

MINUTES



Kansas State Board of Education - Special Meeting

Monday, April 19, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jim Porter called the special meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10 a.m. Monday, April 19, 2021. The meeting was conducted by video conference and was livestreamed for the public to observe and listen.

ROLL CALL

All Board members were present:

Betty Arnold	Ben Jones
Jean Clifford	Ann Mah
Michelle Dombrosky	Jim McNiece
Melanie Haas	Jim Porter
Deena Horst	Janet Waugh

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. McNiece moved to approve the day's agenda. Dr. Horst seconded. Motion carried 10-0.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ON DISTRIBUTION OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR NON-PUBLIC SCHOOLS FEDERAL COVID RELIEF FUNDS

Commissioner Randy Watson and Tate Toedman provided a status update on applications received for the first phase of Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS). In all, 72 applications were submitted by the April 2 deadline. The total dollar value of requests was \$26.9 million. The pre-screening team spent considerable time reviewing, seeking clarification and following-up with schools before information was sent to the Commissioner's Task Force on ESSER and EANS Distribution of Money. Eighty (80) percent of requests were deemed eligible. A breakdown of the applicant pool was provided.

Mr. Toedman explained how the reconsideration and appeal process would be implemented. Schools with requests deemed ineligible will have the opportunity to resubmit by April 27 for reconsideration and, if necessary, may appeal the determination. If the Task Force makes additional recommendations, these will go to the State Board for consideration at the May regularly scheduled meeting. There will also be a second round of EANS this year for private schools. He then answered questions, especially since this is the first time any state has had to undertake something of this magnitude.

Next, a summary of requests was shared. Requests had to be COVID-19 related and relevant under one of the 12 allowable categories as designated by federal law. Most of the eligible dollars were directed toward personnel requests. Other categories were curriculum and professional development, technology, sanitization and social-emotional learning. EANS dollars do not go directly to private schools, but flow through the educational service centers. Mr. Toedman then described the requests deemed ineligible by category and the rationale for the such recommendations.

Applications and Task Force recommendations were provided to Board members.

ACTION ON APPLICATION REQUESTS AND EXPENDITURE PLANS FOR EANS FEDERAL COVID-19 RELIEF FUNDS TO SUPPORT STUDENT LEARNING AND STUDENT NEEDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE PANDEMIC

Mrs. Waugh moved to approve the expenditure plans for private schools seeking federal COVID-19 relief through Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS), confirming recommendations of the Commissioner’s Task Force for distribution of EANS I. Mrs. Haas seconded. Motion carried 9-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky in opposition.

MOTION
(00:28:29)

Chairman Porter adjourned the meeting at 10:36 a.m.

ADJOURN

Jim Porter, Chair

Peggy Hill, Secretary