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Janet Waugh District 1 Dr. Deena Horst

District 2

Melanie Haas Michelle Dombrosky Ann E. Mah District 3

District 4

Jean Clifford District 5

District 6

Ben Jones District 7

Betty Arnold District 8

Jim Porter District 9

Jim McNiece District 10

SUMMARY OF THE APRIL 2021 STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MTG

Action

- Approved prioritizing the framework, as presented, for using ESSER III 10 percent set-aside money through 2024. Concentrations address learning loss and statewide educator training.
- Reappointed Iim McNiece to represent the State Board on the Kansas State High School Activities Association Board of Directors for 2021-23.
- Approved renewal of the contract with Gates Shields Ferguson Swall Hammond P.A. for providing legal services from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 with no increase in rates.
- Approved updates to the Navigating Change document reflecting changes and new information since State Board approval on Feb. 9. (CDC and medical advisory team recommend reducing social distancing in classrooms from 6 feet to 3 feet).
- Designated Melanie Haas to represent the State Board at the Kansas State School for the Blind graduation May 13; and Michelle Dombrosky to represent the Board for the School for the Deaf graduation May 27.
- Authorized the State Board of Education Chair and Vice Chair to provide information to Governor Laura Kelly on the Kansas State Board of Education Standards regarding pending legislation, the Kansas State Board of Education's Constitutional and statutory authority on these issues, and the benefits to local boards of education and school districts to retaining the authority and oversight of the Board on these matters, and request Governor Kelly consider these matters in determining her response to the pending legislation: HB 2039 (Requiring students to pass an American Civics test in order to graduate with a high school diploma and requiring accredited high schools to provide a course of instruction in financial literacy) and Sub HB 2089 (Standardizing firearm safety education training programs in school districts.)

Presentations and Discussion

- Current survey results from Kansas school districts confirmed that financial literacy education is covered in a variety of ways, including embedded in standards such as business and math. Only one of the 286 districts reported not currently having a financial literacy policy in place.
- Staff from USD 500 Kansas City Kansas public schools shared their experiences and successful outcomes using restorative Justice practices by focusing on relationship building and positive culture development. Social-emotional growth and conflict resolution are two of the targets.

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Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

- Board members received an update on federal COVID-19 relief programs for both public and private schools. This included a profile of applications received for EANS I (Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools) and information on phase 3 of ESSER (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief). Each phase has specific requirements per the federal law.
- ACT Work Ready Communities is a program that empowers counties to create a community-based workforce development process matching the needs of employers to education. Guests from Wamego USD 320, Circle USD 375, Pottawatomie County and Butler County economic development and business shared how they are partnering within their communities to increase students' employability skills and work-based learning opportunities through the use of ACT WorkKeys.

Recognition

- Schools earning accolades for gains in the State Board-identified outcomes were announced by Commissioner Randy Watson. The Kansans Can Star Recognition and Commissioner's Award Program considered both quantitative and qualitative measures in achieving student success. Some districts qualified in multiple categories.
- The 2021 Senate Youth Program Delegates were recognized and spoke about their experiences from Washington Week. They are Sean-Patrick Hurst, Yates Center High School; Seth Jarvis, Burlington HS; and alternates Charles Birt, Shawnee Mission East HS and Sean Wentling, Derby HS.
- The roster of 50 Career and Technical Education Scholars for 2021 was shared with the Board.
 These students applied for the honor and were recognized for demonstrating leadership in multiple areas.

Next Meeting – May 11 in Topeka; May 12 at School for the Deaf and School for the Blind.