

# Coalition of Innovative School Districts

Kansas Association of School Boards  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Training Room (south)  
1420 SW Arrowhead Rd.  
Topeka, KS

## Agenda

Thursday, July 16, 2015  
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### **Members Present:**

Beverly Mortimer, Concordia  
Cynthia Lane, KCK  
Mark Crawford, McPherson  
Mike Slagle, Blue Valley  
Bill Mullins, Marysville (arrived at 10 am)  
Deena Horst, KSBOE  
Randy Watson/Brad Nuenswander, KSDE

### **Tele-Conference:**

Adrian Howie, Hugoton

### **Guests Present:**

Gary Alexander, KBOR  
Karla Wiscombe, KBOR  
Ted Carter, KASB  
Idalia Shuman, KNEA  
Scott Smith, KSDE  
Angie McDonald, McPherson

## 1.0 Approval of Agenda

- 1.1 Cynthia Lane moved, Deena Horst seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion approved 6-0.

## 2.0 Comments from Public

Guests and members introduced themselves.

## 3.0 Consent Items

- 3.1 Deena Horst moved, Cynthia Lane seconded to approve the minutes from the June meeting. Motion approved 6-0.

## 4.0 Reports

- 4.1 (Materials attached) Gary Alexander and Karla Wiscomebe, representing KBOR, provided materials and led an outstanding discussion of several topics. One area of interest for the Coalition was in working with out-of-state institutions. As reported by KBOR it would only be an issue if the “receiving” institution wouldn’t accept the out-of-state coursework credits. Some articulation agreements already exist in this area. Other valuable information discussed included:

- Faculty Quality – tracking effectiveness of teachers
- Transfer – governed by receiving institution

- Limits of KBOR Authority – including policy governing concurrent enrollment with high school faculty
- Service areas for Kansas colleges – permission required for them to work outside their areas
- Great interested in Coalition facilitating a session/workshop to bring KBOR and school counselors together
- Discussion of students signing academic letters of intent at KCK's
- Math Readiness & Algebra I as the "gatekeeper," Brad discussed a possible math pilot for Coalition districts

4.2 Assessments – Brad and Scott, KSDE, discussed the waiver w/ assessment flexibility removed. In moving forward the problem seems to be that the Feds view this as an accountability issue and schools view assessments related to instruction. How do we close the gap between where we are and where we want to go. The Coalition received an update on state assessment design, capabilities and supporting resources. Discussion also included: comparisons to ACT and MAP, developing a nationally normed state assessment, assessment accepted by higher ed. for readiness, and costs.

Coalition Role: Stay engaged with KSDE on this topic. Feasibility of pilot on the formative assessments.

## 5.0 Old Business

5.1 Bev discussed the presentation made to the State Board by Cynthia, which then resulted in approval of a one year pilot on the specialized certificates (licensure waiver.) Commissioner Watson discussed the intentions of the Coalition, *to get qualified people in front of kids*. And, that under the cloud of attack it's important to have these difficult discussions – but it doesn't mean we are fighting. These difficult discussions lead to progress and changes. During discussion, Idelia, KNEA, discussed their continued efforts to collaborate with the Coalition and monitor the outcome. They would like to meet with educators in the districts to keep teachers informed.

## 6.0 New Business

- 6.1 Discussion of holding one meeting in each of the Coalition districts – Bev will organize and finalize the meeting schedule for 2015-16.
- 6.2 Mark Crawford was elected the Vice Chair - \_\_\_\_\_ moved and seconded by Bill. Motion approved 7-0.

7.0 Mark moved and Bill seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion approved 7-0.

## CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION:

Dial-in Number: 1-218-844-1930

Participant Access Code: 1633827