

## 2019 BOARD BRIEFS:

### A SUMMARY OF THE SEPTEMBER STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

#### Action by the Board

- Approved updated Tobacco-Free School signage as presented by the E-Cigarette/Vaping Task Force. Signage states no smoking, no vaping, no dipping on school grounds and lists contact information for assistance to quit.
- Appointed Caroline Spaulding, Auburn Washburn USD 437 special education teacher, to a three-year term on the Professional Practices Commission. She represents the position of public school teacher.
- Accepted the recommendations of the Professional Practices Commission on seven cases (three issued licenses, one issued with public censure, one denial, two revocations).

#### Updates on Current Initiatives

- Commissioner Dr. Randy Watson reported on the STAR recognition program that brings together State Board goals in one recognition system for school districts. He reviewed each category of merit, reflecting on criteria for qualitative and quantitative measures.
- A collaborative effort to shape the state's future direction for early childhood is being supported with federal grant funding. Board members received information on the needs assessment, community engagement sessions, and next steps.
- An update on School Mental Health initiatives was provided. Leadership from the Mental Health Intervention team gave a progress report, which included an increase in participating districts. Staff also shared information on professional development regarding suicide prevention and response.
- Board members are receiving monthly updates from the E-Cigarette/Vaping Task Force. This month there was discussion about Tobacco 21 proposed legislation, the KDHE's first report of a death in Kansas linked to vaping and updated Tobacco-Free School signage.

#### Guest Presentations

- Representatives from Wichita's Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas and Textron Aviation described the community approach to helping prepare today's students for the workforce. The Youth Employment Program design includes age-appropriate activities and work readiness goals.
- Guest educators from K-12 and Kansas State University reported on the topic of standards-based instructional and grading practices.

#### Next Meeting:

Oct. 15 and 16 (third week of the month) in Topeka. Board members will also participate in a western Kansas tour of schools in Liberal, Garden City and Dighton Sept. 30-Oct. 2, plus business forums hosted by Chambers of Commerce.

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