SUMMARY OF THE MARCH 2022 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MTG

Action

- Approved establishment of a Literacy Advisory Council for the purpose of helping support and advance gains in literacy achievement for all Kansas students.
- Approved public school district ESSER III expenditure plans and ESSER II change request as recommended by the Task Force for use of federal COVID-19 relief funds.
- Approved the Kansas City Teacher Residency Program as an alternative elementary licensure pilot for elementary teaching through June 30, 2023, dependent upon meeting program review and approval.
- Granted consensus for legislative liaisons to oppose, on behalf of the State Board, any proposed legislation that limits safety requirements on school transportation vehicles.
- Re-appointed Deena Horst to represent the State Board on the Kansas State High School Activities Board of Directors and Executive Board for another two-year term.
- Approved hiring Ben Proctor as Deputy Commissioner for the Division of Learning Services, starting July 1, 2022, at an annual salary of $161,800.

Reports and Discussions

- Dr. Shannon Portillo, Co-Chair of the Governor’s Commission on Racial Equity and Justice, described recommendations identified through study of racial equity within economic systems, education and healthcare. These included teacher diversity and universal equity policies.
- Members received an initial look at KSDE’s re-organization of accreditation and school redesign departments into the Accreditation Design Team.
- Leaders with the Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation and from the Kansas Association for Native American Education addressed the Board regarding American Indian perspectives in Kansas education. The presentation included five specific considerations for improving education about, for, and with American Indians in Kansas.

Recognition

- Members recognized National ESEA Distinguished Schools, National Blue Ribbon Schools, and STAR Award winner Valley Falls USD 338 for their accomplishments.

Next Regular Meeting – April 12 in Topeka; April 13 at Kansas State School for the Blind, Kansas City.