

Coalition of Innovative School Districts
Unofficial Minutes – July 21, 2016 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

Members in Attendance – Deena Horst – SBOE, Randy Watson – KSDE, Mark Crawford – USD 418, Adrian Howie – USD 210, Bill Mullins – USD 364, Sue Dole – USD 229, Cindy Lane – USD 500

Guests in Attendance – Leah Fliter – KASB, Brad Neuenswander - KSDE

1.0 Approval of Agenda – A motion was made by Mark and seconded by Cindy to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 6-0. (Sue Dole 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 Adrian to approve the minutes from the June 23rd meeting. The motion passed 6-0.

4.0 Reports

4.1 Updates from Districts

USD 500 reported that they have started the process of converting all of their high schools into College and Career Academies where every student will be in a Pathway. There will be multiple pathways available at each campus to match the needs and interests of each student. Students will not be bound by attendance boundaries, but instead they will be allowed to attend the school that has the program they wish to complete.

USD 364 reported on the progress of construction in the district and shared about their desire to also find a way for every student to take classes in any of the State recognized Career Pathways programs.

USD 418 expressed excitement about the work of the Testing Subcommittee and how this could have an impact on our work as a Coalition and the individual work in each district.

USD 210 reported on their ongoing challenges related to a significant decrease in Assessed Valuation for the second year in a row.

4.2 Updates from KSDE

Randy Watson talked about the changing focus from his office and from the State Board of Education. He shared that the past year has been about collecting data, establishing the vision for Kansas schools, and communicating that vision across Kansas. He talked about the new focus being on implementation of the vision and supporting schools in their efforts. He talked about more of a focus on multiple measures instead of a focus on the results of the State Assessment. He hinted that the Challenge Awards given by the State could be changing to reflect this focus on multiple measures.

Randy also talked about the idea of redesigning schools to be very flexible in meeting the needs of all students. He specifically mentioned high schools that included a combination of project based classes, virtual classes, and traditional classes. He also asked the question, “Do we tweak our current system or redesign it completely?” He also expressed clearly that

one size does not fit all. He talked about high schools that might be ten miles apart but have very different cultures that would impact the design of the school.

Randy also talked about a recent study that was completed by the Council of Chief State School Officers to look at the capacity within the Kansas Department of Education and how that study will be used to improve the work of KSDE.

Brad Neuenswander reported about the changes in the State Assessment beginning in 2016-17. The number of test sessions per subject will be reduced from 5 to 2 and the Multidisciplinary Performance Tasks will be moved to the interim assessments. The tests will remain adaptive in nature and they hope to increase the focus on the interim assessments and reduce the focus on the summative portion of the assessments. One of the goals for the testing system will be to predict ACT scores based on the results of the interim and summative portions of the State Assessment. It will take some time for this goal to be reached due to the number of paired data sets that will be required to develop a valid and reliable predictor.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Sub-Committee Assignments

5.1.1 Graduation Requirements – The following school districts agreed to serve on this sub-committee – Hugoton, McPherson, Kansas City. McPherson has agreed to take the lead on organizing discussions related to this topic. We would also like to add a representative from KSDE or the SBOE to this sub-committee.

5.1.2 Social Emotional Learning – The following school districts agreed to serve on this sub-committee – Blue Valley, Concordia, Fredonia. Blue Valley has agreed to take the lead on organizing discussions related to this topic. We would also like to add a representative from KSDE or the SBOE to this sub-committee.

5.2 Meeting Format for 2016-17

5.3 Meeting Schedule for 2016-17

5.4 Meeting Location for 2016-17

The Coalition members agreed to continue using the ZOOM platform for future meetings. Several of the Coalition members agreed to purchase ZOOM licenses which would allow some of the sub-committee work to be completed using this platform as well. The proposed meeting schedule was presented and everyone was in agreement to follow that schedule. There was not a formal motion made to adopt the calendar. The calendar is presented at the end of these minutes. The meeting locations were discussed and everyone was in agreement with the proposed locations, however we are searching for an alternative location for the September 15th meeting because we may invite some staff members from each district to join us for this meeting.

5.5 Social Media and Website

Bill Mullins reported that he has been in conversation with Steve Wyckoff at ESSDACK about updating the website to reflect current information. The website will be reviewed for additional changes that need to be made and that information will be communicated to Steve. Adrian Howie reported that he has secured the account @Innovateksed for us to use and he will send login information to everyone who wants to post in that account. He also

reminded us to use #innovateksed when posting information related to the Coalition. Bill Mullins also reported that he would create a Facebook page for the Coalition and make everyone Administrators to that page so that information related to the Coalition can also be posted to inform everyone about the work that we are doing.

6.0 New Business

Cindy Lane brought up the topic of Teach for America to see if there was any interest in gathering more information and potentially pursuing a partnership with them in the future. Bill Mullins reported that he had some good experiences with Teach for America teachers during his tenure in Arkansas and that he has looked into the program for some of the hard to fill vacancies in Marysville. Bill said that he would be very open to pursuing this further. The consensus from the rest of the group is that this is worth pursuing and Cindy agreed to bring information back to the group in the future.

7.0 Announcements

There were no announcements

8.0 Adjournment

Mark made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:10. The motion was seconded by Deena. The motion passed 6-0. (Randy Watson had left the meeting prior to this vote.)

**Coalition of Innovative School Districts
Proposed 2016-17 Meeting Schedule
All meetings begin at 9:00 am**

July 21, 2016	Videoconference Meeting
August 18, 2016	Videoconference Meeting
September 15, 2016	All Day Work Session – KASB 2 nd Floor Conference Room
October 13, 2016	Videoconference Meeting
November 17, 2016	All Day Work Session – Smoky Hill Service Center - Salina
December 15, 2016	Videoconference Meeting
January 19, 2017	All Day Work Session – Smoky Hill Service Center - Salina
February 16, 2017	Videoconference Meeting
March 16, 2017	Videoconference Meeting
April 13, 2017	All Day Work Session – Smoky Hill Service Center - Salina
May 11, 2017	Videoconference Meeting
June 22, 2017	All Day Work Session - Smoky Hill Service Center - Salina