



KANSAS
SCHOOL
SUPERINTENDENTS'
ASSOCIATION

Board of Directors Meeting

September 11, 2019 – 11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

KASB Building, Topeka, KS

Minutes in Review

Attendance

Mike Argabright, Southern Lyon County USD 252, President-Elect
Mike Berblinger, Buhler USD 313, President
Bill Biermann, Goodland USD 352, Region 9
Quentin Breese, Concordia USD 333, Region 7
Loren Feldkamp, Tonganoxie USD 464, Region 1
Cory Gibson, Valley Center USD 262, Region 6
David Grover, Cheney USD 268, Region 6
Kenneth Harshberger, Meade USD 226, Region 10
Justin Henry, Goddard USD 265, Past President, AASA Governing Board
Steve Karlin, Garden City USD 457, Region 10
Darrel Kohlman, Nemaha Central USD 115, Region 4
George Leary, Moundridge USD 423, Region 5
Josh Meyer, St John-Hudson USD 350, Region 8
Gordon Mohn, McPherson USD 418, Region 5
Royce Powelson, Jayhawk USD 346, Region 2, CoS Chair
Mike Roth, Leavenworth USD 453, Region 1
Jamie Rumford, Scott City USD 466, Region 9
Steve Noble, Seaman USD 345, Region 2
Khris Thexton, Great Bend USD 428, Region 8
Jeff Travis, Beloit USD 273, Region 7
Blake Vargas, Caney Valley USD 436, Region 3
G.A. Buie, USA-Kansas, Executive Director
Jerry Henn, USA-Kansas, Assistant Executive Director

I. Call to Order

- President Mike Berblinger called the meeting to order at 11:34 a.m.

II. Consent Agenda

- Bill Biermann moved to approve the consent agenda which included the agenda with the addition of Justin Henry's Vape Lawsuit to New Business and minutes from the June meeting. Quentin Breese seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

III. President's Report

- President Mike Berblinger discussed KSSA's sponsorship of the Kansas Teacher of the Year reception. Last year KSSA gave \$1500. Do we want to stay there or change? Justin Henry moved to contribute \$1500 to the KTOY reception. Seconded by Steve Karlin. Approved unanimously.
- The board discussed assessments and what direction the association should take. There were many different opinions in the room. There was discussion around whether the ACT served that function. There was concern that by using the ACT we are just going to teach what we test. Some kids will be left behind. The group will need to identify a direction, have an informed conversation around assessments, growth, and what each district needs. This will be further discussed at the October Council of Superintendents meeting, which will be facilitated through a ThoughtExchange.
- Mike and G.A. Buie proposed facilitating state-wide Zoom conversations with superintendents. These would be content-specific, possibly asking ahead of time what superintendents want to talk about, then facilitating those conversations. The goal is to break down barriers and increase statewide communication.

IV. Executive Director's Report

- G.A. Buie discussed the Finance Reports for May, June, and July. We spent a little more on KSSA Day than in the past, but that translates to an increase in the quality of programming. Quentin Breese moved to approved the Finance Report. Seconded by Royce Powelson. Approved unanimously.
- G.A. gave a membership update. We currently have 171 members. We finished last year with 256. Memberships are still coming in consistently, and this is good for this time of year. G.A., Jerry, and Duane have been going out on visits to superintendents and discussing membership. This has been going very well so far. The regional KELI meetings for new superintendents, and will continue this year. New Superintendents Workshop went very well over the summer, and gave us a chance to also recognize our retiring superintendents. It will be moved up a week earlier in 2020, and will be held June 10-11.
- G.A. discussed upcoming KSSA Professional Development opportunities. KSSA will hold two Assistant Superintendent/Director workshops. The first will be November 1st in Lenexa, the second will be February 21 in Goddard. These events will have different agendas and different topics will be discussed. KSSA Day at the KASB Conference will be on December 6th in Wichita. We will have dinner on December 5th sponsored by McCown Gordon. The agenda is still being put together.
- The Superintendent of the Year process is up and running. We received 14 nominations. 10 nominees are currently working on the application which is due on September 15. By the end of the month it will be narrowed down to 3 who will interview in October with a panel of past Superintendents of the Year. The awards program will take place in January.
- G.A. sat down with Alan Conroy with KPERs a few weeks ago. They discussed some different ideas and G.A. asked board members to share any helpful ideas with Steve Karlin.
- G.A. attended the ASE summer meeting again this year. They discussed AASA topics including their aspiring superintendent program, their partnership with NAESP on an aspiring principal program, their urban superintendents program, principal supervisory academy, etc. It was a great conference again this year.

V. USA-Kansas Update

- G.A. and Mike discussed the 2020 Census. USA is going to bring in Kansas Census representatives to the regional meetings to talk about how important an accurate count is. They will be there to hear ideas and share information.
- G.A. discussed the PLN. Numbers are coming in great. Follow up with G.A. if you have any questions about PLN membership. G.A. also discussed USA-Kansas's new Launching Leadership program.

VI. Legislative Update

- The legislative committee still has a couple of spots that need filled. We hope to get that taken care of in the next couple of days, then connect via Zoom in the next couple of weeks. We would like to get the legislative platform approved in the November meeting.

VII. AASA Report

- Justin Henry discussed the July Washington D.C. visit. He explained the importance of working with Senator Roberts on funding IDEA. Before his term is up, he wants to get a plan in place to cover the 40% commitment, and to have it fully funded in 10 years. Congress is currently underfunding their own mandate by \$20 million per year. There were other great conversations with our other state reps. The biggest take-away was to push to make sure this IDEA funding goes through.
- Justin also discussed the upcoming AASA conference in San Diego. The room block is nearly full, book soon. If our hotel ends up filling up please contact AASA and stay in one of their hotels. Going outside their recommended hotels is very expensive.

VIII. KSSA Calendar of Activities

- KSSA Dinner 6:00 – Wichita -Dec. 5 – McGowan Gordon- Sponsor
- KSSA Day @ KASB - December 5
- KSSA Asst. Supt Workshop November 1 2019
- SOY Celebration Jan. 15, 2020 Topeka - OFG Sponsor
- KASB/USA Legislative Advocacy Jan. 15-16 Topeka
- USA Conf. May 27-May 29 - Wichita

IX. Council of Superintendents

- Meeting Dates:
 - **Sept. 11, 2019 KASB-Topeka**
 - Oct 9, 2019 Pittsburg
 - **Nov 13, 2019 KASB-Topeka**
 - Jan 15, 2020 Capital Plaza Hotel-Topeka
 - **Feb. 19, 2020 KASB-Topeka**
 - **April 15, 2020 KASB-Topeka**

Highlighted dates are KSSA Meeting Dates

X. New Business

- President Mike Berblinger and G.A. Buie discussed Board Make-up. This year the KSSA board is experiencing a lack of diversity. This is something that we need to be more cognizant about when making nominations in the future.

- G.A. discussed branding and presented the board with a few options for a new logo. G.A. asked board members to follow up with him if they had any thoughts or recommendations.
- Justin Henry discussed the resolution the Goddard Board of Education adopted on Monday night authorizing litigation against manufacturers, distributors, and sellers of electronic cigarettes and vaping products. He discussed vaping dangers and statistics and the importance of this lawsuit.

XI. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 1:04 p.m.

Next Meeting

November 13, 2019 – KASB Building, Topeka