

MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education
September 12, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Melanie Haas called the monthly meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12, 2023 in the Board Room of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas.

(00:10:06)

ROLL CALL

The following Board members were present:

Betty Arnold	Deena Horst
Michelle Dombrosky	Ann Mah
Melanie Haas	Jim McNiece
Dennis Hershberger	Jim Porter
Cathy Hopkins	Danny Zeck

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

Chair Haas 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.

(00:10:27)

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Haas asked to approve the meeting agenda for both Tuesday and Wednesday. Chair Haas also asked to add Makayla Auldrige as Interim Board Secretary (as item 5a) on Tuesday's agenda. Chair Haas also asked that item 12 on Wednesday's agenda (the Chair Report) be pushed back to item 13 and place the review of the EANS and GEER money memo in its place. Dr. Horst moved to approve Tuesday and Wednesday's agenda as amended. Mrs. Mah seconded. Then, Mrs. Hopkins asked to pull item d from the consent agenda for further discussion. Mrs. Dombrosky asked to pull consent agenda items e and p. Chair Haas asked Dr. Horst if she would accept the revisions to the agenda for her motion (to pull items d, e, and p for further discussion). Dr. Horst agreed to revise her motion. Mrs. Mah seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

(00:11:51)

MOTION
(00:11:50)**APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST MEETING MINUTES**

Mrs. Hopkins moved to approve the minutes of the August 8 and 9, 2023 regular Board meeting. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(00:15:11)**APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM BOARD SECRETARY**

Mr. Hershberger made a motion to appoint Makayla Auldrige as the Interim Board Secretary. Mr. McNiece seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(00:16:00)**COMMISSIONER'S REPORT**

Dr. Randy Watson started his monthly Commissioner's Report by informing the State Board that they will receive 2022-23 accountability reports for each district in their region during the October State Board meeting. Next, Dr. Watson walked board members through the process of how to read information on the accountability report; which the Accreditation Review Council (ARC) reviews before

(00:15:29)

they accredit a system.

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chair Haas declared the Citizens' Forum open at 10:54 a.m. There were no speakers this month. The forum was closed at 10:55 a.m.

(01:02:45)

ACT ON LICENSING TEST CHANGE RECOMMENDATIONS

Shane Carter, Director of Teacher Licensure, shared with the State Board in August that the teacher licensure team met with education stakeholders during the summer of 2022. As part of those meetings, it was determined the teacher licensure team should create a working group to examine test issues and make recommendations to adjust test requirements as needed. Beginning in September of 2022, the teacher licensure team, a group of school district administrators, educator preparation providers, and additional stakeholders, reviewed test data completed over the last five years and reported test issues.

(01:03:28)

The Professional Standards Board recommended the following changes to the licensing test:

1. Remove the Principles of Learning and Teaching pedagogy exam as a requirement for licensure.
2. Establish a process through the Licensure Review Committee to address educators who completed Kansas approved teacher preparation programs but have not passed the required content exam after two attempts to qualify for a standard Kansas teaching license.

Mr. Porter moved to accept the recommended test changes from the Professional Standards Board as presented. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(01:17:40)

2023 SUNFLOWER SUMMER RECAP

Michael Koonce, Director of Administrative Services, Greenbush Education Service Center provided an overview to the State Board of the 2023 Sunflower Summer program. Sunflower Summer was created in 2021 at the request of Kansas educators to provide opportunities for student learning during the summer months and to encourage family engagement in the process. From 2021 to 2023, the Sunflower Summer program served 597,006 people throughout Kansas.

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Beginning with the 2024 program year, the administration of the Sunflower Summer program will transfer to the Kansas Department of Commerce Tourism division.

EARLY CHILDHOOD TRANSITION TASK FORCE UPDATE

In January 2023 Governor Laura Kelly signed Executive Order 23-01 establishing the Early Childhood Transition Task Force. The Task Force has been charged with reviewing Kansas' early childhood programs and developing a roadmap for the creation of a new state, cabinet-level agency focused solely on supporting the success of our youngest Kansans. KSDE Director of Early Childhood Amanda Petersen serves as a member on the Task Force and provided an update to the State Board.

(01:47:38)

RECEIVE KANSAS STANDARDS FOR LIBRARY AND INFORMATION LITERACY REVIEW

Nathan McAlister, Humanities Program Manager and Co-Chairs of the Library Review Committee, Rachel Yoder and Mirah Dow presented information on the Library Review Committee such as their structure, and the timeline for their reviews. The committee is made up of volunteer library educators that represent all grade levels. The presentation also covered information regarding the structure of the standards and example revisions that happened through the review process. These

(03:38:40)

revisions and changes include the title of the standards, a new coding system, the addition of anchor standards, and grade band standards revisions.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT/KESA UPDATE

Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Learning Services, Dr. Ben Proctor provided an update to the State Board on the School Improvement Working Group as a follow up from the June 2023 State Board of Education meeting. Dr. Proctor provided an overview of the current work related to school improvement in Kansas, along with a connection to the accreditation model KESA. Components of the presentation, included elements such as fundamentals, structures and lead Indicators to propose the school improvement framework.

(03:58:14)

APPROVAL OF EANS/GEER FUNDING MEMO TO GOVERNOR

Dr. Watson asked the State Board to move the EANS/GEER memo item from the September 13 agenda to this section of the meeting, as there was extra time in between presentations. Next, Dr. Watson provided a **very** brief overview of EANS I, II and ESSER I, II and III funds. The request of the board is that a memo be sent to the Governor’s office to request the remaining balance of the EANS funds (around \$3.5 million) be sent back to our agency to help assist with the expenses associated with the increased number of special education complaints; the Kansas State Department of Education has seen an increase of special education complaints in the last year. Mr. Porter moved to suspend board policy to take action on this item. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried (10-0). Then, Mr. Porter made a motion to approve the memo to be sent to the Governor regarding EANS/GEER funding. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried (10-0).

(04:41:15)

MOTION
(04:47:55)

MOTION
(04:48:50)

STUDENT SHOWCASE: NOOR HAIDERI

The Kansas State Board of Education heard from Miss Noor Haideri, an Overland Park Senior at Blue Valley High School, USD 229. In February this year, Miss Haideri, a junior at the time, was named the 2022 winner of the Breakthrough Junior Challenge, a global, science video competition for high school students. The competition challenges students to explain a complex scientific idea in two minutes or less using a video format. In her video, Miss Haideri explained how blue light emitted from technology devices can disrupt sleep patterns. Her winning entry secured her a \$250,000 college scholarship, the installation of a new state-of-the-art science lab for her high school, and a \$50,000 cash award for her science teacher Dianne Dunne. Miss Haideri shared information about her experience participating in the Breakthrough Junior Competition and her future plans.

(05:03:53)

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS USE

Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Learning Services, Dr. Ben Proctor and Angie Stallbaumer, Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel from the Kansas Association of School Boards presented information to the State Board on local policies in areas such as selection criteria, collection development, challenges of materials, composition and purview of the review committee, written reports, local board review and action, removing challenged materials and impact of simultaneous requests.

(05:38:31)

CONSIDERATIONS FOR USE OF TECHNOLOGY DEVICES BY CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Dr. Jake Steel, Director of Strategy and Operational Alignment and Trish Backman, School Mental Health Coordinator provided information to the State Board on the use of technology devices in children and youth. The information presented included recommendations for screen time, appropriate engagement methods, district acceptable use policies, and the potential effects of technology on mental health. Throughout the conversation, Dr. Steel and Trish Backman

(06:29:16)

emphasized the benefits that technology offers in terms of education and development, while also addressing the challenges and concerns it poses, including potential negative impacts on well-being.

RECESS

The meeting recessed at 5:21 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. Wednesday.

(07:30:12)

Melanie Haas, Chair

Makayla Auldridge, Interim Board Secretary

MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education
Wednesday, September 13, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Melanie Haas called the Wednesday meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, September 13, 2023, in the Board Room of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas.

(00:11:49)

ROLL CALL

The following Board Members were present:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| Betty Arnold | Deena Horst |
| Michelle Dombrosky | Ann Mah |
| Melanie Haas | Jim Porter |
| Dennis Hershberger | Danny Zeck |
| Cathy Hopkins | Jim McNiece |

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Haas noted that the agenda for the September 13th Board meeting was approved on the previous day.

(00:12:04)

ACTION ON ACCREDITATION REVIEW COUNCIL (ARC) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KANSAS EDUCATION SYSTEM ACCREDITATION (KESA)

(00:12:08)

During the State Board meeting in August, Dr. Jay Scott, Director of Accreditation and Design, presented information on 12 systems (8 public systems and 4 private systems) being recommended by ARC for approval of an accredited and/or conditionally accredited status. The systems that were received by the Board in August for an "Accredited" status were 329 Wabaunsee (Alma), Z0029-5801 Maur Hill – Mount Academy, Z0029-8556 Most Pure Heart of Mary Elementary, Z0029-9015 Good Shepherd School; and "Conditionally Accredited" 216 Deerfield, 261 Haysville, 314 Brewster, 334 Southern Cloud, 369 Burrton, 403 Otis-Bison, 500 Kansas City Kansas, and Z0066-9929 Life Preparatory Academy. Dr. Scott brought these 12 systems back to the Board for action.

Dr. Horst then moved to accept the recommendations of the Accreditation Review Council and award the status as presented. Mr. Porter seconded. Motion carried 9-1 with Mrs. Hopkins in opposition.

MOTION
(00:32:14)

RECEIVE ACCREDITATION REVIEW COUNCIL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR KANSAS EDUCATION SYSTEM ACCREDITATION (KESA)

The Accreditation Review Council (ARC) provided recommendations to the board for five systems (2 public systems and 3 private systems). Executive summaries, accountability reports and other narratives were provided to Board members for the 5 systems. The ARC considers compliance and foundational structures to support a five-year process of continuous improvement. Board members will act on the ARC recommendations in October 2023. The systems that were received for the status of "Accredited" were 499 Galena and Z0026-3676 St. John's Lutheran Elementary. The systems that were received for the status of "Conditionally Accredited" are 462 Central (Burden) and Z0029-

(00:32:50)

8430 Christ the King (Kansas City) and lastly, the system that was received for the status of “Non-Accredited” is X0445-0273 Urban Preparatory Academy.

RECOGNITION OF THE ACCREDITATION REVIEW COUNCIL

Dr. Jay Scott, the Director of the Accreditation and Design team recognized past and present members of the Accreditation Review Council (ARC) in front of the State Board. Beginning in 2017-2018 and ending this past school year, the ARC has reviewed and made an accreditation status recommendation for every one of the 361 systems seeking accreditation through the State Board, including 179 systems in 2022-2023. State Board of Education members thanked the ARC members for the service.

(00:35:00)

LEARNING SERIES: KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION

For this learning series, Dr. Jessica Dorsey, Assistant Director - Career, Standards and Assessment Services, provided an overview of the Kansas Volunteer Commission to the Kansas State Board of Education. This presentation included information such as the history of the commission, team organization, funding and volunteer opportunities.

(00:48:50)

PREVIEW OF LEGISLATIVE INTERIM COMMITTEES

Deputy Commissioner of Fiscal Services and Operations, Dr. Craig Neuenswander and Deputy Commissioner of the Division of Learning Services, Dr. Ben Proctor shared information about the Special Legislative Committee on Education meetings that are scheduled for early October.

(01:42:21)

ACT TO APPROVE REQUEST TO CONTRACT WITH KANSAS EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE (KELI) FOR MENTORING SERVICES

Shane Carter, Director of Teacher Licensure explained to the State Board how the KELI organization has positively impacted district administrators throughout Kansas in past years. The State Board had an in-depth discussion. Mrs. Mah moved to authorize the Commissioner of Education to enter into a contract with the KELI organization to continue to provide mentor services for district administrators for the period of July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2029, in an amount not to exceed \$60,000 annually. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

(02:24:20)

MOTION
(02:30:42)

ACT TO APPROVE AP SEMINAR: ENGLISH 10 ASSESSMENT FUNDING

Joann McRell, Education Program Consultant for English Language Arts brought forth this action item to request reimbursement for students taking the assessment aligned with the AP Seminar: English 10 coursework. Joann McRell explained to board members that students face inequities due to what their school may offer. The board had an in-depth discussion before their vote.

(02:35:17)

Mrs. Arnold made a motion for the Kansas State Board of Education to approve the action item to reimburse students for taking the assessment aligned with the AP Seminar: English 10 coursework. Mr. McNiece seconded. Motion carried 9-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky in opposition.

MOTION
(02:51:46)

ACTION ON CONSENT AGENDA

Before introducing this item, Chair Haas noted that the consent agenda was approved as amended the day prior, but the items pulled for further review will be voted on today (items d, e and p).

(02:52:22)

Mrs. Mah made a motion to approve the consent agenda minus d, e and p. Mr. Porter seconded. Motion carried 10-0. In this action, the State Board:

MOTION
(02:53:00)

- Received the Monthly Personnel Report
- Received the Report of Personnel Filling Unclassified Positions
- Approved the Visiting Scholar Licenses

- Approved the Request from USD 219 Minneola, for Capital Improvement (Bond and Interest) State Aid
- Approved the Request from USD 219 Minneola, to Hold a Bond Election
- Approved the Request from USD 372 Silver Lake, for Capital Improvement (Bond and Interest) State Aid
- Approved the Request from USD 372 Silver Lake, to Hold a Bond Election
- Approved the Request from USD 395 La Crosse, for Capital Improvement (Bond and Interest) State Aid
- Approved the Request from USD 395 La Crosse, to Hold a Bond Election
- Approved the Request from USD 418 McPherson, for Capital Improvement (Bond and Interest) State Aid
- Approved the Request from USD 418 McPherson, to Hold a Bond Election
- Approved the Request from USD 479 Crest, for Capital Improvement (Bond and Interest) State Aid
- Approved the Request from USD 479 Crest, to Hold a Bond Election
- Approved the Request from USD 235 Uniontown, for Capital Improvement (Bond and Interest) State Aid
- Approved the Request from USD 235 Uniontown, to Hold a bond election

Chair Haas then requested that representatives from KSDE give a brief overview of the items to be voted on separately. Shane Carter, the Director of Teacher Licensure addressed item 11d. Mr. Porter moved to approve consent agenda item d. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 10-0. In this action, the State Board:

MOTION
(02:59:30)

- Approved the recommendations for licensure waivers.

Dr. Horst moved to approve consent agenda item e. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky abstaining. In this action, the State Board:

MOTION
(03:06:10)

- Approved Amending the State Assessment Contract with the Achievement and Assessment Institute

Mr. Porter moved to approve consent agenda item p. Mr. McNiece seconded. Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky abstaining. In this action, the State Board:

MOTION
(03:12:01)

- Approved the ESSER III Change Request for Use of Federal COVID-19 Relief Funds

CHAIR REPORT

Remarks from the Chair –

Chair Haas reminded Board members that the KSDE Great Ideas in Education Conference is quickly approaching (October 25-27, 2023) and encouraged Board members to attend.

(03:12:20)

Action on the National Association of State Boards of Education Dues for 2024 —

Dr. Horst moved to approve the National Association of State Boards of Education Dues for 2024. Mrs. Arnold seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

MOTION
(03:25:44)

Action on Board Travel —

Mr. McNiece moved to approve Board travel requests as presented. Mr. Porter seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

(03:27:15)

Committee Reports —

Mrs. Mah provided an update for the Kansas Advisory Council on Indigenous Education, which included upcoming events.

(03:27:57)

Board Attorney's Report —

Board Attorney Mark Ferguson provided a recap of his work for the board within the past month, which included work for the Kansas School for the Deaf and Blind. Mark Ferguson was able to assist in the hiring process for both schools to have School Resource Officers (SROs).

(03:30:41)

Requests for Future Agenda Items —

- Mr. Hershberger would like for the board to receive an annual report on mental health.
- Mrs. Mah would like to see more information on the mental health pilot.
- Mrs. Mah would like to see information on the recently completed firearm safety survey.
- Mrs. Mah and Mrs. Arnold would like to see a presentation on McKinney-Vento and federal funds.
- Mrs. Dombrosky would like to discuss public and private partnerships and parental rights.
- Mrs. Dombrosky would like to discuss testing and assessments.

(04:02:13)

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Haas adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m. The next regular meeting for the State Board of Education is October 10 and 11, 2023.

(04:12:30)

Melanie Haas, Chair

Makayla Auldridge, Interim Board Secretary



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To: Office of the Governor

From: Kansas State Department of the Education

Date: September 8, 2023

Subject: Summary of EANS I aid to GEER II transfer

On February 26, 2021 the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) received the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools (EANS) grant in the amount of \$26,667,139. This formula grant funds pandemic-related supports to eligible non-public schools. The total funding for this grant exceeded the demand among eligible non-public schools, and as KSDE has worked to wind down EANS I services, it forecasts that approximately \$3,500,000 will remain available even after all eligible non-public schools are provided all requested services and supports through the September 30, 2023 obligation date.

The authorizing statute allows excess EANS funding to revert to Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funding to provide a broad range of additional activities. This can include supporting the ability of Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to continue to provide educational services to their students, carrying out emergency educational services, providing child care and early childhood education, providing social and emotional support, and protecting education related jobs.

Whereas the transition of these funds from EANS to GEER may be accomplished internally at the KSDE through the agency's existing earmarking and oversight process, no further action by the Office of the Governor or the US Department of Education is necessary. KSDE has, however, prepared a summary of the eligible activities and services that will be provided with the reassignment of \$3,500,000 of EANS I funds to GEER II aid for your review.

Once KSDE receives confirmation from you that your office has received and reviewed this memo, KSDE will proceed with implementing all items as described, unless you indicate there are questions or concerns.

Please contact Dean Zajic at dzajic@kde.org or (785) 296-2425 if there are any questions.

EANS I to GEER II Summary of Identified Eligible Activities

Sunflower Summer 2.0	\$700,000
Supplemental Funding of Required Special Education Services	\$2,800,000
TOTAL	\$3,500,000

1. Sunflower Summer 2.0 - \$700,000

Building on the success of Sunflower Summer, Sunflower Summer 2.0 will provide an even wider variety of ways for students and families to explore educational and cultural sites. Children with their families or caregivers will be able to visit a growing list of Kansas museums, zoos, historic landmarks and more for free over the summer months.

This is a supplemental allocation of \$700,000 to cover final costs of providing Sunflower Summer 2.0 through August of 2023.

2. Supplemental Funding of Required Special Education Services - \$2,800,000

The KSDE is required by State and Federal Law to provide mediators performing Special Education mediations. Federal regulations prohibits employees of the State Department of Education from conducting special education mediations.

The KSDE is also required by State and Federal law to provide for a system that allows for parents, students, and other eligible parties the right to file formal special education complaints with KSDE. KSDE has 30 days upon receipt of a complaint to obtain files, review records, do an on-site investigation if necessary, and prepare a written report.

The demand and complexity of both of these required services have increased dramatically during the COVID-19 pandemic. Supplemental funding of state-level special education services is necessary to continue to meet the State's obligation to provide these services to the public.