



KANSAS  
SCHOOL  
SUPERINTENDENTS'  
ASSOCIATION

## Board of Directors Meeting

March 3, 2022

12:30-2:45 p.m.

KASB Building, Topeka

### *Minutes in Review*

#### Attendance

Mike Argabright, Southern Lyon County USD 252, Past President  
Ryan Bradbury, Wellsville USD 289, Region 2  
Quentin Breese, Concordia USD 333, Region 7  
Katina Brenn, Colby USD 315, Region 9  
Wayne Burke, Spring Hill USD 230, AASA Governing Board  
Randal Chickadonz, Rose Hill USD 394, Region 6  
Justin Coup, Solomon USD 393, Region 4  
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  
Justin Henry, Goddard USD 265, AASA Governing Board  
Steve Karlin, Garden City USD 457, Region 10, President  
Darrel Kohlman, Nemaha Central USD 115, Region 4  
Josh Meyer, St John-Hudson USD 350, Region 8  
Steve Noble, Seaman USD 345, Region 2  
Jamie Rumford, Scott City USD 466, President-Elect  
Khris Thexton, Great Bend USD 428, Region 8  
Alicia Thompson, Wichita USD 259, Region 11; CoS Chair  
Jeff Travis, Beloit USD 273, Region 7  
Blake Vargas, Caney Valley USD 436, Region 3  
Clark Wedel, Haven USD 312, Region 5  
G.A. Buie, USA-Kansas, Executive Director  
Jerry Henn, USA-Kansas, Assistant Executive Director  
Jim Karleskint, USA-Kansas, Lobbyist

#### I. Call to Order

- President Steve Karlin called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

#### II. Consent Agenda

- Darrel Kohlman moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the agenda, minutes from the November meeting, and the November, December, and January Financials. Seconded by Mike Argabright. Approved Unanimously.

### III. President's Report

- President Steve Karlin discussed the importance of engaging your local House and Senate officials. There is a lot going on, we will mostly be playing defense. USA-Kansas and KSSA sent a letter to the Chairman of the House K-12 Budget committee. Our people have been getting beaten up in there when attempting to provide oral testimony. The letter stated we will only be giving written testimony and sharing it out with the press until this changes. We haven't received any formal feedback, but informally we think the chairman understands.
- Steve discussed locations for 2022-2023 Council of Superintendents meetings. This year we held them on the road in the fall, then back in Topeka in the spring due to the legislative session. Do we want to continue doing it this way next year?
  - Fred Dierksen moved to keep this schedule for next year. Seconded by Jeff Travis. Approved unanimously.
  - Please send location ideas to G.A.
  - Steve thanked the board for their assistance with the situation with Dr. Watson. Things happened quickly and you were all receptive. G.A. worked really hard behind the scenes on behalf of our organization, making sure our voice was heard and well received.
  - Mike Folks moved to send communication of thanks to our State Board members and Governor's office in support of Dr. Watson. Seconded by Mike Argabright. Approved unanimously.

### IV. Executive Director's Report

- G.A. Buie gave a membership update. USA and KSSA are both up. We are still 89 short of the 300 we had hoped for. We continue to grow. The office sent out correspondence to non-members.
- G.A. discussed planning for the New Superintendent Workshop. The rough agenda is in the packet. It will be June 14-15 in Topeka. Let G.A. know if you want to help. We might have another activity that day for active superintendents. June 15<sup>th</sup> will be KASB's annual Law Conference. We are also planning to honor this year's retiring superintendents at the April Council of Superintendents meeting.
- G.A. encouraged board members to vote in the AASA election. Let G.A. know if you haven't seen your ballot. If you have friends from out of state, encourage them to vote as well.
- G.A. discussed the upcoming USA-Kansas Conference. It will be June 1-3 in Wichita. We are going back to our pre-Covid schedule. Upcoming KSSA meeting dates are in the packet. We are looking at November 10<sup>th</sup> for Council of Superintendents in Wichita prior to KSSA Day at KASB.
- G.A. asked Fred Dierksen to give an update from the Governor's Education Committee. Fred said they have made a lot of progress. He went over the booklet in the packet. There are 4 committees with action plans and recommendations. They have support from

the Governor for public education. Many recommendations will take action from the legislature. Equity and Advocacy have been a focus for every committee.

- G.A. gave an update on the Graduation Committee. There is no report yet. They are taking a lot into consideration. There has been a lot of conversation around work-based learning and opportunities to learn outside of the school.
- G.A. gave an update on the Teacher Retention Survey. Many of your districts have participated in this. It is confirming a lot of our suspicions. He passed out the survey results and explained that individual results will be shared with participating districts.

#### V. Legislative Update

- Jim Karleskint gave the legislative update. He discussed current bills including the Parents Bill of Rights bills, the budget that has been bundles with a bunch of policy bills, the education savings account bill has been bundled with the open enrollment bill. He also discussed HB 2690, the Every Child Can Read bill. Last week was turnaround. There were no education bills that came up in the House. None came above the line. 36 bills were blessed, 16 bills died. The Senate blessed 8 bills, none of which had to do specifically with education. There is a transgender bill being heard in the Senate on Monday. It was vetoed last year, but appears to have enough votes in the Senate this year to override.

#### VI. AASA Report

- Justin Henry discussed the AASA Conference. The speakers were great, largest attendance since 2005. Next year will be held in San Antonio.
- Justin discussed the upcoming Advocacy Conferenced in Washington D.C. July 12-14. Capitol Hill is open for business. KSSA's governing officers will attend. Anyone else interested is welcome to attend. We can find a sponsor to cover registration cost, you would need to cover transportation and hotel. Let G.A. know if you are interested.

#### VII. Upcoming President-Elect Elections and Open Board Positions

- We will be sending out a call for nominations for President-Elect soon. Additional positions will be filled after that process. If you are coming off, please nominate someone who would be a good representative.

#### VIII. New Business

- There was no new business.

#### IX. Adjourn

- The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.