



Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, October 21, 2016 (9:00 am – 1:00 pm)
KASB Building

Minutes in Review

Attendance:

Donna Zerr, Augusta USD 402 – President
Mike Berblinger, Buhler USD 313 - KSSA
Christie Meyer, Goddard USD 265 - KASCD - Conference Call
Dennis Peerenboom, Seaman USD 345 - KASPA
Steve Splichal, Eudora USD 491 - Past President
Glen Suppes, Smoky Valley USD 400 - KSSA - Conference Call
G.A. Buie, USA-Kansas

Guest: Bret Church

The meeting was called to order by President Donna Zerr at 9:07 a.m.

1. Welcome

- President Donna Zerr welcomed the board and thanked those who attended.

2. Consent Agenda

- Mike Berblinger moved the consent agenda, which included minutes from the September meeting and financials from August and September, be approved with agenda items 4 and 5 switched. Seconded by Dennis Peerenboom. Approved unanimously.

3. President's Report

- President Donna Zerr presented Past-President Steve Splichal with a plaque as a token of the Board's appreciation for his service as Board President, thanking him for his leadership and wisdom.

4. Executive Director's Report

- G.A. Buie reported the membership count for most of our associations is up from this time last year. USA-Kansas is less than 90 members from where we finished last year, with 167 new members. We will be sending out a mailer on Monday for those who have not renewed. G.A. credited the PLN for bringing in new members, as the \$100 individual membership has encouraged more than just principals and superintendents to join.

- President Donna Zerr appreciates the amount of communication by USA, and Steve Splichal believes the PLN is a good outside-the-box idea. G.A. reported 34 school districts have joined the PLN currently, which is good for the first year.
- G.A. Buie reported on recent workshops. Special Education and the School Leader in Topeka brought in nearly 70 attendees, which may have been a little too large, and should maybe be capped at 35-40 in the future for better conversations. The same workshop in Salina brought 7 attendees. The Crisis Communication workshop brought 21 attendees, though many in eastern Kansas have already heard Richard Brundage speak. Upcoming workshops include Time Management in Topeka and Ellinwood, and Pete Hall event in Manhattan. October was a busy month with Regional Meetings, which brought in over 350 attendees total. The morning sessions ranged between 10-25 per meeting. There was a lot of good conversation, and different conversations at each venue. G.A. went to Atlanta with Discovery Education for a Blended Learning workshop, similar to the conference being held in Wichita next week.
- G.A. Buie reported on the upcoming Uniting Leadership Conference. Donna Zerr thanked G.A. for all the work he has done for the Conference. So far, golf is scheduled for Wednesday morning. Wednesday afternoon Jason Jones will open the conference, followed by the vendor session. Thursday will be similar with a day of break-out sessions. Rick Wormeli will close the conference on Friday. The next step is to identify what hot-button topics are current, and who could speak on them. We are also considering having some open sessions so if there is not a session that interests you at any given time you can go to a specific room and speak on guided topics.
 - Some improvements to be made next year include: more food and drinks, coffee; some sessions ended up being very large, while others were small. Randy should speak again on final day. We will continue to offer a team discount. There was discussion over what time to wrap up on Thursday, as well as whether to do a breakfast recognition ceremony, rather than a dinner reception.

5. School Funding Framework Update

- The Board held a discussion over the Funding Framework, and the possibility of going back to the old formula, and making changes from there. With the possibility of turnover in the legislature, all options are back on the table. The Board discussed the 6 Guiding Principles they endorsed at the previous meeting, and agreed to change the wording of the first Principle from “Every public school student in Kansas will have an equal opportunity to be college and career ready, as defined by the Rose Standards” to “Every public school student in Kansas will have an equal opportunity to be college and career ready, as defined by the Kansas State Board of Education Kansans Can mission and vision, as aligned with the Rose Standards.” The Guiding Principles will serve as the shared message, but we will put together bullet points for each principle identifying the goal, how we reach it, and how we are accountable. This message will then be shared with USA-Kansas membership. We hope the legislature will address the School Funding issue early on, so we want to be as prepared as possible to provide guidance to our legislators.

6. Committee Work

- There were too few Board Members present to break out into committees.

7. Committee Reports and Recommendations

- There were too few Board Members present to break out into committees.

8. Lunch provided by DLR Group

9. Legislative Planning

- G.A. Buie reported USA-Kansas and KASB will again jointly host Government Relations Days, which will be held January 12-13 in Topeka.

10. New Business

- There was no new business

11. Adjournment

- Steve Splichal moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Glen Suppes. Approved unanimously. The Meeting was adjourned at 11:18 p.m.

The next USA-Kansas Board Meeting will be held January 27, 2017 at 9:00 a.m.