Minutes in Review

Attendance:
Ron Barry, Halstead USD 440 – KASSP
Pete Bastian, Valley Center USD 262 – Past President
Mike Berblinger, Buhler USD 313 – KSSA
Sean Cochran, Auburn-Washburn USD 437 – President
Cory Gibson, Valley Center USD 262 – KSSA
Eric Hansen, Bonner Springs USD 204 – KASBO
Volora Hanzlicek, Valley Falls USD 338 – KASCD
Justin Henry, Goddard USD 265 – KSSA – Zoom
Ryan Jilka, Goddard USD 265 – President-Elect
Christie Meyer, Goddard USD 265 – KASCD
Bert Moore, West Elk USD 282 – KASEA
Jake Potter, Leavenworth USD 453 - KanSPRA
P.J. Reilly, Wichita USD 259 – KCCTEA
Donna Schmidt, Russell USD 407 – KASSP – Zoom
Glen Suppes, Smoky Valley USD 400 – KSSA
Patrick Schroeder, Ellsworth-Kanopolis-Genesee USD 327 – KASSP – Zoom
Donna Zerr, Augusta USD 402 – KASSP – Zoom
G.A. Buie, USA-Kansas Executive Director
Jerry Henn, USA-Kansas Assistant Executive Director

The meeting was called to order by President Sean Cochran at 9:00 a.m.

1. Welcome
   • President Sean Cochran welcomed board members. President Sean Cochran welcomed board members, and asked them to share positive things going on in their district.

2. Consent Agenda
   • Bert Moore moved to approve the consent agenda which included the agenda, minutes from the October Board Meeting, and financials from November and December be approved. Seconded by Pete Bastian. Approved unanimously.
3. President Report
   • President Sean Cochran discussed the Kansas Teacher of the Year Program. He was part of the selection team, and attended the reception. It was a good experience and there were a lot of very good candidates.

4. Executive Director’s Report
   • Executive Director G.A. Buie discussed his upcoming travel schedule now through summer, in reference to conferences he will be out of state for.
   • G.A. went over membership numbers. They are looking very good. We are up a little over 100 over where we were last year. PLN districts topped out at 92 for the year. Jerry had done some traveling to recruit membership, and that seems to have helped. All state association numbers are up as well.
   • G.A. spoke about workshop numbers. We seemed to have a lot more attendance from teachers and other non-administrators this year than in the past. The “Understanding Student Data” drive-in had great numbers. NWEA helped us put that on and brought in national experts. The Dyslexia Workshops with Dr. Jack Fletcher were both successful, and registration sold out very quickly.
   • G.A. gave an update on the Principals Associations. The executive director of KASSP and KAESP will be resigning, which leaves an opening that will need filled. After discussion with the KASSP and KAESP boards and approval from the USA-Kansas board, USA-Kansas will assist in the hiring of this position. The salary will be jointly supported but KAESP, KASSP, and USA-Kansas.
   • G.A. gave an update on the Governor’s Education Council. He discussed the report from Governor Colyer’s committee, as well as Governor Kelly’s plans going forward. Governor Kelly’s council is looking for big ideas. Business representatives in the meeting were throwing around a lot of interesting big ideas. G.A. and P.J. Reilly discussed current pathways and the difficulty that can come with creating new pathways.
   • The Board talked about the Professional Learning Network and decided that everything was going well and no changes are needed at the moment. G.A. also discussed where we ended up with sponsorships for this year. We have brought on Sumner One for next year. He asked board members to get him ideas for professional development topics for the 2019-2020 school year.

5. Legislative Update
   • G.A. reported it’s been a bit of a slow start to the session, but discussed a couple of bills that are coming up (SB44, HB2078). We will be sending out calls for testimony.

6. Committee Work
   • Legislative Advocacy
     o The Legislative Committee discussed re-looking at safety drills and whether we need to look at any changes. We will put together a survey for principals discussing what any changes might look like and whether there are any unintended consequences, etc.
     o They further discussed SB 44, and putting together resources and information before the hearing.
   • Conference
The Conference Committee went through the list of breakout proposals and made initial selections. There are still a few people we need to reach out to. We will be able to have about 60 breakout sessions this year. Final selection notifications will be sent out by March 4th.

7. Conference Vendor Showcase
   - We will not be making any huge changes, it seems to be going over well. We will end the showcase by 7:00 p.m. at the request of many of the vendors. We will be setting up a USA-Kansas lounge section in the center of the hall where we will help attendees navigate the app and the resources available to them through the member site. We are also working with Lifetouch on putting together a different evening hospitality option.

8. New Business
   - The Board discussed offering health insurance to the USA-Kansas office staff. Health Insurance is not currently offered. Bert Moore moved to provide a $200 per employee per month stipend to be put toward a small group insurance plan. This would be a use it or lose it opportunity for those in the office who need it. P.J. Reilly seconded the motion. Approved unanimously. Jerry will continue to look around for plan options. The $200 stipend will be up for review again next year.

8. Adjourn
   - 12:26 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 1, 2019