



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SCHOOL CURRICULUM, ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COUNCIL JULY 16, 2019 MEETING SUMMARY

SCAAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Aaron Collins, Tracey Cusick, Casey Gesenhues, Justin Mitchell, Teresa Nicholas, David Trimble

SCAAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Kelly Bradley, Scott Bruins, Valerie O’Rear, William Owens, Jennifer Putnam, Shad Sletto

The July 16, 2019 School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Vice Chairman Aaron Collins. Members and guests were welcomed. New members – Teresa Nicholas and David Trimble – were introduced. A quorum of members was present.

The minutes from the January 15, 2019 SCAAC meeting were presented. Tracey Cusick made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Casey Gesenhues seconded the motion. Motion carried. It was also noted in the minutes that the March 19, 2019 meeting had been cancelled.

Moving forward, all meeting summaries from Advisory Groups will have the unapproved summaries posted on the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) website and will be shared with Advisory Group members prior to the next meeting. After approval, the minutes will be so noted on the KDE website.

Election of 2019-2020 Chairman and Vice Chairman

Casey Gesenhues made a motion to elect Scott Bruins, Chairman, and Aaron Collins, Vice Chairman for 2019-2020. Justin Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Agenda Item: SCAAC Members’ Charge

Presenter: John Landon, Staff Attorney, Office of Legal Services, KDE

Summary of Discussion: Members received a thorough overview of the School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council’s (SCAAC) purpose and duties. The council was abolished by Executive Order on July 16, 2017 and reconstituted July 1, 2019 under Executive Order 2019-0500. (PowerPoint and Executive Order handouts). SCAAC shall advise the Kentucky Board of Education and Legislative Research Commission on issues related to academic expectations, core content for assessment, statewide accountability programs, recognition of high performing schools, imposition of sanctions, and assistance for schools to improve performance under KRS 158.6453, 158.6455, 158.782, and 158.805.

Justin Mitchell noted the specific duties of a SCAAC member and emphasized the need to receive information prior to meetings for preparation and discussion with fellow constituents. Aaron Collins mentioned that SCAAC was often referenced at other meetings.

Action Taken: Group recommended that any upcoming meeting information be supplied 48 hours prior to the actual meeting date.

Agenda Item: Program Standards Professional Learnings

Presenter: Krista Hall, Director, Division of Program Standards, Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability, KDE

Summary of Discussion: Content area standards have undergone quite a bit of change. Professional learnings, leadership meetings, new [Kentucky Standards website](#) dedicated to standards, weekly webcasts are just some of the activities underway. David Trimble and Aaron Collins provided positive comments on the work done by the program standards group. Justin Mitchell requested the need for new social studies resources prior to school beginning.

Action Taken: Information only.

Agenda Item: Career Studies and Financial Literacy

Presenters: Pam Moore, Director, and Teresa Rogers, Program Consultant, Division of Student Transition and Career Readiness, Office of Career and Technical Education and Student Transition, KDE

Summary of Discussion: Significant business and industry partners were involved in the revision process of the career studies and financial literacy standards. A timeline for standards development was shared. The standards will be arranged by grade bands – primary (K-3), intermediate (4-5), middle (6-8), and high (9-12), and consist of three domains: essential life skills; career exploration, preparation and application; and personal financial responsibility. Tracey Cusick inquired about feedback received from the standards survey conducted by the Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center (ARCC). Survey comments were thoughtfully considered and only clarifying language was recommended to the proposed standards. The standards will be revisited every six years.

Justin Mitchell requested information on how high schools were implementing. The new standards are effective for high school freshman entering the 2019-2020 school year. Will guidance resources be provided to schools? What about the roll out to middle schools?

Action Taken: Information only.

Agenda Item: Quality of School Climate and Safety

Presenter: Christina Weeter, Director, Division of Student Success, Office of Continuous Improvement and Accountability, KDE

Summary of Discussion: A requirement in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is a non-academic indicator that is included in the overall accountability system. At the August KBE meeting, board members will provide guidance to the proposed Quality of School Climate and Safety measure, based on perception data from surveys. This originally was the Opportunity and

Access accountability indicator. Quality of School Climate and Safety will be proposed as 4% of the overall accountability score for 2019-2020. SCAAC members asked about the specifics of the survey and it was acknowledged that much of the detail has not been determined. The survey will likely be linked to the spring online assessments.

The Quality of School Climate and Safety indicator is an opportunity to gather perspective, to provide information to educational and community leaders, to lead to higher academic achievement, and to offer direction for school improvement.

Aaron Collins stated that he was nervous about including the measure in accountability--social and emotional learning is difficult to measure accurately. Tracey Cusick stated that resources would need to be provided. Justin Mitchell requested the ability to disaggregate by groups, and if there would be an opportunity to provide help to the student?

Action Taken: Information only.

Agenda Item: Kentucky's Accountability System Regulation Approved (703 KAR 5:270)

Presenters: Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability, and Jennifer Stafford, Director, Division of Assessment and Accountability Support, KDE

Summary of Discussion: Kentucky's Accountability System (703 KAR 5:270) became effective May 31, 2019. Kentucky will see this reporting year (2018-2019) a new 5-Star rating system – with 1 star being the lowest and 5 stars the highest – on its School Report Card. Elementary and middle schools will receive star ratings based on student assessments in reading, mathematics, science, social studies, and writing; and student growth in reading and mathematics. High schools will be rated based on student assessments in reading, mathematics, science and writing; transition (academic or career) readiness; and graduation rate. Elementary and middle school accountability will contain a measure of growth on (and high schools for attainment of) English language proficiency for English Learners on an exam that includes speaking, listening, reading and writing in English.

The 5-star accountability system is designed to help the state make gains in closing achievement gaps. A school or district that would have been a 5- or 4-star will be reduced by 1 star if it has not addressed significant achievement gaps between the performances of groups of student. Discussion also ensued around the revised definition of Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI) schools and the creation of Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI) schools during the last legislative session under Senate Bill 175. A school will be designated annually for TSI if at least one subgroup performs in the lowest 5% of all schools for three consecutive years and the school is in the lowest 10% of all schools. Beginning with the 2020-2021 school year and every three years thereafter, KDE will identify a school for ATSI if the school has been identified for TSI and has at least one subgroup that performs in the lowest 5% of all schools.

Action Taken: Information only.

Agenda Item: Amendments to 703 KAR 5:240, Administrative Procedures and Guidelines

Presenter: Rhonda Sims, Associate Commissioner, and Michael Hackworth, Policy Advisor, in the Office of Standards, Assessment and Accountability, KDE

Summary of Discussion: Amendment information regarding the Administrative Procedures and Guidelines regulation (703 KAR 5:240) was provided. The regulation goes to the August KBE meeting for a second read.

Action Taken: Information only.

Justin Mitchell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1 p.m. Tracey Cusick seconded the motion. Motion carried. The next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2019.