SUMMARY OF THE MAY 2021 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MTG

Action
- Approved recommendations of the Professional Practices Commission (PPC) and issued licenses in three cases.
- Appointed Jennifer Holt, Aaron Edwards, Jamie Wetig, Christy Ziegler, Darrin San Romani, Charrica Osborne to serve on the PPC July 1, 2021-June 30, 2024.
- Appointed Ruth Schneider and Tricia Schechter to serve on the Licensure Review Committee July 1, 2021-June 30, 2024.
- Suspended the current Education System Coordinating Council while the newly created Advantage Kansas Coordinating Council remains active to help avoid duplication of objectives.
- Accepted recommendations of the Commissioner’s Task Force on ESSER and EANS Distribution of Money and approved the EANS I (non-public school) reconsideration requests as presented as well as the current submission of ESSER II (public school) expenditure plans for federal COVID-19 relief funds.

Presentations and Discussion
- Discussion occurred on a proposal to allow Computer Science to satisfy a core math or science credit. The proposal would allow local boards of education the flexibility to substitute one unit of computer science for a math or science credit. Board action is anticipated in June.
- Updates were shared from the E-Cigarette/Vaping Task Force (cessation programs, strategic supports to youth, vape recycling program) and from the School Mental Health Advisory Council on implementation of recommendations from the Bullying Task Force (addressing cyberbullying, pre-service teacher training, prevention policies).
- Changes to the 2020-21 Kansas Communities That Care student survey were described (fewer questions, modified language, online administration). Data trends in substance use, depression and suicide were shared.
- A report was given on activity occurring during the veto session of the Legislature. There was also discussion about proposed legislation that infringed on the State Board’s authority.

Visits to School for the Deaf and School for the Blind.
- On May 12, State Board members toured classrooms, learned of outreach services, spent time with staff and students, and received updates on multiple topics.

Next Meeting – June 8 and 9, 2021 in Topeka.

Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.