SUMMARY MINUTES FINAL--APPROVED AT NOVEMBER 13 MEETING

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

SCAAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Kelly Bradley, Scott Bruins, Aaron Collins, Casey Gesenhues, Dale McDowell, Justin Mitchell, William Owens

SCAAC MEMBERS ABSENT: Tracey Cusick, Steven Evans, Valerie O’Rear, Jennifer Putnam, Shad Sletto, Terry Sullivan

The September 18, 2018 School Curriculum, Assessment and Accountability Council (SCAAC) was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by Chairman Scott Bruins. Members and guests were welcomed. A quorum of members was present. Acknowledged that Council Member Steven Evans resigned.

The minutes from the July 17, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Aaron Collins made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. William Owens seconded the motion. Motion carried. Upon approval, the minutes will be posted on the Kentucky Department of Education website.

Agenda Item: Non-traditional Instruction

Presenter: David Cook, Director, Division of Innovation and Partner Engagement, Office of Continuous Improvement and Support, KDE

Summary of Discussion: New regulation for non-traditional instruction will undergo its second read at the October Kentucky Board of Education meeting. The intent of the regulation is to provide a specific annual application process for schools and districts with an emphasis on continuation of learning for all students. The regulation is set to be effective in the 2019-2020 school year. Schools must provide evidence of learning, through instruction and engagement. Scott Bruins asked about the reporting requirements for special populations. David Cook specified that it was continuation of learning for all students.

Action Taken: Information only.

Agenda Item: Districts of Innovation

Presenter: David Cook

Summary of Discussion: The regulation concerning districts of innovation was approved at the KBE August meeting. The new statute will begin next year. The actual program began in 2012 and was designed for innovative practices in the districts. The program grew to a maximum of ten, but there are currently six districts of innovation. Schools, rather than districts, can now...
apply for the status. Aaron Collins inquired as to the reasons why a district would apply. David Cook responded that it introduces much more regulatory flexibility. These districts can apply for a waiver for much of the existing education regulations. Scott Bruins asked as to the financial aspects of school funding under the program. David Cook explained that there can be changes in SEEK funding, but no added or subtracted funds. Kelly Bradley asked about how well the program is communicated to districts. David Cook mentioned that “marketing” programs in development.

**Action Taken**: Information Only.

**Agenda Item: Graduation Requirements Update**

**Presenter**: Amanda Ellis, Associate Commissioner, Office of Teaching and Learning, KDE

**Summary of Discussion**: Feedback continues to be sought concerning the proposed graduation requirements (704 KAR 3:305). Amanda Ellis explained both the current graduation requirements and the proposed credits and requirements. She briefly reviewed the newer requirements being: passage of a civics test, instruction in financial literacy and demonstration of essential skills and technology. Scott Bruins inquired as to how the civics test is being proctored. Justin Mitchell asked about the communication between KDE and the general assembly regarding best practices and efficacy of educational programs. Financial literacy standards remain in development. The requirement has been downgraded from being a “course” to a “program.” Kelly Bradley expressed a concern about school accountability and that the new requirements should serve the student’s best interests, not just the schools. Kelly Bradley and Justin Mitchell were both concerned with the unintended consequences. Aaron Collins suggested that districts need to be better educated as to what post-secondary college and career opportunities are out there. Kelly Bradley and Scott Bruins recommended educating school-based decision making (SBDM) councils about the changes and their responsibilities to students.

Scott Bruins inquired as to what the ‘ACT’ benchmark may be. Amanda Ellis stated that is yet to be determined and depends upon vendors and validation. Scott Bruins inquired as to what the personalized science and social studies courses may be. Respective advisory groups have recommended at least three courses to get through the standards. Justin Mitchell inquired as to how the social studies standards would be balanced with the social studies courses and the end-of-span test. Scott Bruins also communicated general approval of the proposed recommendation requirements, ensuring that the accommodation of student skills and interests be considered. Scott Bruins asked about course codes and how well the process is being communicated to schools. Amanda Ellis responded that the course codes would still need to be aligned to standards.

**Action Taken**: Information only, but continue to update SCAAC advisory members.

**Agenda Item: Standards Update**

**Presenter**: Teresa Rogers, Literacy Program Consultant, Division of Program Standards, Office of Teaching and Learning, KDE

**Summary of Discussion**: Social studies standards are up for public feedback until September 27. Justin Mitchell acknowledged his gratefulness that social studies standards are being addressed. He is apprehensive about the strong emphasis on Kentucky history and government –smaller issues such as ‘colonial Kentucky’ that need to be tweaked/removed. His concern was expressed
that culture is not addressed like it should be. Scott Bruins expressed concern with how social studies will be evaluated as many of the standards are skill based.

Writing policy in Senate Bill 1 (2017) requires each school to complete its writing policies with the required components of: 1) multiple opportunities are provided for students to develop complex communication skills; 2) a variety of language resources are embedded within writing instruction; and 3) a variety of technological tools are used in the writing process. It will be evaluated by rubric.

**Action Taken:** Information only.

**Agenda Item: School Report Card**

**Presenter:** Dede Conner, Director, Division of School Data Services, Office of Education Technology, KDE

**Summary of Discussion:** Partnering with Bright Bytes for the new school report card. The landing page will give options of exploring state data or typing in a school or district. The goal was to make data visually appealing and understandable. The school profile report is to go live on October 1. Districts will have one month to provide input and verify data. The goal is for the school report card to go live around December. Justin Mitchell suggested that a personalized message on school or district page would be nice. Dede Conner acknowledged that it is not currently in the works, but could consider later.

**Action Taken:** Information only.

**Agenda Item: CTE End-of-Program Assessments**

**Presenter:** Sherri Craig, Program Consultant, Division of College and Career Readiness, Office of Career and Technical Education, KDE

**Summary of Discussion:** There are currently 26 different CTE End-of-Program assessments. The assessment blueprint in 25% academic, 25% employability and 50% occupational. There are 3-15 post-secondary credit agreements at no cost to schools or students. Aaron Collins asked about the relationship between individual schools and post-secondary schools. Program areas include: agriculture, business and marketing, family and consumer sciences, information technology and media arts. Other programs point more toward industry certifications. The CTE EOP test window in between February 1-March 31 during an assigned two-week window. Scott Bruins inquired as to how these programs of study will be selected and how it will be practically applied. Aaron Collins also noted that many districts are hiring college and career counselors.

**Action Taken:** Information only.

**Agenda Item: New Skills for Youth Grant**

**Presenter:** Kiley Whitaker, Assistant Director, Division of Technical Schools and Federal Programs, Office of Career and Technical Education, KDE

**Summary of Discussion:** Kentucky is one of ten states to participate in this grant from JP Morgan Chase. The grant supports states as they work to align career focused education with high skill, high demand jobs. The intention for the grant is to be employer led through regional workforce areas and ensures cross institutional involvement. Scott Bruins inquired as to how
students register in the different pathways. Kiley Whitaker replied that it is typically done through a student’s first CTE class.

Action Taken: Information only.

Agenda Item: Accountability Update

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

Summary of Discussion: 2017-2018 was the first year of the transition period to a new accountability model. For 2017-2018 schools will be identified as Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI), or other. Quality Control Day was September 13 and the public release is tentatively scheduled for September 26.

Action Taken: Information Only.