

## **2019 BOARD BRIEFS:**

### **A SUMMARY OF THE MAY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

#### **Action by the Board**

- Adopted the findings of the Professional Practices Commission and its recommendations on 10 cases (nine for revocation or denial of licenses, and one suspension and subsequent censure of a license).
- Directed Commissioner Watson to convene stakeholders concerned with youth e-cigarette use and present recommendations for policy updates for Board discussion and action in June.

#### **Informational Presentations**

- Farm to Plate is an initiative to connect schools with regional or local farms in order to serve healthy meals using local foods. Districts presenting on their activities were: USD 251 North Lyon, USD 497 Lawrence, USD 426 Pike Valley, USD 231 Gardner-Edgerton. They incorporate nutrition and ag education as part of their programs.
- There was an update on the Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA), including current reports on work of the Accreditation Advisory Council and Accreditation Review Council. Recommendations for cycle five systems are expected this summer.
- Presentations were shared about increased use of e-cigarettes by youth and concerns for health risks connected to vaping. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and Blue Valley USD 229 discussed development of a toolkit for schools and policy practices. The State Board has plans for additional discussion and to review recommendations on this topic.
- Collaborative efforts are under way to strengthen the Kansas early childhood system. This includes hosting community conversations with families around the state and building on current work.
- Fredonia USD 484 and Beloit USD 273, both redesign schools, explained about their academy programs to partner with businesses and their communities allowing students opportunities for workforce readiness. These included Fredonia's Medical Academy and new Fine Arts Academy, plus Beloit's Career Exploration and Leadership Academy for middle schoolers.
- There was an update on the delivery platform for state assessments. Other information included number of tests taken, helpdesk statistics and schedule for release of assessment results.

#### **Recognitions**

- Board members recognized the 2019 US Senate Youth Program representatives Delegates and Alternates from Kansas. They are Eli Blaufuss, Newton High School, and Benjamin "Scott" Sawaya, Blue Valley Southwest HS (delegates) and Benjamin Posch, Eudora HS, Alejandro Rangel-Lopez, Dodge City HS (alternates)

#### **Next Meeting**

June 11 and 12, 2019 in Topeka