

State Board of Education News June 2016

Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA)

At their June 14, 2016 regular board meeting, the Kansas State Board of Education approved a new accreditation model to replace the Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) model that had been in place since 1992. Key components of the new model include:

- Accrediting districts/systems instead of individual buildings.
- Moving to a 5-year cycle instead of an annual determination.
- The 5 R's framework (Results, Rigor, Relevance, Relationships, Responsive Culture) instead of Quality Assurances.
- Involves a process using multiple measures for results instead of an AYP target.
- Includes stakeholder input with an Outside Validation Team (OVT) instead of checking 11 assurance boxes.

The 2016-17 school year will be a transition year (zero year) for all school districts, including private and independent schools, to move towards the new model that will be fully in place for the 2017-18 school year.

KSDE will be providing more detailed information about the new model in the coming months for districts to share with staff, community, parents and local school boards to assist in this transition. You can find more detailed information on the new KESA model website at:

<http://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Teacher-Licensure-and-Accreditation/K-12-Accreditation-Home/KESA>

2017 State Assessments

With the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the state board's new vision for Kansas, and the approval of a new accreditation model, adjustments have been made to the format and "blueprint" of the Kansas Assessment Program to move towards a more balanced set of assessment opportunities for schools.

The **summative** assessment footprint will be reduced by approximately 60% next year.

- One testing window – mid-March and April with the goal of providing results back to schools and districts by the end of May.
- All performance tasks (MDPT and Math) will be moved to the interim assessment.
 - No need to schedule building or district scoring days
- Listening items will be removed from the summative ELA assessment and moved to interim
- 2 stage adaptive assessment in ELA and math in grades 3-8 & 10
 - Last year ELA and math assessments had 4 stages
 - Each stage will take approximately 45 to 60 minutes
 - Estimated time between stages is less than 10 minutes
- Science will be administered in grades 5, 8 & 11
 - 2 stages
 - Each stage will take approximately 45 to 60 minutes

NEW – Interim Assessments will be available around the time school begins in August or early September.

- Supports and aligned to Kansas College and Career Ready Standards (KCCRS)
- Delivered in KITE
- Voluntary
- Mini-test teacher choice
- Immediate results; local performance task scoring
- Allows for local growth calculations
- Predicts summative
- Tools and accessibility options similar to summative

2016 Assessment Scores

Summative assessment scores will be available for building and district review on the KSDE authenticated website this summer. CETE anticipates releasing score reports on the KITE website about the same time. Since the science assessment was a field test, no scores or score reports will be released.

Kansas State Board of Education statement in response to Title IX federal letter of May 13, 2016

The State Board of Education agreed to adopt the following statement as their formal position regarding the Title IX federal guidance outlined in the “Dear Colleague” letter issued by the civil rights office of the United States Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice on May 13, 2016.

Statement:

The State Board of Education believes every child has the right to a high quality education delivered within a safe, inclusive and supportive school system.

In Kansas, like many other states, our schools have been addressing transgender student needs with sensitivity and success for many years. Just as every child is unique, so too is every school community. With that understanding, we are firm in our belief that decisions about the care, safety and well-being of all students are best made by the local school district based on the needs and desires of the students, parents and communities they serve.

The recent directive from the civil rights office of the United States Department of Education and the U.S. Department of Justice regarding the treatment of transgender students removes the local control needed to effectively address this sensitive issue. We must continue to provide our schools the flexibility needed to work with their students, families and communities to effectively address the needs of the students they serve.

State Board of Education approves Specialized Certificates for USD 500

At the May 19, 2016 meeting of the Coalition of Innovative School Districts, Coalition members gave their approval to 15 applications for specialized certificates pursuant to specifications approved by the State Board of Education in July 2015. The applications were presented for consideration to the State Board of Education. A vote was anticipated to take place next month. However, the board moved to take action today to enable the district to offer the applicants a job as soon as possible.

The applicants are all for USD 500 Kansas City Kansas. Dr. Cynthia Lane, USD 500 Superintendent, and outgoing Coalition Chair Beverly Mortimer were to answer questions. The specialized certificate is effective for a one-year period and is non-transferrable to any other Kansas school district. Approved 9-1, Roberts opposed.

KSDE Committee Appointments:

Professional Standards Board

- Special Education Teacher, Lisa Lower

Professional Practice Commission

- Vici Jennings, principal
- Middle School Teacher, Sylvia Ramirez
- Secondary Teacher, Maret Schrader

Special Education Advisory Council, SEAC: Jason Hooper, Sarah Schaffer, Dr. Judy Martin, Dr. Robb Scott, Dr. Maureen Huppe, Doug Anderson and Mike Martin

Negotiated agreement with Kansas State School for the Deaf NEA approved 9-0, John Bacon absent.

The next Kansas State Board of Education meeting is scheduled for July 12-13, 2016