

Coalition of Innovative School Districts Minutes – February 16, 2017 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

Members in Attendance – Deena Horst – SBOE, Gordon Mohn – USD 418, Bill Mullins – USD 364, Mike Slagle – USD 229, Cindy Lane – USD 500, Brian Smith – USD 484, Adrian Howie – USD 210, Randy Watson - KSDE

Guests in Attendance – Sherri Schwanz – KNEA, Aaron Chard – USD 484, Diana Wieland – USD 315, Mark Schmidt – USD 229, Angie McDonald – USD 418, Jennifer Hanni – Greenbush, Brian Houghton – USD 484

1.0 Approval of Agenda – A motion was made by Adrian and seconded by Brian to approve the agenda as presented. The motion passed 7-0. (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 Mike and seconded by Deena to approve the minutes from the December meeting and the notes from the January meeting. The motion passed 8-0.

4.0 Reports

4.1 Updates from Districts

Adrian from Hugoton reported that 52 of their 60 seniors who will graduate this year will graduate with some college credit. The average student will have 20 hours of college credit and one student will graduate with 63 credit hours. This is something that they are taking a close look at in their district.

Brian from Fredonia reported that they are moving forward with plans for a STEM Academy in their district. They are also considering adding Project Lead the Way programs and they are looking at the Pittsco programs offered out of Pittsburg. They are engaged in conversations with local preschools and daycares about the possibility of opening an Early Childhood Center in a vacant building owned by the district.

Gordon from McPherson reported about their efforts to expand Head Start to all day every day for 3 and 4 year olds in their district. Angie from McPherson reported about some expanded partnerships they are working on with Hutchinson Community College.

Mike from Blue Valley reported about a recent strategic planning retreat that took place with their board and administrative team. They are very interested in redefining graduation requirements within their district.

Cindy from Kansas City reported on their progress with the wall to wall College and Career Academies that will be opened in August 2017. She shared information about how the

business community has embraced this idea and is pushing the district efforts in this area. She also reported on the progress related to the bond issue which will support this work.

Bill from Marysville reported on the progress of the bond issue in the district and how the new spaces are helping instruction. He also reported on a new pilot program that is being implemented this spring that provides flexible learning opportunities for students and will hopefully blossom into a program similar to CAPS in Blue Valley.

4.2 Updates from KSDE and SBOE

Randy reported on a recent retreat with the State Board of Education where they discussed Individual Plans of Study. He also reported that over 200 school districts are currently using Career Cruising for their Individual Plans of Study.

Randy also talked about a new contract with KU for a College & Career Competency Wheel. They are currently piloting this with a handful of schools and they hope to expand this on a volunteer basis. This is one way to measure social emotional learning and growth.

He also shared some information that was released earlier this week related to National Clearinghouse Data at the statewide level. He said the data is available at the school level and it will be shared with each school in the near future. He wants to make sure that school leaders are properly trained and prepared prior to the release of the data.

Randy also talked about the next phase of the Kansans Can Vision which is moving toward implementation and schools that are designed around students and their needs.

4.3 Sub-Committee Reports

Each sub-committee offered a brief report about their recent work and their next steps.

Graduation Rates/Individual Plans of Study

Bill is working with Brad to set up videoconferences with Deputy Commissioners of Education in Oregon, Wisconsin, and New Hampshire to learn more about initiatives in their states related to graduation requirements and the different ways that students can earn credits.

Social Emotional Learning

This committee reviewed some of the features that Panorama offers related to measurement and resources related to Social Emotional Learning. They shared their desire to keep the surveys from Panorama totally separated from a teacher evaluation tool. The committee started to look at how social emotional learning could be incorporated into Math and English Language Arts.

5.0 Old Business

5.1 Bright Bytes Presentation

The consensus of the group is that this should not be a Coalition initiative.

5.2 Panorama Presentation

The consensus of the group was to meet with representatives from KSDE and KU to see how the Career Competency Wheel aligns with the services available from Panorama before determining our next steps as a Coalition.

5.3 Outside Visitation Teams

We discussed different options for what the Outside Visitation Teams might look like in each of our districts. The consensus was to seek a balance of members from local school districts and members from Coalition School Districts.

5.4 Kindergarten Readiness

We discussed ideas about how to measure the success of the Pre-K programs in our districts. We talked about possible data sources including the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, myigdis.com, and other sources. One common theme about improving Kindergarten readiness is to promote more collaboration between Pre-K teachers and Kindergarten teachers.

5.5 Career Pathways

We discussed strategies for increasing the number of career pathways and courses available to our students. One strategy was to engage in conversations with the community college in your area to see if they can help with some of these class offerings.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Personalized Learning Overview Conference

KSDE has invited us to participate in a Personalized Learning Overview Conference on May 3rd and 4th in Topeka. There are not many details available at this time. Districts who are interested in sending representatives to this conference need to contact Bill Mullins.

7.0 Announcements

There is a Social Emotional Learning Webinar presentation on February 28th that is sponsored by Kent Reed and KSDE. Panorama Education will be presenting the webinar.

Hearings on the new Math standards continue around the state and Deena Horst encouraged everyone to attend or send a representative when they are in our area.

Next meeting is Thursday March 16th.

8.0 Adjournment

Cindy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:35. The motion was seconded by Adrian. The motion passed 8-0.