

# MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education

Tuesday, November 10, 2020

## CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Kathy Busch called the monthly meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 10, 2020 in the Board Room at the Landon State Office Building, 900 S.W. Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas. This month's meeting was one day since Nov. 11 is a state holiday. Chairman Busch extended appreciation to all veterans in her opening remarks.

(00:05:30)

## ROLL CALL

All Board members participated, either in person or by video conference:

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

## STATE BOARD MISSION STATEMENT, MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Busch read both the Board's Mission Statement and Kansans Can Vision Statement. She then asked for a moment of silence after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mrs. Dombrosky asked for discussion on Consent Item 17 e. (request from USD 512 for capital improvement state aid). Dr. Horst moved to approve the one-day agenda noting this request. Mrs. Dombrosky seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:08:37)

## APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER MEETING MINUTES

Mrs. Dombrosky moved to approve the minutes of the October Board meeting. Mr. McNiece seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:09:09)

## ACTION ON RESOLUTION HONORING ALL SCHOOL PERSONNEL

The week of Nov. 16-20, 2020 is designated as American Education Week by the National Education Association. The Kansas State Board of Education chose to mark the observance by expressing support for all school personnel with a prepared Resolution. Chairman Busch read the Resolution. (Attached) Mrs. Waugh moved to accept the Resolution expressing support for all the dedicated school personnel in Kansas in recognition of their hard work, sacrifices and commitment for the benefit of students, community and state, especially during the time of COVID-19. Mr. Porter seconded. Motion carried 9-1, with Mr. Roberts in opposition.

**MOTION**  
(00:12:10)

## ACTION ON RECOMMENDATION FOR KANSAS EDUCATION SYSTEMS ACCREDITATION

At the October State Board meeting, members received the Executive Summary and accreditation recommendation for four public systems. Mr. Jones moved to accept the recommendation of the Accreditation Review Council and award the status of accredited to USD 229 Blue Valley, USD 267 Renwick, USD 298 Lincoln and USD 313 Buhler. Mr. Roberts seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(00:14:56)

**RECEIVE ACCREDITATION REVIEW COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KANSAS EDUCATION SYSTEMS ACCREDITATION**

One public system was presented for accreditation consideration: USD 450 Shawnee Heights. Accreditation status recommendations are brought to the State Board upon completion of final visitations and meetings of the Accreditation Review Council (ARC). An Executive Summary was prepared outlining evidence of goals and identifying both strengths and challenges. Accountability report data was also provided. Director of Teacher Licensure and Accreditation Mischel Miller and Assistant Director Jeannette Nobo were available to answer questions. The State Board will act on the recommendation for USD 450 in December.

(00:15:34)

**QUARTERLY UPDATE ON WORK TO STRENGTHEN THE KANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM**

This update covered information on remote learning grants for community organizations, the updated 1-800-CHILDREN call line and resource directory, early screening of incoming kindergarteners, expanding the Ages and Stages Questionnaire and other initiatives to strengthen the early childhood system in Kansas. Presenters were KSDE Early Childhood Director Amanda Petersen and Executive Director of the Children’s Cabinet and Trust Fund Melissa Rooker. The update was paused to allow time for public comment.

(00:21:20)

**CITIZENS’ OPEN FORUM**

Chairman Busch declared the Citizens’ Forum open at 10:34 a.m. Speakers and their topics were: Carter Stelting, Olathe — results from student survey about online education; Brennan Stelting, Olathe — negative aspects of remote learning and impact to mental health; Reagan Stelting, Olathe — emotional effects of remote learning and lack of human connection; Dr. Jill Ackerman, Leawood — advocating for in-person learning; Erin Murray, Overland Park — sharing her childrens’ struggles with remote learning; Brian Connell, Olathe — school provides safe setting for teachers and students; Dr. Caroline Danda, Leawood — social-emotional impact of distance learning; Dr. Christine White, Overland Park — importance of meeting Kansas statute, returning to school full time, assessment scores. Chairman Busch declared the Citizens’ Forum closed at 11:06 a.m.

(00:37:37)

**CONTINUATION OF UPDATE ON KANSAS EARLY CHILDHOOD SYSTEM**

The presentation on early childhood resumed with information on initiatives using funds from the federal CARES Act, and grants available to meet essential needs and services for children and providers while supporting local communities. Melissa Rooker answered questions about the application process for remote learning grants. Board members were interested in efforts to extend the spending of CARES Act funds beyond Dec. 30.

(01:12:03)

There was a break until 11:25 a.m.

**BREAK**

**ACTION ON RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION**

Jennifer Holt represented the Professional Practices Commission in presenting one case for consideration this month. Mr. Jones moved to adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of law from the Professional Practices Commission and revoke the license of the individual in case 20-PPC-20. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(01:31:50)

**ACTION ON REVISIONS TO SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY MODEL GUIDELINES**

Last month, the Board received proposed revisions to the Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines which focus on creating a healthy school environment to enhance academic success. The areas are nutrition promotion, nutrition education and physical education. CNW Director Cheryl Johnson was available to answer questions. Dr. Horst moved to approve the revised Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines. Mrs. Waugh seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(01:34:48)

**RECEIVE PROGRESS UPDATE ON DYSLEXIA INITIATIVE, INCLUDING PROPOSED HANDBOOK**

Education Program Consultant Cindy Hadicke reported on the current status of each of the dyslexia recommendations, which the State Board approved one year ago. The recommendations focus on pre-service teacher programs, professional learning, screening and evaluation, and evidence-based reading practices. Funding for the dyslexia coordinator position has been requested from the Kansas Legislature for fiscal year 2021. Mrs. Hadicke also previewed the draft Dyslexia Handbook, which was developed to help inform educators and families about practices that support struggling readers. Board members will act on the handbook at the December meeting. Questions centered on science of reading inclusion in teacher preparation programs, gathering information from schools about dyslexia initiatives, contributions of Dyslexia Task Force members who worked on the handbook and distribution of the finished product.

(01:36:15)

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:08 p.m.

**LUNCH**

**RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL FINALISTS FROM KANSAS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING**

Chairman Busch reconvened the Board meeting at 1:30 p.m. The 2019 National Finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching were recognized for their accomplishments. Recipients from Kansas are Luke Henke, a math teacher at Columbus Unified High School, Columbus USD 493, and Meg Richard, former science teacher at Summit Trail Middle School, Olathe USD 233, who now works at KSDE as an education program consultant. Each honoree told about innovative strategies they used in mathematics, technology and science instruction to foster student achievement. Both emphasized the importance of connecting authentically with the subject areas to help students see context in their everyday lives.

**P.M. SESSION**  
(03:34:22)

**REPORT FROM E-CIGARETTE / VAPING TASK FORCE**

Board members received a report on current work of the E-Cigarette / Vaping Task Force. Hina Shah, analyst from the Kansas Health Institute, spoke about the potential use of Project ECHO (Extension for Community Healthcare Outcomes) for a series of trainings on different aspects of e-cigarettes/vaping for school staff. Mark Thompson assisted with the presentation and distributed flyers listing cessation resources and tips for talking to students. Board members asked about Tobacco 21 legislation.

(03:59:18)

**RECEIVE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR INCREASING FLEXIBILITY OF SCHOOL OPERATIONS DURING THE PANDEMIC**

State Board members continue to discuss ways to assist schools and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. In October, the Board asked Commissioner Watson and KSDE to research options that could allow flexibility or provide additional supports to school districts. Dr. Watson directed members to a list of extensions or relaxed requirements the agency has already put in place. These included extensions of reporting deadlines, renewal of grant award levels, adjusted assurances, increased outreach and support. Federal reporting requirements, by law, saw minor fluctuation. He also addressed state assessments and prior suggestions to increase professional development credit. Discussion included suggested next steps to provide limited relief of the 1,116 hour requirement through the winter months. Mr. Roberts suggested moving to 900 hours or 144 days. Commissioner Watson was asked to bring back a proposed plan at the December meeting.

(04:25:54)

Members took a break from 3:30 to 3:45 p.m.

**BREAK**

**ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA**

Dr. Horst moved to approve all items on the Consent Agenda, excluding 17 e. (USD 512 request for capital improvement state aid) which would be voted on separately. Mr. Jones seconded.

(04:22:00)

Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mr. Roberts abstaining. In the Consent Agenda, the Board:

- received the monthly Personnel Report for October.
- confirmed the unclassified personnel appointment of Anna Riffey as Administrative Specialist on the Information Technology team, effective Oct. 5, 2020, at an annual salary of \$36,504.
- accepted the following recommendations for licensure waivers valid for one school year:  
*Deaf or Hard of Hearing* -- Rachel Ghram, D0725. *Early Childhood Special Education* -- Jessica Knox, USD 305; Christina Harrison, USD 389; Kyla Riddle, USD 453; Jane Jackson, USD 500; Desiree Miller, Rebecca Buckle, D0605; Danielle Johnson, D0616; Kaitlyn Isch, D0702; Cherice Benton, USD 204; Madison Thompson, USD 457. *Gifted* -- Marguerite Hunting, Sara Reimer, USD 231; Kent Hicks, USD 261; Miranda Luke, USD 321; Katie Rhodes, USD 383; Joshua Yoakam, USD 469; Jillian Kay, USD 475; Jaclynn Williams, Kristina Bubna, Michelle King, USD 497; Megan Kerr, USD 512; Diana Albright, D0605; Andrew Mosby, D0724; Brandi Gibbs, D0725. *High Incidence Special Education* -- Ashley Pieper, Margaret Seggar, USD 202; Bennett Ratzloff, USD 204; Brooke McCullough, Kara Standridge, USD 230; Amber Nichols, Amy Bloodgood, USD 231; Catherine Hanson, Dana Spoor, Kelsey Meadows, Stacey Martin, USD 233; Robert Dunlap, USD 253; Ashley Garten, USD 261; Kendra Baumberger, Monica Zier, Richelle Ross, USD 305; Damien Eck, Alexis Hanson, USD 321; Kathryn Totten, Brooke Heiman, USD 364; Sara Corbin, USD 372; Jenny Birk, Jana Winter, Tamara Wildes, USD 383; Nicole Lance, Robert Arnold, Amber Lovejoy, Megan Taylor, USD 453; Tommy Nichols, USD 457; Bruce Lapham, USD 469; Evan Goehl, Graham Weaver, Sonia Camerlinck, Bailee Flaming, Emilia Mendiola-Walsh, Brenda Eckart, USD 457; Katharine Ritter, Samantha Hershberger, Seth Swartzendruber, Lacy Davison Symmonds, Angela Mathews, Carolina Pierce, Erica Wheat, USD 497; Jami Knight, Matthew Greenberg, Shawn Agnew, Stefanie Boice, Kelly Scarrow, Shelly Roehrman, Sharon Simwinga, USD 500; Jonathan Riley, Melissa McBrayer, Shannon Johnson, Suzanne Snell, Katherine Marx, Shaun Bouley, Jodi Miller, Kasey Orlik, Kimberly Taylor, Mary Paris, Melissa Calvin, Shelda Goodwin, Twyla Lomen, USD 512; Amanda Crabtree, Amy Welch, D0603; Susan Clayton, Phillip Sill, D0605; Tiffany Hare, D0607; Amy Weeks, D0610; Lucas Fitzmorris, Alicia Birney, Daniel Kliger, Karin Good, D0613; Duncan Whitlock, Kaitlyn Frese, D0617; Tammy Cook, Sara Kinsey, D0618; Kaitlyn Isch, D0702; Jason Duvall, Tammy Cline, D0707; Diane Breiner, Margaret Strait, Skyler Suther, Justin Smith, D0724; Maronda Blankenship, Julie Crowe, D0725. *Library Media Specialist* -- Trisha Peaster, USD 259; Jamie Klem, D0402; Abbi Peoples, Christine Campbell, USD 512. *Low Incidence Special Education* -- Catherine Hutchens, USD 207; Tracy Steele, USD 231; Gretchen Norris, Katherine Kashka, Macy Carbajo, Mary Vanhooser, USD 233; Eva Arevalo, USD 259; Jessica Palmer, USD 364; Danyel Bowers, Victoria Gellott, USD 383; Hannah Harrity, USD 453; Rebecca Kilgore, USD 457; Kayla Driskill, USD 469; Macey Conrad, USD 497; Catherine Sheridan, Kendra Greenwood, Marissa Albracht, Natalie Heins, Sage Kelly, USD 512; Brandee Randels, D0605; Lorena Carrillo, D0613. *Visual Impaired* -- Angelia Hilt, USD 261; Kerry Ingram, USD 305.
- accepted recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee as follows: *Approved cases* — 3323 (initial license PK-12 art), 3333, 3341, 3342, 3343, 3344, 3345, 3346, 3347, 3351, 3352.
- accepted the Kansas School for the Deaf Strategic Plan for 2020-2023.

**MOTION**  
(05:47:51)

**SEPARATE ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA ITEM**

Mrs. Waugh moved to authorize USD 512 Shawnee Mission to receive capital improvement (bond and interest) state aid as authorized by law. Mr. McNiece seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(05:52:15)

### **BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL**

Board members had the opportunity to make changes to the travel requests for approval. Mr. Jones moved to approve the travel requests and updates. Mrs. Dombrosky seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(05:54:21)

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT AND REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**Action to accept Navigating Change document updates** — Dr. Watson reviewed updates to *Navigating Change Kansas' Guide to Learning and School Safety Operations* addressing ventilation in facilities based on recommendations from the heating and cooling industry. Ms. Busch moved to accept updates to the Navigating Change document reflecting changes and new information since State Board approval on Oct. 13. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(05:56:26)

**Committee Reports** — Mr. Jones reported on the NASBE annual conference, keynote address by National Teacher of the Year Tabatha Rosproy from Kansas, and new NASBE elected leadership. Mr. Porter commented on the upcoming discussion to consider legislative priorities for the 2021 session. Mrs. Clifford shared information from the Interstate Migrant Education Council meeting.

**Board Attorney's Report** — Board Attorney Mark Ferguson gave a summary of legal challenges making national headlines.

### **Requests for Future Agenda Items** —

- Presentation from American Lung Association on efforts to have tobacco 21 legislation move forward. (Mark Thompson offered suggestion during vaping discussion)
- December discussion on flexibility options for schools, response to limited relief of hours during the winter months, and development of plan prior to the legislative session; continue monitoring situation through March and revisit then.
- Success stories of teachers who are using Navigating Change guidance and resources for competency-based learning/instruction. (Mrs. Dombrosky)
- Discussion on teacher preparation programs, to include report from National Council of Teacher Quality review (Mrs. Mah) and Praxis passage rates among demographics (Mr. Jones)
- Recognition of Sterling High School, which was named a Performing Arts School of Excellence in Kansas (Dr. Horst)

**Chairman's Report** - Chairman Busch reminded members of event cancellations. She also previewed topics for the Dec. 8 and 9 State Board meeting.

### **DEMONSTRATION OF KANSAS TEACHING AND LEADING PROJECT**

Tammy Mitchell, Elementary Redesign Specialist, led members through an online tour of the newly developed Kansas Teaching and Leading Project website. This is a collection of free resources for Kansas educators and school leaders. The Kansas Association of Education Service Agencies, in collaboration with the Kansas State Department of Education, created the website to provide relevant, timely and impactful professional development and support tied to the Navigating Change guidance for school districts. Deputy Commissioner Brad Neuenswander assisted with the presentation and answered questions. The three most requested topics are social-emotional learning, remote and hybrid teaching strategies, and instructional technology. The resources align with the Navigating Change document. Additional training modules will be added.

(06:24:41)

**DISCUSSION ON MICROCREDENTIALS AND INDIVIDUALIZED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR LICENSED EDUCATORS**

Last month, State Board members talked about the use of competency-based microcredentials as a means of personalized professional learning for educators. They heard from members of the Professional Standards Board and KSDE staff who have been researching and exploring such options. This month, the discussion continued with a focus on current professional development council criteria and how to effectively implement the process at the local level while tracking impact and results. Mischel Miller and Susan Helbert led the presentation and answered questions. They noted that microcredentials are not just for license renewal, but also for pre-service, beginning and experienced educators.

(06:35:13)

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Waugh moved to recess into Executive Session to discuss the subject of an individual employee's performance, which is justified pursuant to the non-elected personnel exception under KOMA, in order to protect the privacy interest of the individual(s) to be discussed. The session would begin at 5 p.m. for 15 minutes and the open meeting would resume in the Board Room at 5:15 p.m. Mrs. Dombrosky seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

**MOTION**  
(06:55:26)

Members returned to open session at 5:15 p.m. Chairman Busch immediately adjourned the meeting until Dec. 8.

**ADJOURN**

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Kathy Busch, Chairman

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Peggy Hill, Secretary