



Board of Directors Meeting

September 16, 2020

Noon-2:00 p.m.

Topeka, KS – KASB & Zoom

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
Darrel Kohlman, Nemaha Central USD 115, Region 4
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
Khris Thexton, Great Bend USD 428, Region 8
Alicia Thompson, Wichita USD 259, CoS Chair-Elect
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 Argabright called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

II. Consent Agenda

- Quentin Breese moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the agenda and minutes from the June and July Meetings. Seconded by Jeff Travis. Approved unanimously.

III. President's Report

- President Mike Argabright welcomed board members. He shared his respect for superintendents and thanked everyone for their hard work. He welcomed Alicia Thompson to the board. She will serve as the Council of Superintendents Chair-Elect.
- He discussed scheduling small group meetings to connect with superintendents around the state. The plan is to have prepared discussion topics and time for social networking. He also discussed Dale Dennis's retirement.
- He shared his appreciation for superintendents' participation in the diversity talks that took place over the summer. They were much needed and need to continue. Mike and Alicia have been working on a checklist to help open up dialogue in school districts. This will be coming out later as the beginning of the school year has been busy with covid planning and adjustments.

IV. Executive Director's Report

- G.A. Buie discussed the financial reports from June, July, and August. The bank account is solid. There were some events in the summer that didn't take place, but with we still had sponsorship dollars come in.
 - Fred Dierksen moved to approve the Financial Report. Seconded by Wayne Burke. Approved unanimously.
- He gave an update on membership. KSSA currently has 162 members, which is up from 143 this time last year. USA numbers are up, as are all of the state associations except for the principals association. With the 3 principals associations combining to create the Kansas Principals Association, we are lacking a little name recognition and need to do a little more work to get those numbers up.
- He discussed the upcoming Council of Superintendents dates. All are scheduled. Next month's will take place in Dodge City. Fred Dierksen is working with his county health officials to ensure this event can take place safely. He will also put together a list of lodging options to share.
- He gave an update on the KELI mentoring program. We will continue to have regional group meetings, though KSU has asked that we not meet in person. The new plan is to have shorter meetings, and maybe add a few additional dates to make up for the shorter meetings.
- We have 2 Assistant Superintendent Workshops scheduled for this year. One in the Wichita area and one in the Kansas City area. These went very well last year. We will try our best to keep these in person as covid allows.
- KASB is moving to a virtual conference, so KSSA day may need to look a little different this year. The board decided they would still like to host an in-person meeting, so we will look into getting something planned and share that out as information becomes available.
- We had 18 superintendents nominated for the Kansas Superintendent of the Year award. Eight have completed the application thus far. G.A. will hand nominations over to the selection committee on Monday. The finalists will be announced on the 28th.

V. USA-Kansas Update

- G.A. gave an update on the PLN. Numbers are good. We are looking at doing some speakers in addition to the Launching Leadership series. These may be virtual, in-person, or blended. Please share ideas if you have any needs that need to be discussed.
- USA held a virtual conference August 27-28. Live conference numbers were a bit low. It was difficult to keep people on, as it was the start of the school year in many districts. The hope was the dates would fall before the school year started in most districts, but it did not work out that way. For those who registered for the conference, sessions and materials will still be available on the conference site through the end of October.
- The board discussed what supports are still needed. Communication messaging would be helpful for smaller districts in regards to covid reporting. For districts that don't have communications directors, it would be helpful to have a repository of messages to use in specific scenarios. G.A. discussed the Higher Logic Community platform we have put together, which would be a great place to compile this information. Online group meetings over the summer were successful.

VI. Legislative Topics

- G.A. advised any member can participate in the Legislative Committee. If you are interested, let him know. This session may be a bit challenging as we may not be able to have the same personal connections inside the capitol we are used to due to covid. We are looking at possibly bringing another legislative advocate on board. The board discussed topics that we want to focus on this session, as well has things to be prepared for that may come up.

VII. AASA Report

- G.A. shared we have sent multiple letters to Senators Roberts and Moran. The Conference on Education will be virtual. There is a professor from Brown and another from Harvard that are working on putting together a national database of covid learning plans, numbers, and safety measures. This will help to track what worked and what didn't. Let G.A. know if you wish to participate and/or need help.

VIII. Council of Superintendents

- Council of Superintendents today at 2:00. Dale and the gang from KSDE will be joining us.

IX. New Business

- There was no new business.

X. Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 1:12 p.m.

Next Meeting

November 18, 2020