



Board of Directors Meeting

April 15, 2021

9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Wichita USD 259 Administration Center

Minutes in Review

Attendance

John Allison, Olathe USD 233, Region 11
Mike Argabright, Southern Lyon County USD 252, President
Quentin Breese, Concordia USD 333, Region 7
Wayne Burke, Spring Hill USD 230, AASA Governing Board
Tavis Desormiers, WaKeeney USD 208, Region 9
Fred Dierksen, Dodge City USD 443, CoS Chair
Loren Feldkamp, Tonganoxie USD 464, Region 1
Mike Folks, Hutchinson USD 308, Region 5
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, AASA Governing Board
Josh Meyer, St John-Hudson USD 350, Region 8
Steve Noble, Seaman USD 345, Region 2
Royce Powelson, Jayhawk USD 346, Region 2
Richard Proffitt, Pittsburg USD 250, Region 3
Mike Roth, Leavenworth USD 453, Region 1
Jamie Rumford, Scott City USD 466, Region 9
Brad Starnes, Mill Creek Valley USD 329, Region 4
Khris Thexton, Great Bend USD 428, Region 8
Blake Vargas, Caney Valley USD 436, Region 3
G.A. Buie, USA-Kansas, Executive Director
Jerry Henn, USA-Kansas, Assistant Executive Director
Alicia Thompson, Wichita USD 259, CoS Chair Elect

I. Call to Order

- President Mike Argabright called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

II. Consent Agenda

- Wayne Burke moved to approve the consent agenda which included the agenda, minutes from the February meeting, and the finance reports from January, February, and March. Seconded by Quentin Breese. Approved unanimously.

III. President's Report

- President Mike Argabright thanked everyone who came down and participated in the 2021 KSOY program. He mentioned if there is anything we can do down the road to acknowledge retirees please share your ideas. Reaching out to board clerks and reaching out to retiring superintendents and personally inviting them to be recognized at the April meeting was recommended. Dr. Argabright thanked Alicia Thompson for hosting the meeting. It is nice to get out of Topeka once or twice a year for meetings and events.
- Dr. Argabright reminded board members that the ballot for president elect closes 4/16.

IV. Executive Director's Report

- G.A. Buie discussed the Federal Legislative Advocacy event. It does not appear we will be travelling to Washington DC this year. Legislators still aren't taking in-person visitors. They are still making a decision, but it may end up online. AASA is a big proponent of the infrastructure bill. 180 billion would go to schools for buildings. Another 75 billion would go to wifi, etc., totaling 400 billion in all applicable categories. There is still a lot of work to be done on this bill.
- G.A. discussed the 2021-2022 Council of Superintendents meeting dates. It typically falls on the Wednesday of the State Board meeting. It is possible to change start time. If we went on a different Wednesday, we could start earlier. It would also be nice to travel to a large and small district for meetings, maybe 2 total per year.
- G.A. discussed the upcoming New Superintendent Workshop. It will be held June 15-26 in Topeka. We are planning on doing some of the things we learned last year such as meeting online ahead of time. If you are interested in helping, please let G.A. know. We can do the first KSSA board meeting of the year in conjunction with the workshop.
- G.A. discussed the USA-Kansas Conference. The Hyatt has lifted some restrictions, allowing higher numbers in the opening session. We have some great activities scheduled. Vendors will be open Wednesday and Thursday. There will be classroom booths in the vending area. We plan to spread out over the entire hall.
 - We have quite a few vendor hospitality opportunities, including a wine tasting with Hutton, a night at the ballpark, axe throwing with Edgenuity, OFG at the Boat House, and SafeDefend at the hotel.
- G.A. discussed Professional Development for 2021-2023. We started working with principal cohorts this year, and we will be expanding on this in the next few years. Working with NASSP, we will offer their 360 evaluation to administrators. USA will hold the data, help develop individual plans of study, support challenges and weaknesses, and survey again in 2 years. G.A. discussed new hires Jessica Griffin and Cara Ledy. Down the road, Dr. Neuenswander has asked us to help with the KESA process. Programming will begin this coming fall.

V. Legislative Update

- Jim Karleskint gave the legislative update. He discussed current bills including SB 175, SB 267, SB 40, and HB 2119.
 - G.A. discussed the Kansas Values Institute. They support moderate candidates. Should we look at getting involved with them ahead of time? We will do whatever the board wants.

VI. AASA Report

- Wayne Burke gave an AASA update. The conference was good but not the same, and a little expensive for what was offered. Next year should be in person. We get better hotel choices the more rooms we reserve in our block.

VII. Upcoming Directors Election

- Brad Starnes Region 4 <1000
- George Leary Region 5 <1000
- Cory Gibson Region 6 >1000
- Jamie Rumford Region 9 <1000
- Kenneth Harshberger Region 10 <1000
- John Allison Region 11
- Cory Gibson Region 6 >1000
- G.A handed out plaques to retiring board members and thanked them for their years of service. He also encouraged them to nominate for open board seats.
 - There are currently 6 KSSA reps on the USA board. 3 members and 3 from KSSA exec board.

VIII. New Business

- KSDE Questions
 - We have been getting some questions about representation. Some think the smallest districts aren't being represented. What can we do?
 - More information from regional directors to help superintendents understand how they are being represented
 - KSSA updates at service center meetings
 - Capturing first through third year superintendents
- Governor's school visits and superintendent round tables
 - G.A. discussed dates and locations. Reach out if you would like to attend. There will be Q&A opportunities with the Governor.
- Media buy promoting public schools during the week of April 26
 - We need to be promoting public education. KASB has a great media department. They are putting together a media package we can share across the state thanking public schools for doing what they're doing. We may want to emphasize their work educating ALL students.
- The board thanked President Mike Argabright for his leadership this past year.

IX. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.