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Message from Brad

Congratulations on a successful 2018-19 school year. It seems like every year goes by faster and faster, but I enjoy hearing the stories of student success from so many of you. As this school year winds down to an end, I know that many of you are already making plans for the 2019-20 school year. Towards the end of this newsletter you will find important dates that you can plug into your calendar.

In addition, there are several new task forces that will be working on key initiatives beginning this summer. Those initiatives include; Computer Science, Dyslexia and Bullying. As these task force committees progress with their work, KSDE will do our best to keep you informed of their recommendations and possible implications for Kansas schools and districts.

Thanks to all of you for a great year, and let us know what we can do to better serve you.



Brad Neuenswander
Deputy Commissioner



Forty-one schools representing 19 school districts from across the state will take part in Apollo, the 4th phase of the Kansans Can School Redesign Project. The districts taking part in the Apollo phase of school redesign process are:

- Augusta USD 402
- Barber County North USD 254
- Columbus USD 493
- Deerfield USD 216
- Easton USD 449
- Ell-Saline USD 307
- Frontenac USD 249
- Goodland USD 352
- Herington USD 487
- Holton USD 336
- Hutchinson USD 308
- Kaw Valley USD 321
- Lawrence USD 497
- Northeast USD 246
- Oberlin USD 294
- Perry-Lecompton USD 343
- Uniontown USD 235
- Wabaunsee USD 329
- Washington County Schools USD 108

It is the goal of the State Board of Education and KSDE, to have all 286 Kansas school districts started in the redesign process by 2026.

For further information about the Apollo project or the Kansans Can School Redesign Project, [Click Here](#).

Contacts:

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State Funded Mentor Stipend

The **Mentor Programs** authenticated application is now open for the Spring submission. The Spring submission will validate the number of mentor teachers in each district meeting eligibility requirements. Districts will then receive grant funds in a prorated amount up to \$1,000 for each of their qualified mentors for the 2018-19 school year.

Only districts who applied for a mentor grant by entering mentor teachers last fall ON OR BEFORE the 10/15/2018 deadline are eligible to review and validate their eligible mentors.

Districts must have an approved mentor plan on file for their mentors to qualify. To review guidance information on mentoring and mentor stipend qualifications, go to <http://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/TLA/Mentoring/Mentoring%20and%20State%20Funded%20Stipends.pdf>

Access “Mentor Programs” using the Manage My Account function for KSDE Authenticated Applications if not already approved.

The Spring submission involves the following steps:

1. **Review the list of mentors** that you entered last fall when you applied for a mentor grant. Complete any missing fields. Add or delete as needed
2. **Enter mentees:** 1st and 2nd year teachers receiving mentoring. (Please note: funding limits may only provide state-funded stipends to those mentoring 1st year teachers)
3. **Create the assignments** by matching each mentee to the appropriate mentor.
4. **Submit:** sign the assurances statement and submit your mentor assignments.

KSDE will validate your eligible mentors. **State funds will be deposited as a reimbursement to your district's general fund in this year's final payment.** The district must distribute the funds as a stipend to the eligible mentor teachers.

Contacts:

Stipend and Mentor Application questions: Susan Helbert
shelbert@ksde.org

Approved Mentor Program questions: Lynn Bechtel
lbechtel@ksde.org

Form 3a – Renewal of a five-year Professional License is now an online application process

If the paper application renewal process has already been started (connecting documents or application form) continue through that paper process. Do not start over with an online application.

Already familiar with the online application process?

Go directly to the login site.

<https://appspublic.ksde.org/AuthenticationPublic/login.aspx>

Applicants:

1. If new to online application submissions review the [General Instructions for Online Application Forms](#).
2. On the [License Applications webpage](#) scroll down to see the numerically ordered list of application forms and find Form 3a.
3. Click on the link to the right “Review Requirements and Access Form” to get started on the process.

Districts:

- The process for completing district verifications for applicants is the same as you have been following for other online forms over the last few years. Review [General Instructions for Districts](#) if needed.
- Districts will verify experience or upload transcripts – PDC transcripts (and university transcripts if applicable.)
- Signatures on PDC transcripts will no longer be required

Seniors invited to share videos through KSDE’s Kansans Can, and I Am campaign



For the third year, the Kansas State Department of Education is using the “Kansans Can, and I Am” campaign to promote great students we have in our state.

Beginning May 1, we want to fill social media sites with Kansas seniors sharing what they will be doing after high school graduation. Please recruit your senior students to share on video their plans for life after high school. We want to represent all seniors, whether they are going straight into the workforce, joining the military, graduating with a certificate or attending a two-year or four-year college.

Please encourage the members of your school’s Class of 2019 to record a short video of themselves to share on social media.

Video guidelines:

- No more than 15-20 seconds in length.
- Include the student’s name, high school and future plans (two-year or four-year college; trade school; military; workforce; or certification).
- Students are asked to conclude their videos by saying “Kansans Can, and I Am.”
- Have students submit their videos to you so you can review them and post them on your school social media sites.
- Include the #KansansCanandIAm hashtag with each post. Please tag @ksdehq so we can share your tweets and Facebook posts throughout the month of May.
- Please secure the necessary permission from students and their parents to display the videos through social media sites.

Please view the video provided to get an idea of what past submissions looked like:
<https://youtu.be/yRA1DQaoEWS>.

We are excited about this campaign, and we want to make sure we include students from across Kansas. Thank you for spreading the word to all Class of 2019 students.

Service Year as a Strategy for Education

Over the last year, Service Year Alliance worked with in-school and afterschool programs to pull together best practices in implementing a service year program. We are excited to launch a new website and strategy to amplify service years as a strategy for education.

- <https://about.serviceyear.org/education>
- Here are some useful resources available:
 - Guide: [Service Years as a Strategy for Education Outcomes](#)
 - Toolkit: [Service Years as a Strategy to Expand Access to Afterschool Programs](#)
 - Guide: [Funding Resources for Education Service Year Programs](#)
 - Webinar: [The Role of National Service in Improving K-12 Education Outcomes](#)
 - Webinar: [Service Years as a Strategy to Expand Access to Afterschool Programs](#)
 - Deep Dive: [The Role of National Service in Improving Elementary and Secondary Education Outcomes in Low-Income Schools](#)

For Questions or More Information, contact Jessica Noble at jnoble@ksde.org or 785-296-3163.

2020 ACT/WorkKeys

ACT

Paper	February 25, 2010
Paper – accommodations	February 25-28 and March 2-6, 2020
Online	February 25-27 and March 3-5, 2020

WorkKeys

Paper	February 26, 2020
Paper – accommodations	February 26-March 1, 2020
Online	February 25-March 10, 2020

KSDE Impact Institutes



Please join us at the Kansas State Department of Education Division of Learning Services' 2019 Impact Institutes. Kansas teachers, counselors, principals, curriculum coordinators, instructional coaches, and educational professionals at all levels (birth through high school) will have the opportunity to select sessions and workshops on topics connected to many academic areas. These workshops will provide the help you need in providing our students the academic and cognitive preparation, the technical and employability skills, and the civic engagement opportunities to allow them to be successful.

Dates and Locations:

- **June 27-28**
Washburn University, Topeka
- **July 17-18**
Pratt Community College, Pratt

Registration is available at the following link: <http://events.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=704>.

2019 Calendar of Events

KSDE Summer Leadership Conference

Save the Date: July 30-August 1, 2019
Wichita, KS

This conference provides administrators of special education, title and early childhood programs important information and updates about these programs. During this conference participants will have opportunities to get updates on program requirements, recent legal cases and how to address the Kansas School Redesign Principles of Student Success Skills, Personalized

2019 Calendar of Events (cont'd)

Learning, Family, Business, Community Partnerships and Real World Application are included in these programs. The conference is occurring a week later than usual, please mark your calendars.

2019 Kansas MTSS Symposium

Save the Date: September 10-12, 2019
Wichita, KS

This conference provides educators an opportunity to learn from national researchers and Kansas schools about evidence-based practices that support the implementation of the Kansas Multi-Tier System of Supports & Alignment and includes the Kansas School Redesign Principles. This conference is occurring a week later than usual, please mark your calendars. Registration will open in April.

KSDE Annual Conference

October 28-30, 2019
Hyatt Regency/Century II, Wichita, KS

The annual conference is a practitioner's conference that highlights local school district's efforts to meet the State Board's vision. The theme for the 2019 conference, Kansans Can: Ignite!, builds on the State Board of Education's Vision and Mission to "Lead the World in Success of Each Student."

The preconference on Monday, October 28 is dedicated to Redesign.

Commissioner Watson will speak during the opening session on Tuesday, October 29. The opening and closing keynote speakers are being finalized and once they have been confirmed we will send information

Online registration will be available later this month. Conference registration includes breakfast, lunches and snacks.