

**KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS  
LITERACY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
August 20, 2024**

The August 20, 2024, meeting of the Literacy Advisory Committee Summit was held in Conference Room 530 in the Curtis State Office Building, 1000 SW Jackson, Topeka, KS.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Cindy Lane
Suzanne Myers
Laurie Winter
Idalia Shuman
Howard Smith
Carolyn Carlson
Heather Morgan
Beverly Schottler
Laurie Curtis
Diana Mendoza
Martha Mendoza
Randy Watson
Ben Proctor
Susanne Martinez
Ed McKechnie
Jeanine Phillips
David Hurford
Mike Hill
Amber Pagan
Judi Price
Dana Hensley
Nick Mancini
Kim Wilson
Molly Baumgardner
Dennis Burke
Susan Estes
Blake Flanders
Kelly Oliver

**Welcome**

Cindy Lane welcomed members to the meeting and reviewed the committee’s principles, goals, and pillars. One goal the committee has is having 100% of Elementary Workforce achieve a

Micro-Credential on the Science of Reading/Structured Literacy by 2030. The goal is to have Every Child a Reader. Cindy reviewed what SB428 requires, including SoR/Structured Literacy, Application courses and common performance assessment, Comprehensive reading and literacy assessment taught in EPP, Professional learning and micro-credentials, Data that tracks progress, Annual statewide review, and a Plan for Centers of Excellence In reading. Being successful will require the committee to “keep the main thing the main thing” by teaching every child to read, helping teachers teach, learning from experts and research, and building a movement. Each Pillar group then made a list of words that they believed described a strong culture of highly effective people working together.

### **Updates**

Howard Smith gave an update on the newsletter stating that it will have information on who, why, what, and any changes that people need to know. It will include information on micro-credentials, learning centers, and who is building the movement. The newsletter will have a “What’s Up” section, updates on terminology, contact information for anyone who has questions or concerns, and a “Meet the Director” section. It is not known who the newsletter will be sent to, or how often it will be sent, but it will provide accurate information on what the committee is doing, and it will be a celebration of the progress that is being made.

Laurie Curtis and Ben Proctor gave an update on KSDE. Laurie shared the dyslexia handbook, the initial dyslexia training modules, and the dyslexia screening protocols that are available on the KSDE website. Ben shared the Kansas School Improvement Model and the KESA Collaboration process.

### **Micro-Credentials**

Suzy Myers shared that micro-credentials are a recognition of achievement of either knowledge or knowledge plus application. Micro-credentials within the education field are used to personalize professional learning and certify professional learning to build a system’s awareness of knowledge and skills of in-service teachers. The Blueprint micro-credential requirements state that the advisory committee shall be responsible for the attainment of the transformational goal to have 100% of the Kansas special education, English for speakers of other languages and elementary teacher workforce achieve a micro-credential in the science of reading and structured literacy by 2023. The State Board of Regents and the State Board of Education shall collaborate to jointly approve the micro-credential requirements, develop or make accessible professional development programs and micro-credential courses for all in-service early childhood teachers, general education teachers, and special education teachers at low or no cost to such teachers, and the president or chancellor, provost and dean of the college or school of education of each postsecondary educational institution shall jointly have oversight and supervision of undergraduate and graduate level reading and literacy courses at their respective institution and shall assist in the development of a science of reading and structured literacy micro-credential that focuses on research-based fundamentals of reading instruction.

### **Centers of Excellence Framing Document and Process**

Dennis Burke reviewed the Kansas Centers of Excellence. He highlighted that the centers must meet strategic objectives and deliverables including: Identify service delivery regions and ensure

proximity and access to services and supports throughout the service areas, Provide evidence-based education and training to pre-service educators and leaders, and Identify Affiliations and Partnerships with 2-year sector institutions, independent colleges, and community providers trained in evidence-based literacy instruction.

### **Team Meetings**

Each team had short meetings at their tables, with the research team splitting up and joining the others to learn what research they need to be doing.

### **Closing**

Affective ways of using time in the upcoming meetings and how others will know what each subcommittee is doing was discussed. Subcommittees can provide information before the meetings of what they have been working. They need to draft a timeline to share with the committee and Cindy will send updates between the meeting to keep everyone in

The next meeting is September 17, 2024, at the Kansas Board of Regents office, Topeka, KS.