

2019 BOARD BRIEFS:

A SUMMARY OF THE APRIL STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

Action by the Board

- Adopted the Kansas Model Standards for Computer Science Grades P-12.
- Adopted the findings of the Professional Practices Commission and its recommendations on eight cases (two for issuance of licenses, five for revocation or denial of licenses, and one license renewal with a public censure).
- Rejected the Petition for Reconsideration submitted by Eric Brinkman and reaffirmed the findings of fact and conclusions of the Board in its Final Order entered Feb. 12, 2019.
- Authorized the State Board Attorney to file an Amicus Brief with the Kansas Supreme Court on behalf of the State Board in support of the finance portion of Senate Bill 16, reaffirming the Board's recommendations and to satisfy the court order.
- Appointed Jim McNiece to a two-year term on the Kansas State High School Activities Association's Board of Directors, beginning July 1, 2019. Jim is currently serving a partial term on the KSHSAA Board.
- Approved renewal of the contract with Gates Shields Ferguson Swall Hammond, P.A. for providing legal services to the State Board from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020 with no increase in rates.

Announcements and Recognitions

- The Apollo phase of Kansans Can School Redesign welcomes 19 districts (41 schools) that have volunteered to launch redesign plans. School redesign is a process driven by four principles: student success skills; community partnerships; personalized learning and real-world applications. They will join schools currently in the Mercury and Gemini phases.
- Students earning the recognition of a Kansas Career and Technical Education Scholar were announced. There are 39 scholars -- high school seniors who completed the application and met the Kansas CTE Scholar criteria.
- Six National Blue Ribbon Schools from Kansas were recognized at the meeting. The schools are: Hillcrest Elementary, USD 497; Lee Elementary, USD 383; Marion Elementary, USD 408; Sterling Grade, USD 376; Valley Heights Elementary, USD 498; Magdalen Catholic, Wichita.

Informational Presentations

- Academic preparation is one characteristic in the definition of a successful Kansas high school graduate. Board members received information on the multiple ways academic preparation and student achievement are measured, and how Kansas compares on a national scale.
- Dr. Rick Doll, Executive Director of the Kansas Educational Leadership Institute, updated members about the expanded scope of mentoring services provided to school leaders.
- A review of legislative matters, including the conference committee report on House Substitute for Senate Bill 16, was given.

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School Visits

- On Wednesday, Board members visited the School for the Blind in Kansas City and School for the Deaf in Olathe, where they received updates on outreach services, accreditation, Language Assessment Program and early intervention. Board members also toured two of the Mercury 7 redesign schools while in Olathe -- Santa Fe Trail Middle School and Westview Elementary.

Next Meeting:

May 14 and 15, 2019 in Topeka.

More Information: <http://www.ksde.org/Board>