

**KANSAS POSTSECONDARY
TECHNICAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
MEETING
APPROVED MINUTES**

A virtual meeting of the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (TEA) was held via ZOOM on August 26, 2021.

Members Present

Mark Hess, Vice Chair	Tiffany Anderson
Jason Cox	Eddie Estes
Keith Humphrey	Rita Johnson
Debra Mikulka	Mike Beene
Stacy Smith	

Others Present

Dennis Rittle, Cowley County Community College
Heather Morgan, Kansas Association Community College Trustees
Steve Kearney, Kansas Technical Colleges
Tim Murrell, Topeka Center for Advanced Learning and Careers
Greg Nichols, Salina Area Technical College
Barton Community College
Butler Community College
Cloud County Community College
Dodge City Community College
Flint Hills Technical College
Fort Scott Community College
Garden City Community College
Highland Community College
Hutchinson Community College
Kansas City Kansas Community College
Johnson County Community College
Northwest Kansas Technical College
Washburn Institute of Technology
Wichita State University Campus of Applied Sciences and Technology

Kansas Board of Regents Staff Present

Scott Smathers	Elaine Frisbie
April Henry	Cindy Farrier
Sue Grosdidier	Kelly Oliver
Vera Brown	Lisa Beck
Eric Tincher	Matt Casey
Charmine Chambers	Steve Funk
Erin Guardiola	Tim Peterson
Hector Martinez	Katie Geier
Susan Henry	Marti Leisinger

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Hess at 10:00 A.M. Vice Chair Hess provided members with virtual meeting guidelines.

Approval of Minutes

Vice Chair Hess called for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2021 meeting.

Motion: Member Estes moved to approve the minutes of May 27, 2021. Following a second by Member R. Johnson, the motion carried.

REPORTS

Introductions

Vice Chair Hess asked for introductions. Salina Area Technical College President Nichols welcomed new Flint Hills Technical College President Caron Daugherty.

Member Liaison Reports

Vice Chair Hess invited TEA member activity reports.

Member Estes reported that Dodge City Community College's nationwide Flight Instructor program had 50 students enrolled.

Member Anderson informed members that in June, the Commission for Racial Equity and Justice enjoyed guest speakers Vice President Smathers and Associate Director Chambers, and she thanked them for representing the Board of Regents, providing a labor report, and informing commission members of opportunities and progress in the state. The Commission will continue its focus on supporting all Kansas two-year institutions and making recommendations to the Governor. Upcoming guest speakers to the Commission from the Board of Regents will include President Flanders, focusing on support to Kansas four-year institutions and closing equity and access gaps. She invited input from TEA members and stated that the Commission's final report will be shared with the Governor in December.

Member Beene gave an update regarding the registered apprenticeship expansion workgroup commissioned by Lt. Governor Toland. He explained that group members include Sheree Utash from WSU Tech, TEA Chair Frederick, and a wide array of people, primarily from Business and Industry. Workgroup recommendations were shared with the Lt. Governor and Governor and included increasing staff capacity for registered apprenticeships; increasing awareness of registered apprenticeship programs; establishing a robust marketing campaign; providing outreach incentives for programs to offset the costs of classroom instruction; creation of intermediaries and consortiums for which an RFP is currently active; creating pre-apprenticeship to youth apprenticeship to adult apprenticeship pathways, aligning with the work-based learning project with KSDE, the Department of Commerce, local workforce development boards, and several school districts across the state.

Member Mikulka informed members that Labette Community College and Neosho County Community College have had a lot of interest and activities with the new school year and commended the institutions for meeting those challenges. She congratulated Neosho County Community College for securing a \$1.3 million dollar donation for their technical education center.

Member Smith expressed appreciation for the support of community college and technical college representatives attending the Kansas Association for Career and Technical Education conference in late July.

Vice President for Workforce Development Report

Vice Chair Hess called on Vice President Smathers to provide members with a Workforce Development report. Vice President Smathers reported that a few Board Staff are back in the office, but most continue to work remotely. He informed members of some significant changes in the Workforce Development

Department, including the resignation of Senior Director Beene. As a result, the department is reorganizing, and Carl D. Perkins funding is now under the supervision of Director Henry, and Adult Education is now under the supervision of recently hired Director Martinez. High School Equivalency State Administrator Grosdidier was promoted to Associate Director for High School Equivalency. Project Coordinator Guardiola is leaving KBOR in September. The Workforce Development department has two new jobs posted, and a new organizational chart will be made available to members soon.

Vice President Smathers congratulated Flint Hills Technical College, North Central Kansas Technical College, and Northwest Kansas Technical College for ranking in the Top 25 in the last three-year graduation period for percentage of graduates. He informed members that the upcoming KBOR meeting on September 15th and 16th will be of particular interest to the two-year colleges and will be a joint meeting with KSDE. The joint meeting with KSDE will be held in the morning of September 15th and the Committees will meet in the afternoon. The Board will hold its regular meeting on September 16th. He informed members that they will receive an invitation for a special TEA meeting to be held in the afternoon of September 15th to discuss Excel in CTE Distributions for presentation to the Board on September 16th. Data will not be certified until September 13th. Regarding certification of data, Board Staff will be leading a training session on September 1st to work with presidents to help with their understanding of certifying data. He reminded members that if they are interested in attending the WIOA conference in Wichita October 4th and 5th, please let us know by September 3rd to register. He informed members that KSU has resubmitted a request to offer an associate degree in unmanned aircraft systems and response from two-year colleges is expected. As a group, this has been discussed, and the request will be placed on the Technical Program and Curriculum Committee Agenda as a discussion item at the September 10th meeting. He congratulated Member Beene on the arrival of a new grandchild, and Member R. Johnson and her husband Ed on celebrating their 50-year anniversary.

Report from the Community Colleges

Vice Chair Hess called upon Fort Scott Community College President Johnston to provide members with a report from the community colleges.

Report from the Technical Colleges

Vice Chair Hess called upon Salina Area Technical College President Nichols to provide members with a report from the technical colleges.

CONSENT AGENDA

Budget and Finance Committee

Extraordinary Costs Review: Round 2

Advocacy and Marketing Committee

TEA member institution visit assignments

Program and Curriculum Committee

Program Alignment: Computer Support Specialist (11.1006)

New Program Proposal

Salina Area Technical College: Early Childhood Education

Excel in CTE Fees

Salina Area Technical College: Early Childhood Education

Promise Act

Salina Area Technical College: Early Childhood Education

Regarding the TEA member institution visit assignments Consent Agenda item, Vice President Smathers informed members that Board members are planning to visit the two-year institutions as well and will be provided a copy of the approved TEA member institution assignments. He suggested coordination of visits with Board members.

Vice Chair Hess called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda items from the Budget & Finance Committee, Advocacy & Marketing Committee, and Technical Program and Curriculum Committee.

Motion: Member Beene moved to approve the Consent Agenda items. Following a second by Member Mikulka, the motion carried by roll call vote.

OTHER MATTERS

Excel in CTE Distribution Proviso Discussion

Vice Chair Hess called on Vice President Frisbie to lead discussion regarding the Excel in CTE Distribution Proviso. Vice President Frisbie explained that we are in FY 2022 and that this fiscal year there is a new proviso that requires a change in how the Board office must handle the Excel in CTE distributions for the current year of approximately \$37.35 million from the State General Fund, with a carry-over from last year of approximately \$1.1 million, totaling \$38.5 million for Excel in CTE distributions. Vice President Frisbie explained that during the 2021 Legislative Session, the following proviso was added to this appropriation impacting the timing of payments.

And provided further, that during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, not later than 60 days following the class start date, expenditures shall be made by the above agency from such account for tuition reimbursement.

To comply with this new expenditure timing requirement, a change is required in the collection of data, the basis of how the funds are distributed, and when funds are dispersed to institutions. The earliest institution's fall 2021 start date appears to be August 9; however, class start dates vary from institution to institution, along with several start dates within each institution. October 8, 2021 is 60 days from this earliest class start date, which is when the Board Office is interpreting that expenditures must be made for the program. As opposed to increasing the number of data collections and making payments multiple times throughout a semester to institutions with each new class start date, Board staff plan to distribute FY 2022 funds based off institutions' academic year 2021 enrollment data submitted within the Academic Year collection. She explained that once the FY 2021 data collection is received from the institutions and certified by September 10, the Board office will immediately calculate the distributions to be put forth to the full TEA at a special meeting on September 15th for submission to the Board at their September 16th meeting. Vice President Frisbie added that for the future, it is suggested that the TEA and Board discuss options for provisos to be put forth to the Legislature supporting the best way for funds to be distributed. Vice President Smathers informed Vice Chair Hess that due to this timing change, the data will not be available for the Budget and Finance Committee to review, so a special meeting on September 15th for the TEA will be scheduled for approval and forwarding of the distributions to the Board at their September 16th meeting.

TEA Committees 2021 - 2022

Vice Chair Hess presented the TEA committee assignments for 2021-2022. He explained that the structure of the committees has essentially remained the same, with the addition of new member Keith Humphrey assigned to the Budget and Finance Committee.

Motion: Member R. Johnson moved to approve the TEA committee assignments for 2021-2022 as presented. Following a second by Member Estes, the motion carried by roll call vote.

Legislative Update

Vice Chair Hess called on Director Casey to provide members with a legislative update. Director Casey gave a brief report to members on the recent and upcoming activities of the Legislature. He shared that yesterday there was a ceremonial signing of the Promise Act at Johnson County Community College, and it was great to see the support for that program. He added that Board staff will be working on a trailer bill to clarify legislation in implementing this program in the future. He informed members that the Governor's race is heating up with Derek Schmidt and Jeff Colyer running for the Republican nomination. He explained that redistricting has been at the forefront in the Legislature, in redrawing the maps for house and senate congressional districts. The census reports indicate a growth rate in Kansas of 3%, which is the smallest percentage since the 1930s. He explained that the rural areas showed the biggest reduction in growth. Some possible changes to the districts include adding possibly three House seats and one Senate seat to the Johnson County district and added that redistricting will be high priority for the Legislature.

KSDE K-12 Update

Vice Chair Hess called on Member Smith to introduce KSDE Director Scott Smith to provide members with a KSDE K-12 update. Director Smith shared with members that August 31st is the deadline for institutions to complete the dyslexia training for teachers in K-12 in the elements of structuring literacy. The importance of literacy broadly defined is teaching reading in K-12, requiring screening in grades K, 1, and 2, and monitoring progress up to grade 12. The current emphasis is now talking about literacy and the importance of reading for high school juniors, seniors and those progressing into postsecondary education. It is apparent that moving into a career and being able to skill oneself and reskill oneself is dependent on the person's ability to read. He explained that the Kansas Commissioner of Education has focused on rigor in the classrooms in updates he has provided. The Commissioner's focus was primarily on test scores, but it is recognized that Kansas has a rigor problem in the classroom that affects pathways of students when they exit the K-12 world into postsecondary education where they need as much independence as possible. Member Smith added that vertical alignment between English Language Arts in our institutions is as important to success as alignment in technical skills, and literacy is a foundational skill that supports students as they make their next steps into postsecondary education and careers.

KBOR Retreat Summary

Vice Chair Hess called on Vice President Smathers to provide a summary of the recent KBOR retreat. Vice President Smathers shared that the Board retreat was held at the end of July, and there were six areas of focus in their discussions for their upcoming year's goals. The main three goals that could impact the two-year sector included 1) the goal of developing a systemwide general education package to better align the programs allowing a seamless transfer to the universities from the two-year sector and reducing the costs to the students, 2) the goal to increase the attainment and the ability for underserved populations to apply, enroll, retain, and be successful at the colleges for which he expressed appreciation for the work of Dr. Anderson and the Committee on Racial Equity and Justice as it blends closely, and 3) the goal of determining how to grow the colleges and get students back into postsecondary, because as enrollment numbers drop, the skills required for employees in the workplace increases. The Board also discussed deferred maintenance, Pillar III, expanding the KU Edwards and Johnson County pilot program allowing up to 75 hours of transfer, and the unified budget request. Vice President Smathers stressed that nothing that is discussed at the retreat is voted on, and going forward, the Board will establish and vote on the goals in future meetings.

Promise Act

Vice Chair Hess called on Vice President Smathers to provide a Promise Act update. Vice President Smathers thanked Board and institution staff for their work to implement the Promise Scholarship Act. He informed members that all 33 institutions, including seven private institutions, have signed their disbursement agreements, and the first round of scholarship money has been disbursed to the institutions. He added that staff continues to answer questions daily as institutions are learning to implement the act, and the Board office will be holding a session with the colleges on August 31st regarding data collection requirements for the act, with a progress report on this program required to be submitted to the legislature in January. He reported that Board staff have provided interviews with the press, the Governor held a signing ceremony yesterday, and that while recognizing there are aspects of the Act that need clarification, participants believe the Act has tremendous potential for a wide variety of students.

TEA Goals for AY 2022

Vice Chair Hess called on Vice President Smathers to lead discussion regarding TEA Goals for AY 2022. Vice President Smathers reminded members that at the beginning of each academic year, the TEA establishes goals for the upcoming year. During the September 30, 2021 TEA strategic planning meeting, TEA members will be asked to establish draft goals. He added that Board staff welcomes any goal suggestions that TEA members have and encourages members to ask questions if they need anything clarified before or during the meeting. The committees have provided some goal suggestions, and suggestions from TEA members will be added to the meeting packet for discussion on September 30th.

NEXT MEETING REMINDER

Vice Chair Hess reminded members that the next regular TEA meeting is scheduled to be in-person at the KBOR office on September 30, 2021 at 10:00 A.M, followed by the annual Strategic Planning Session. Vice President Smathers reminded members that there will be a special meeting on September 15, 2021 at 3:30 P.M. to address the Excel in CTE funding distributions.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Vice Chair Hess adjourned the meeting at 11:22 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by:

Susan Henry, Executive Assistant