

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Meeting Minutes September 19, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

At its regular monthly meeting, the Kansas Board of Regents hosted the Kansas State Board of Education to discuss education topics of mutual interest and to strengthen the K-12—Higher Education continuum. The meeting occurred Thursday, Sept. 19, 2019 in the Regents Board Room, 1000 Jackson, Topeka, Kansas. Regents Chair Shane Bangerter called the meeting to order at 10 a.m.

ROLL CALL

The following State Board of Education members were present:

Kathy Busch	Jim McNiece
Jean Clifford	Jim Porter
Deena Horst	Steve Roberts
Ben Jones	Janet Waugh
Ann Mah	

Member Michelle Dombrosky was absent.

RECEIVE UPDATE ON KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S KANSANS CAN VISION

After introductions, Commissioner of Education Dr. Randy Watson described how the State Board developed its Kansans Can vision to lead the world in the success of each student. He reviewed elements of a successful high school graduate as defined by the Board as well as the outcomes that support student achievement. He talked about tracking postsecondary progress and students' transition after high school.

RECEIVE UPDATE ON NEW HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM STRATEGIC PLAN

Dr. Blake Flanders, President and CEO for the Kansas Board of Regents, provided information about the higher education system strategic plan. He focused on two pillars: family and business. These incorporate the areas of affordability and access, as well as developing current talent to increase economic prosperity in the state.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Members of both boards discussed strategies to improve postsecondary effectiveness. Conversation centered on benefits of the student-driven Individual Plan of Study (IPS) process and early career exploration before students incur college debt. Affordability and access could be viewed as barriers, especially for first generation students or those with limited financial support regardless of demographics. Concurrent enrollment and considerations for funding initial college courses were identified as pivotal for encouraging students to attain higher education. Suggestions from one course (i.e. English 101) to 15 credit hours were discussed. State Board Chair Kathy Busch proposed reinstating the former Education Coordinating Council with representatives from both boards and business/industry to meet on a regular basis to dig deeper into common solutions.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Kathy Busch, Chairman

Peggy Hill, Secretary