

## **Coalition of Innovative School Districts**

Kansas Association of School Boards  
1420 SW Arrowhead Rd.  
Topeka, KS

### **Minutes**

Thursday April 30, 2015  
2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

#### **Members Present:**

Tom Trigg  
Bev Mortimer  
Randy Watson  
Cynthia Lane  
Deena Horst  
Brad Neuenswander  
Bill Mullins

#### **Guests Present:**

Rick Ginsberg, University of Kansas  
Debbie Mercer, Kansas State University  
Gwen Landever, University of St. Mary  
Nancy Damron, MidAmerica Nazarene University  
Sherri Schwanz, KNEA  
Allen Jantz, Bethel College  
Cameron Carlson, Southwestern College  
Shirley Lefever-Davis, Wichita State University  
Diana Stephan, KSDE  
Celia Llopis-Jepsen, Topeka Capital Journal  
Howard Smith, Pittsburg State University  
Ken Weaver, Emporia State University  
Paul Adams, Fort Hays State University  
Ted Carter, KASB

#### 1.0 Approval of Agenda

- 1.1 Ms. Horst moved, seconded by Dr. Lane to approve the April 30, 2015 agenda.

Motion approved 7-0

#### 2.0 Comments from Public

There were no comments from the guests or public

#### 3.0 Consent Items

- 3.1 Ms. Horst moved, seconded by Ms. Mortimer to approve the minutes of the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting

Motion approved 7-0

#### 4.0 Reports and Discussion Items

##### 4.1 Reminder of regular meeting on May 21, 2015

This meeting will be a Conference Call beginning at 9:00 am using one of the KSDE call-in numbers. The phone number and codes will be provided at a later date.

##### 4.2 Purpose of the CISD – Bev Mortimer

Ms. Mortimer made a presentation to the group that included an overview of the legislation that created the Coalition of Innovative Districts. She shared how the CISD has developed a partnership with the State Board of Education and the Kansas Department of Education to help guide the work and to make it more transparent. She also shared the brief history of the CISD, the primary functions of the Coalition Board, the commonalities that are shared by CISD members, and the criteria that is considered when a school district seeks to become an Innovative District.

##### 4.3 Review of current license options – Brad Neuenswander & Diana Stephan

Mr. Neuenswander and Ms. Stephan shared a document entitled “Routes to the Classroom” that outlines all of the current routes that are available to earn a Kansas Teaching License.

#### 5.0 Old Business

##### 5.1 Waiver of Licensure – Tom Trigg and Sub-Committee

Dr. Lane led the entire group through an exercise of annotating the current Position Statement that is located at the very beginning of the documents to be presented to the State Board of Education. The primary questions raised by the guests and some of their comments were as follows:

- What is the problem that is trying to be solved?
- What does prudent, judicious, and thoughtful really mean?
- I didn't understand your intent. Now that I understand, I think we can work through the issues
- There needs to be a P-20 dialogue about teacher shortage. We need to understand the problem and then all of us need to collaborate around the problem.
- What triggers this process? When will it be used?
- Biggest concern is for the teaching profession as a whole. How can we convince students that this is a profession when things like this are in the news?
- We think higher education has resources and expertise that can help school districts and the Coalition.
- How will this be executed? What exactly does the process look like?

Break at 3:33

Members of the CISD Board shared some scenarios where this process might be used and they also shared some challenges that they have recently faced related to teacher licensure.

The entire group worked together to identify some Action Steps to move this process forward. The Action Steps identified by the group were:

- Strengthen the position statement
- Develop a method for defining and measuring success
- Find a way to keep higher education involved in the process

- Make sure that all documents that will be presented to the State Board of Education are aligned including the application and position statement
- The CISD should report the results of today's meeting and outline the next steps for the CISD at the State Board of Education Meeting in May
- The CISD should ask the State Board of Education to take action on this proposal at the State Board of Education Meeting in June

After discussion Mr. Trigg made the following motion and it was seconded by Ms. Mortimer.

I move that the CISD Sub-Committee on Teacher Licensure add up to two representatives from higher education, one from a public institution and one from a private institution, to meet prior to May 21<sup>st</sup> to come up with a joint proposal that will be presented to the CISD on May 21<sup>st</sup> and at the June State Board of Education Meeting.

Motion was approved 7-0

6.0 New Business

There was no new business discussed at the meeting.

7.0 Adjournment – Meeting was adjourned at 5:00.