KESA 2.0 Presentation and Update

The main focus of the meeting was the presentation of KESA 2.0 to the State Board with Jay mentioning that the board would likely take action between 2pm and 3pm. Jay also highlighted the importance of structured literacy, the necessity for clarity on what students need to know and be able to do, and the importance of high expectations for students. They discussed the shift from KESA 1.0 to KESA 2.0, emphasizing a move from a process-oriented approach to one that focuses on four fundamental areas, while maintaining the same outcomes, aspirations, and level of accreditation.

Introducing KESA 2.0: Enhancing Collaboration and Focus on Student Outcomes

Jay introduced a new collaboration model, "KESA 2.0", aimed at improving the current system by increasing its variability. The model includes a tighter yearly feedback collaboration and a KESA check-in. Jay proposed a more flexible yearly review process with the ARC offering additional support rather than punishment. They stressed the focus on continuous improvement in the four fundamentals and student outcomes, highlighting that systems can remain accredited if they execute their action plan effectively. Jay also discussed the differences and similarities between KESA 1.0 and KESA 2.0, emphasizing KESA 2.0's focus on student outcomes and lead indicators that can influence instructional decisions.

KESA 2.0 Project and Peer Review System Emphasis

Jay highlighted the importance of KESA 2.0, which involves implementing a set action plan with a strong emphasis on compliance. Myron discussed the importance of KESA check-ins and peer review, stressing the need for personalized support, carrying forward the current action plan, and discussing its execution and sustainability. They also emphasized the importance of conducting a needs assessment to understand the system's strengths and needs, aligning these with the system's goals, and adjusting them if necessary. Myron also discussed the upcoming transition year with the launch of KESA 2.0, the importance of collecting feedback through a survey, and the need for involvement from DLT members. They stressed the importance of involving a broad range of people in meetings and discussed the transition to a peer review system. Finally, Myron passed the discussion onto Amber, who was set to talk about changes to the KESA regions and cohort groups.

Regional System Transition and Cohort Additions

Amber discussed the transition from a four-region to a three-region system, with Amber handling the west region, the central region to be filled by January 2024, and the east region to be split between Jay and Myron. Amber also mentioned the creation of two new cohorts, the urban and
suburban cohort, and the private systems cohort. The regions were adjusted to better serve geographical needs, with each region consisting of 87 to 88 systems. Amber also presented a new map, highlighting the regions and their respective leaders. Finally, Amber discussed the listings of the urban, suburban, private schools, and special purpose schools, emphasizing the importance of grouping by size.

KESA Model Adaptation and Accreditation Process Discussion

The team discussed the adaptation of the KESA model for cohort groups and vice versa. Jay clarified that the accreditation process is based on four fundamentals, Kansas vision outcomes, and compliance factors, with leading indicator data also considered. Jay also outlined the plan to create groupings for service centers and systems across the state, with the aim of releasing this information in spring. They confirmed the creation of a common template for the action plan, likely to be ready by mid-March to mid-April. Jay also emphasized the importance of feedback for continuous improvement and the evaluation of KESA 2.0. Attendees were reminded to fill out the KESA check-in peer review survey and about the upcoming update to the KESA guidance document. Finally, Myron discussed the upcoming Star awards, stating they would likely remain stable for the coming year with minor tweaks.

Next steps
Jay will send the meeting recording link next week after editing.
Attend the KESA 2.0 presentation to the State Board and provide feedback.
Focus on the 4 fundamentals in the new KESA model.
Participate in the KESA check-ins and peer reviews.
Develop a cadence for personalized support.
Execute the current action plan and ensure sustainability.
Amber will be filling the central region position by January 2024.