Hopkins moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the submission of an amendment to K. A. R. 91-31-35 through the formal regulatory adoption process, striking the requirement as presented. Mrs. Dombrosky seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-3. Mr. McNiece, Mr. Porter, and Mrs. Arnold voted no.

Motion  
00:31:55

**Receive CTE 2023-2024 Cluster Reviews**

Natalie Clark, Assistant Director, Career and Technical Education presented the board with posters showing the basic pathways/clusters of the CTE program. The clusters are reviewed every five years. This presentation will be for the 2024-25 school year. In the past year ninety-five percent of Kansas school districts have at least one career pathway.

CTE Clusters  
00:32:40

Shannon Bohm, Chair of the Kansas Advisory Council for Career and Technical Education (KACCTE) described the committee of sixteen members. The purpose is to receive input from business and industry for continuous improvement for CTE programs. They meet quarterly.

The relevant committee reviews each course, introductory, technical and application level courses are all scrutinized. There are sixteen clusters overall. This year there are changes in seven of the areas. In total there are two hundred and seven members who are part of the cluster review process. Mrs. Mah, from the State Board, serves on this cluster review committee. After the review, the department of labor responds with information about the labor market in Kansas, and KBOR also responds. The Kansas Chamber was involved, there was a Kansas Commerce Report, the Board of Regents came presented on

program alignment with higher education in Kansas. Mrs. Clark explained the complex and complete process each cluster goes through in the review process.

Mrs. Clark presented the Agriculture cluster and the changes in this area.

Kevin Bronson, EPC, CSAS, shared the changes in Design, Production & Repair, and shared the changes were in Architecture & Construction. There were many business partners involved in this process, as well as the instructors who teach these courses.

Eryn Knecht, EPC, CSAS, is the education consultant for Arts, AV Technology, Communications and Information Technology. She went through the pre-review design sheets and then shared the changes. Graphic Design and Digital Media is a high need, high income career, which has been changed into Media Design, which is a one stop career model that many businesses need.

Taylor Spangler, EPC, CSAS, the family consumer sciences consultant, spoke about Public Services in Education & Training. Many universities were involved, as well as early childhood development pathway. (LISTEN) The biggest addition was to add a course called "Introduction to Education." Early childhood development and services is similar but focuses on younger children and families.

Kathy Camerena, EPC, CSAS, is the education program consultant in Business and Government. This year's cluster under review was business finance. Business partners, higher education departments and instructors were involved.

Mr. Bronson spoke about the Design, Production & Repair, focused this past year on Engineering. The pathways are aviation production, energy pathway, engineering/applied mathematics, and a new pathway for automation engineering. He explained how the new pathway was created in response to the changes in automation in industry.

Mrs. Knecht presented the Health Science pathway, which is responding to the shortages in Kansas healthcare needs. The Biomedical, Biochemistry and Biotechnology in Agriculture were merged into one pathway named Biotechnology.

Mrs. Clark reviewed the National Career Cluster Framework which is in the process of being modernized. This will be finalized in October 2024. She went over a few of the changes but this will be shared with the board when available.

### **Act on School Improvement and KESA 2. 0**

Dr. Jay Scott and Dr. Ben Proctor presented together, sharing a check-in summary, the private school systems, a systems activity timeline for year one, and then the request for action, on the actionable model of KESA 2. 0.

KESA 2. 0  
01:39:42

Dr. Scott shared data from the check-ins. There were more than three hundred in-person check-ins from January 2024-June 2024. The feedback for these sessions showed a high satisfaction with the visits.

Dr. Scott spent time with those schools in the private systems and shared that they have worked out the district vs. building model with those organizations. These systems are building based, so there was some discussion about how to use the KESA model which is district based.

Dr. Proctor went through a hypothetical walk-through of what a school system scan expect in year one (2024-25). He chose Hesston USD 460 as an example. Dr. Proctor was previously the school superintendent in this district, so he knows it very well. He described a scenario with six steps:

1. Activates the DLT (district leadership team) and BLT (building leadership team) for the collaboration and the DLT attends the KESA Informational Session.
2. BLT and DLT meet regularly and the KESA Check in is held on January 30, 2025, with regional executive Mindy Bruce.
3. The DLT attends the *School Improvement Day* with Remington, Haven, and Hillsboro on March 3<sup>rd</sup> with 2025 KESA facilitators.
4. The DLT engages the BLT and Board of Education along with students, families, and community to finalize the action plan.
5. The DLT meets to finalize and submit the district's action plan to KSDE by mid-May. KSDE will provide feedback on the action plan.
6. Implementation begins in the 2025-2026.

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education accept the proposed KESA 2.0 actionable model as presented today to go into effect beginning with the 2024-2025 school year with updates on a quarterly basis. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-2. Mrs. Dombrosky and Mr. Zeck voted no.

Motion  
03:15:41

### **Consent Agenda**

Mr. Porter moved to approve the items on the consent agenda. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 9-0.

Consent  
03:19:53

Personnel Report

Local professional development plans

Licensure Review Committee

Visiting scholar licenses

Act on request from USD 255 Ellinwood, bond election, capital improvement state aid

KSD assurances, Part VI-B funds for curriculum and assessment coordinator

Kansas Youth Transition Network contract from 2023 Disability Innovation funds

Taken off the consent and voted on separately

c. KIAS suite ongoing maintenance and development

Item c & l

l. Approve contract for Kansas Youth Transition Network

Mrs. Arnold moved to approve items c and l. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried 6-2-1. Mr. Zeck and Mrs. Dombrosky voted no. Mrs. Hopkins abstained.

b. SEAC member continuation and new member approval

After some comments and a request for this item to be put on the regular agenda in the future:

Item b

Mrs. Hopkins moved to approve item b. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 9-0.

i. Safe and secure school grants for 2024-2025

Items i & j

j. Sprout Creative contract for webpage and digital design to update CTE

Mr. McNiece moved to approve items i and j. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 7-2. Mrs. Dombrosky and Mr. Zeck voted no.

**Board Attorney**

Ferguson  
3:21:37

Mark Ferguson asked, in the context of the July 2024 board meeting issue of the land transfer, if the board wanted to review/amend the board guidelines as they relate to transfers.

He reported on a June 2024 Kansas case of the open meetings act which involved the Shawnee Mission schools. Mr. Ferguson encouraged the board to be aware of any situations that might create a “behind closed doors” situation.

Addressing the abstention vote, he remarked that using the abstention needs to be confined to conflict of interest or lack of knowledge (i. e. not attending the meeting where the issue being voted on was discussed).

The minimum six person vote (needed for an item to pass) is another subject he wanted to address. Using today’s FAFSA discussion as an example, he noted that the robust discussion was important for the board members to be on the record as to why they voted yes or no. The business of a public board is to be conducted in public session. As a lawyer, he urged open discussion. When it comes to things like a change in direction of the board, something that has a momentous change, such as not approving federal funds for school lunch programs, it needs to have a great deal of discussion. If it fails for lack of six votes, then there needs to be more discussion about why members vote against or for something. For example, legislative priorities, there need to be contingency plans for how to deal with major board policy shifts, such as how would federal funds for school lunches be replaced? Also, there needs to be additional planning with the legislature for setting up litigation funds, for the kind of costs that the board will face if these types of major policy changes are put in place.



Thinking about social media and policy development, he noted that Kansas has joined in suits against META and other major companies, to challenge practices that are destructive to children. This is like the cases against the tobacco companies that resulted in fines that were distributed nationally. This might be included in legislative priorities that the board chooses, stating that you would work with the Kansas Attorney General to be part of this challenge.

He suggested the board add to its agenda, in open meeting, discussion on what things the board might do in the event that certain funding mechanisms voted down or have an extended executive session to discuss with legal counsel what the options are if that were to happen. Specifically, he noted that litigation might be triggered by board actions and this needs to be acknowledged and planned for.

### Chair Report

Chair Haas asked Dr. Watson if he had a recommendation on the screentime/cellphone conversation. He suggested a Blue Ribbon task force led by a student and a principal, and have it happen asap. It could be up and going by August, and report by November. He recommended having two board members on this task force. The focus would be non-academic screentime, cell phone and social media.

Chair  
03:25:30

### Board Travel

Chair Haas asked that if there are any travel additions, please send them to the board secretary.

Mrs. Arnold moved to accept the board travel report and approve all the travel as presented. Mrs. Hopkins seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0.

Travel  
03:39:00

Motion  
03:40:00

### Committee Reports

Mrs. Arnold gave a report on the policy committee. There will be no more Tuesday lunch meetings during board meetings. The Policy Committee will work via zoom. Presently, the focus of the committee is evaluations of the Commissioner, Board Secretary and Board Attorney. This will be a receive item in August.

Reports  
03:41:15

She also commented the Whole Child conference in Washington DC which she attended last month. The topic was the transformation of school districts. She had an opportunity to reflect on how this board does not have much of an opportunity to vision and suggested they might have a board retreat. The present educational system was created to meet needs of a culture from many decades past. The question needs to be asked: How to create and shape the educational system to meet the needs of today's world. She encouraged the board members to participate in these types of conferences which encourage thought provoking discussions.

Mrs. Dombrosky spoke about the negotiations with KNEA and the KSD. There were two robust three hour sessions. There is a tentative agreement for the coming year. KSD is a residential school and is open year round, so there are some unique situations. There are weekend and overnight staff, and through the summer. The memorandum of understanding will be circulated and put onto the agenda in August.

**Requests for future agenda items**

Mrs. Hopkins asked for the citations from Payton’s presentation. They will be included in the Friday notes. Mrs. Hopkins asked if any Kansas school districts presently have policies. Gabrielle Hull will investigate this and report it in the Friday notes. Mrs. Hopkins brought up the issue of school staff using social media, like snap chat, to connect to students. She questioned the wisdom of this practice.

Mr. Zeck would like a presentation from Susan Dunaway, Clinical Psychologist, on the changes in children’s brains caused by cell phones and other screen time devices.

Mrs. Hopkins asked about the Educational Funding Task Force. Dr. Watson stated It will be an item for next month.

Mrs. Dombrosky requested more information on High Quality Instructional Materials.

Mr. Zeck would like to have PowerPoints well in advance of the meeting so he can be prepared.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 12:53 p.m.

ADJOURN  
03:53:39