

**Coalition of Innovative School Districts**  
**Unofficial Minutes – August 18, 2016 Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

**Members in Attendance** – Deena Horst – SBOE, Jim McNiece – SBOE, Randy Watson – KSDE, Mark Crawford – USD 418, Bill Mullins – USD 364, Mike Slagle – USD 229, Cindy Lane – USD 500, Quentin Breese - USD 333, Aaron Chard – USD 484

**Guests in Attendance** – Scott Rothschild – KASB, Brad Neuenswander – KSDE, Idalia Shuman - KNEA

**1.0 Approval of Agenda** – A motion was made by Quentin and seconded by Cindy to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 8-0. (Randy had not yet joined the meeting.)

**2.0 Public Comments** – There were no comments from the public.

**3.0 Consent Items** – A motion was made by Mark and seconded by Mike to approve the minutes from the July meeting. The motion passed 8-0. (Randy had not yet joined the meeting.)

#### **4.0 Reports**

##### **4.1 Updates from Districts**

USD 229 reported that they started school on August 11<sup>th</sup> and that they have had a great start. They expect enrollment to be up by about 150 students.

USD 484 reported that they started school today and that everything seems to be going smoothly even with their realignment within the district.

USD 333 also reported that today was the first day with students. It currently looks like they will have an enrollment increase of about 38 students.

USD 500 reported that they have had a great start to the school year and they expect enrollment to be up in their district. Cindy also reported that they will be rolling out a technology initiative for grades K-8.

USD 418 reported that school started yesterday and Mark enjoyed getting out into the classrooms to start the school year.

USD 364 reported that school begins next Tuesday. Bill reported on the professional development that has taken place this summer and the technology initiative that is rolling out this year.

##### **4.2 Updates from KSDE and SBOE**

Jim McNiece shared about the work of the State Board of Education. He was complimentary of the work of the Education Fellows this summer. This group made presentations to staff members in at least 86 different school districts about the Kansans Can! vision from a teacher's perspective. The information presented at the State Board of Education meeting suggests that the people in the field enjoyed hearing from other teachers. He also reported on the work of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Teacher Supply and Vacancies. He wanted to make it clear that the State Board of Education accepted the report from the Commission, but that does not mean that they agreed with each of the recommendations in

the report. He reiterated the desire of the State Board of Education to have a highly qualified teacher in every classroom across the State. He shared with us that the State Board is planning a future retreat to focus solely on this issue.

Deena Horst reported that the State Board of Education members recently had a work session on the topic of Kindergarten Readiness. There is some talk about a possible pilot program related to a Kindergarten Screener. There will be more discussion about this topic in the future.

Randy Watson shared some information about the upcoming rewrite of the QPA Regulations due to the upcoming implementation of a new accreditation system. He would like to see the Coalition engage in conversations about QPA and what should or should not be included in future regulations.

## **5.0 Old Business**

### **5.1 Teach for America Information**

Cindy Lane reported that she had a conversation with the staff at Teach for America. She shared that Teach for America has changed their focus recently to concentrate more on urban school districts as opposed to rural school districts. For this reason, it does not appear that Teach for America is a viable solution for the Coalition as a whole, but it could prove to be something beneficial for USD 500 – Kansas City. She will continue to pursue this option for her school district and other urban districts in the State.

### **5.2 Sub-Committee Reports**

The Sub-Committee's did not have any information to report. Each of the Sub-Committee's will try to meet via Zoom between now and September 15<sup>th</sup> to prepare their portion of the agenda for that day.

## **6.0 New Business**

### **6.1 CISD Vision, Mission, Core Beliefs**

Bill Mullins shared that he thinks this is an important topic of discussion for the Coalition Board because it will help define who we are and the work that we are doing as individual districts and as a Coalition. The consensus of the group was to have this as a discussion item at our September 15<sup>th</sup> work day.

### **6.2 September 15<sup>th</sup> Agenda and Participants**

Bill Mullins shared a draft agenda for the September 15<sup>th</sup> and discussed the idea of each district bringing representatives to Topeka or making arrangements for staff to join us via ZOOM to work on each of the four proposed subcommittee meetings that day. The consensus was that every district was either going to bring people to Topeka or make arrangements to join by ZOOM.

Bill said that he would work with Randy to plan a portion of the agenda to allow for conversations related to changes in the QPA Regulations. He also told everyone that he would clean up the agenda and send out more specific information to everyone in the near future.

### **6.3 September 15<sup>th</sup> Lunch**

The topic of lunch for September 15<sup>th</sup> was briefly discussed. The consensus was to have a lunch catered in for that day. Bill Mullins was going to work on making those arrangements and then communicating the cost and other details to the school districts within the Coalition.

### **7.0 Announcements**

There were no announcements

### **8.0 Adjournment**

Deena made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:50. The motion was seconded by Quentin. The motion passed 9-0.