



**Board of Directors Meeting  
Friday, January 26, 2018 (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)  
KASB Building**

*Minutes in Review*

Attendance:

Pete Bastian, Valley Center USD 262 – President  
Mike Berblinger, Buhler USD 313 - KSSA  
Sean Cochran, Auburn-Washburn USD 437 – KASEA  
Cory Gibson, Valley Center USD 262 – KSSA – Conference Call  
Eric Hansen, Bonner Springs/Edwardsville USD 204 – KASBO  
Justin Henry, Goddard USD 265 - KSSA  
Ryan Jilka, Goddard USD 265 – KAMSA  
Kristin Magette, Eudora USD 491 – KanSPRA – Conference Call  
Christie Meyer, Goddard USD 265 – KASCD – Conference Call  
Bert Moore, West Elk USD 282 – KASEA  
Suzan Patton, Pratt USD 382 – KSSA – Conference Call  
Dennis Peerenboom, Seaman USD 345 – KASPA  
Joe Ryan, Smoky Hill Ed. Service Center - KCCTEA  
Steve Splichal, Eudora USD 491 – KASCD  
Glen Suppes, Smoky Valley USD 400 - KSSA  
Jeff White, Osawatomie USD 367 – KAESP – Conference Call  
Donna Zerr, Augusta USD 402 – Past President – Conference Call  
G.A. Buie, USA-Kansas

Guest: Bret Church, Rob Balsters

The meeting was called to order by President Pete Bastian at 9:04 a.m.

1. Welcome

- President Pete Bastian welcomed board members.

2. Consent Agenda

- Dennis Peerenboom moved to approve the consent agenda, which included the agenda, minutes from the November and December meetings, and financials from November and December be approved. Seconded by Sean Cochran. Approved unanimously.

3. President's Report

- President Pete Bastian passes around “thank you” notes from the Kansas Teacher of the Year candidates and offered his congratulations to the winner.

- Pete discussed standing with Dale Dennis through the troubling accusations made against him. Everyone knows Dale's dedication to students.

#### 4. Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director G.A. Buie gave a membership review. Membership is over 1,000 for the first time in about 7 years. Statewide enrollment is up, and national numbers are close to last year. This can be attributed to USA-Kansas's services, as well as increased finances in school districts. Some districts are paying for membership, while some now feel they can afford to join after a bump in pay.
- G.A. discussed professional development workshops. So far, they have been well attended. We hosted a half-day workshop in Wichita, which brought in around 100 administrators from USD 259 and beyond.
- G.A. gave an update on the search for an Assistant Executive Director. The deadline was Friday the 26<sup>th</sup>, and so far, we have received one resume. This position, being part time and located in Topeka causes hesitation for some. The Board discussed salary and working days for this position.
- G.A. discussed the Professional Learning Network. Seventy districts joined for the 2017-2018 school year. We intend to continue with this membership model, as it is successfully drawing in new members and driving them to our workshops. G.A. mentioned possibly expanding to the Kansas City area for workshops next year, and possibly trading off between Topeka and Manhattan on some workshops. The Board discussed the advantages and disadvantages of half-day vs. full-day workshops.
- G.A. also discussed 2018-2019 workshops. He will be surveying workshop needs for next year, and asked Board Members to consider their districts' needs. The Board will work together to come up with speakers and presenters to touch on these topics. He also discussed Blackboard coming on as a sponsor for USA-Kansas. They will also be providing our conference app for the 2018 conference.

#### 5. Legislative Update

- G.A. Buie gave the legislative update. It has been pretty quiet so far on the bill side. The Board discussed the Superintendent meeting with Lt. Governor Colyer, as well as the State of the State address given by Governor Brownback. He discussed a bill introduced a few days ago that would allow new school board members to take their seats immediately after approval. We are keeping an eye on that. The teacher tenure bill was pulled, likely waiting for Supreme Court decision. USA-Kansas and KSSA are working with the Children's Coalition on an Early Education Symposium on Wednesday. He encouraged board members to either attend themselves or send their elementary principals.

#### 6. Committee Work

- The Board broke out into committees. The Legislative committee discussed bond cap and finance direction, and what we are comfortable with. The Membership committee discussed individual membership, services, thoughts and ideas.

#### 7. Committee Reports and Recommendations

- Legislative Committee
  - They don't feel like we can move on the bond cap. This should be left to construction companies and architectural firms, and we should be in touch with

those lobbies. In terms of finance, we continue to support the recommendations of the State Board, to focus on the kids, school programming, and teachers.

- Membership Committee
  - Donna Zerr gave kudos to G.A. for boosting membership. We should be tapping in to the Wichita and Kansas City areas, and there is a lot of missed opportunity there. The board discussed possible incentives to bring new members in.
- Conference Committee
  - We currently have around 20 learning cluster proposals submitted. The deadline in February 23. We will then assess what gaps are still there in content, and reach out to fill those gaps.

8. Lunch

9. Vendor Showcase

- G.A. discussed the vendor showcase at the upcoming conference, and encouraged board members to invite vendors they work with in their own districts, especially those who may not currently vend with us.

10. New Business

- G.A. discussed the marketing report put together by SkyKing Consultants detailing our email, Facebook, and Twitter accounts as well as our website hits and steps we are making to grow our social media base.
- G.A. also invited Board Members to attend the State Board of Education meeting taking place on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in support of Dale Dennis.

11. Adjourn – 11:22 p.m.

The next USA-Kansas Board Meeting will be held March 8, 2018.