**KSD Advisory Board**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Date: November 9, 2021**

Advisory Meetings occur on a quarterly basis: August, November, February and May

Per KRS 167.037, this Board is to be composed of nine members appointed by KBE upon the recommendation of the Commissioner of Education. The purpose of the Board is to act in an advisory capacity to assist school leadership and make recommendations related to: (1) school goals and objectives; (2) budget requests; (3) student services; (4) public relations; (5) construction and maintenance; and (6) program evaluation. Membership on the board shall be statewide and shall consist of two (2) parents of deaf children, one (1) professional in education of the deaf, one (1) former student of the Kentucky School for the Deaf, one (1) member of the Kentucky Association for the Deaf, two (2) members who shall represent school districts, and two (2) members at large. A majority of the board's membership shall be persons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

**Advisory Board Members**

Scott Haun, Professional, Chair

Jeff Kassinger, Former Student

Debbie Martin, Member at Large

Dodie Karr, KAD

Nancy Perry, Member at Large

Bridgette Mann, District

Joshua Matthews, District

Toyah Robey, KSD Principal

**AGENDA**

**Chair, Scott Haun**

1. Welcome and Call to Order at 6:03 P.M.
   1. First in-person meeting since COVID inception
   2. Not present: Dodi Karr. Quorum met.
   3. Proposed additions/changes to Agenda: section D Caitlyn Buckley unable to attend, her section will be addressed at the next Advisory Board Meeting.
   4. All board member received copies of today’s agenda and presentations.
2. Approve August 10, 2021 Minutes
   1. Jeff Kassinger made Motion to accept August Meeting Minutes
   2. Joshua Matthews Second (2nd) the Motion
   3. All in Favor - Motioned Passed

**Toyah Robey**

1. Principal Updates:
2. Accreditation: (see handouts) Last time was 1996 that KSD went through accreditation. Opportunity for different perspectives by having an outside entity come to evaluate. Currently 24 schools are accredited in the nation, we want to be number 25. We are doing a self-analysis based on the 12 standards from the handout. 3 main phases, currently in phase 2. This Friday our Team Leads will present their first round of goals, core team will review the goals to ensure data for alignment. Timeline is included in the handout. Team Leads have gone above and beyond. Surveys went out to parents, community, students and staff around the 12 standards, and have reviewed the surveys. On a scale of 1-5 we are a solid 3. We only have 1 indicator below a 3, and we were already working to address it. Positive feedback so far.
3. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment: (see handout) Started collecting formative assessments daily last year. Has been a big undertaking, and process has been refined this year thanks to Genise Orberson and Erin Waggoner. Wanted data to be accessible for teachers. Average reporting across the school is 88% at time report was pulled. Green indicates mastery. Monitoring our learning targets taught, and the ones that are met. At this time our school has covered 658 standards, with 912 learning targets met. This helps us monitor where our kids are, this does not monitor rigor but keeps progress on track. We are asking teachers to do data improvement walls which students interact with. An example can be seen after tonight’s meeting. We are very data-focused. Also been working with teachers on differentiation training. This fall did a highly interactive training, followed up by coaching and additional support. Pleased with in-house staff training. Use a “Plan, Do, Study, Act” approach. Really want students to be a part of that discussion. Joshua Mathews commends Principal Robey on this approach and the fact that it’s done with intention.
4. Safety Update: Jarod Mills has been looking into a campus-wide alerting system. Been working with “Alert Us”, and Jarod has hooked up all computers, and the program will communicate with all devices on our network to come across SmartBoards, laptops, etc. Currently we have the free version, hopefully will be able to purchase the yearly program. Up to now have been using Remind. Have had 90+ trespassers, with 10% being due to burglarizing. Have had squatters, people in tents outside, etc. Student Life does an excellent job of alerting administration of these incidents. Andrew Hourigan logs all of this information. Have submitted a request for new surveillance cameras, and keyless entry for our buildings, at approximately $800,000 using Esser Funds. Has not been approved yet, but we feel we’ve written a strong justification. New office window was installed in Kerr at the front entrance, and annexing that part of Kerr is on the to-do list. Andrew has done a really good job of doing aerial views of fencing layout, and we are in process of acquisition for new fencing and gates. Primary gate would be at Argo entrance. Other entrances will be a basic working electronic gate. Keyless entry using staff badges is not included yet, but will be. Scott Haun recalls KSD property lines were surveyed years ago, so should have a map of that on campus somewhere. Have looked into trying to match Jacobs Hall fencing, and have found black aluminum which would be complimentary to the historical value. The back fencing will be functional only to use as a barrier to trespassing. Reaching out to have the Argo gate done special, to use the stone in front of Grow Hall. COVID has impacted expense so may have to complete this in phases, if it’s approved for funding. Have purchased lights and sign for cross-walk, and adding a cross-walk across the street from Thomas. Rick has purchased lights that will go into traffic cones, which are solar so should be efficient. Nightly door checks are being done by one of Rick’s staff to ensure all main school buildings are locked prior to arrival of 3rd shift. Night staff are doing a great job communicating with administration / counselors. Debbie Martin requests that a light-equipped door bell be installed at Marshall Hall front door for Deaf staff. Also would be nice if the Marshall Hall classrooms could have the same installation of doorbells as Kerr teaching staff.
5. New Hires: Food Service and a bus driver are the only new hires currently. Have had several interviews for which in house staff have applied. 3 teaching positions will be posted soon. One is for CTE department. Culinary teaching position was posted but no one applied. Preschool teacher will be posted soon also.
6. Miscellaneous: Monster Walk was a big success. Trick or Treat for elementary was that Friday, and Trunk or Treat was done Sunday during Monster Walk. Haunted house was in basement of Barbee Hall, and everyone loved it. We had a dance, sensory tables, and bonfire and everything went really well. KBE will be doing their next quarterly meeting on campus in Grow Hall in December. Students will do a presentation for the Board, and they will do a short tour of campus. We will show KBE a full pool. It should be up and running prior to their visit on December 1, 2021. T, Rick and folks have done a great job, and we are hopeful the project will be done after Thanksgiving break. Students have started working on setting up a frisbee disc golf course. They presented to administration and were given a budget of $5000, have met with a vendor, have laid out a course and progress is happening with this. They have an advisory board to report to and we think they’ll come away with real life skills. Hoping after this to be competitive. Ms. Kentucky will be coming to the elementary on campus on November 16 for Read Across America. She has a minor in ASL as well as an Ag. Background.

**Caitlyn Buckley (unable to attend, will address at the next meeting)**

1. Kendall Writing Project and Assessment Results:

**Billy Gulley Jr.** (Google Slides Presentation)

1. SLPI Results for Students: This is the Sign Language Proficiency Interview for ASL. We evaluate the conversational skills in a 20 minute clip, for students, staff, and community members. This is a one to one recorded conversation between the interviewer and interviewee. Since COVID all interviews are virtually done. Once the recordings are created they are sent to 2-3 raters, who score the interviewee. There are 11 levels of skill, with the baseline being NFS (No Functional Skills). Scores move up progressively (novice, survival, intermediate, advanced, superior, etc.). 2018-2019 saw significant gains, with new students enrolling who learned ASL. Data shows gains in ASL skills. 2020 being a COVID year had a significant impact on ASL skills. Many of our students’ only opportunities for ASL access happens on KSD campus. Also they could’ve been impacted by the interviews going virtual instead of in person. We have a high percentage of ASL-skilled students who couldn’t interview in 2020 due to lack of technology at beginning of the year, and SLPI not having been set up for interviewing virtually yet. Going forward will be able to make up missed interviews due to the COVID school closure. Predict that 2021 data will not have changed overtly, but should still see some improvements. The SLPI score is not a consistently improving number, as many factors can contribute to decline. These factors are ASL access, who you socialize with and their ASL skill level, and communication preference. Some Hard-of-Hearing students prefer to vocalize / sign English. Part-time ASL specialist has been hired, Samantha Fowler, and she is working with elementary students. Can look into offering ASL tutoring for students who show regression in ASL skills. WHAS grant is providing 1 person who tutors ASL after school, this is separate from services provided by Samantha Fowler. Looking to utilize Samantha as a response to intervention. Identifying elementary kids for now and providing ASL support.

**Rhonda Bodner and Barbie Harris**

1. 200th Planning Update: 2nd quarter funds raised total of $4427.05. As of September balance is $5835. Alumni Organization is working together with 200th planning, and all events requests have been approved by KDE. Campus committees will begin meeting monthly again soon. Strongly encourage members to spread the word for donations. Goal is $20,000. Total of 25 different committees focused on different topics. First event will be MDO, still in planning stages. Recently since June the women’s quilting group has made a variety of items to sell at different events. Have just posted the website last night, thanks to Amy Lange. There are 20 different things going on the website. Auction will start tomorrow at midnight, and will run through Wednesday at midnight. The purpose of the auction is to raise money to purchase items directly for the 200th Anniversary. A committee is going to try to make a movie for the 200th, will have an Appreciation Banquet, and several other events coming up. Jarod is working on a 200th page for the KSD website, and the auction link will be added to that also. We’ve also asked that he include a 200th Anniversary count-down clock on the KSD website. COVID had presented hardship in finding volunteers for events, and most of the focus so far has been on getting the silent auction up and running. As COVID numbers decline and things return to normal we can focus more on public events. KCDHH is partnering, and have also reached out to Centre College, Courthouse, etc. and are waiting for a response. We have the schedule ready and are in process of getting everything posted on FaceBook. Logo has been selected from the student art competition, and the winner is a KSD graduate currently attending Centre College. The logo will be used on our letterhead, t-shirts, etc.

**T Hulett**

1. Capital Projects Updates:
2. Argo – 95% complete still waiting for cabinets and other odds and ends.
3. Jacobs Hall – boiler is 99% complete. Dialer in place and now is working, but will have to keep it warm so staff can check valves to find out which are bad to fix them.
4. Rooves and HVAC Project – Has 1.9 million in it, won’t be able to touch every building. Thomas gym is 1st in line for complete roof replacement and HVAC system so can have AC in the gym for graduation and other events. Once we get a bid we can determine what other buildings can be done. Need a cooling tower at Brady at a minimum, which is all we’ll be able to do for now. Next will look at Grow Hall, for new roof and new life there. After Phase C will know which other buildings on campus can touch. 6 year plan is robust and touches every building on campus, and hopeful that the legislature will decide to give money towards campus.
5. Pool – completed and has had cure team. Ready to fill, and once full the pool company will restart and calibrate valves and see if any additional issues.
6. Behind Fosdick – building a maintenance shed, dropping tomorrow morning and going out to bid. Will allow security and weather-proofing for equipment (maintenance and Ag.)
7. Nancy Lee Hall – is included in the 6 year plan, but we won’t know if approved until after the final budget is submitted from the legislature.
8. 6 year plan, if completely funded as we’ve asked, projected to be completed by 2026. Right now fuel and other supply inflation has caused us to apply a 30% increase in funding for projects. The progress we make will be dictated by approved funding.

**Chair**

1. Discussion: Should consider inviting legislators to an Advisory Board meeting, or to campus to have them interacting with the people they have an impact on.
2. Goals, Objectives, and Recommendations of Advisory Board: Submit request to host legislators on campus to have them engaged with the people they impact. Also remind legislators that our student body is from all over the state of Kentucky, not only Boyle County. Need a budget proposal from KDE, and also letting them know in special events that KSD is hosting. We need to explore additional funding for Jacobs Hall, perhaps partner with Danville or Boyle Co., or legislation to try to find extra funding. The building is in dire need of renovation. Request that KDE find the surveyor map showing campus boundaries. Want to make sure the fence is definitely on KSD property. Request KDE and legislators add into the language about the surplus property profit from selling is ensured to return directly to KSD. The language isn’t in the regulations that surplus from property sale returns to KSD, so we want that added to ensure profit returns to the school for sure. The sale of Walker Hall did come back to KSD.
3. Public Comments: Archie Harris – KSD has lost several sports programs this year. Title IX must be followed so if we have a boys’ team we must also have a girls team. Concerned also for low enrollment numbers. People don’t realize that KSD is the first state-supported deaf school in the nation, which spread to other parts of the US. KSD sparked the fire across the US to have a truly deaf-friendly environment for deaf and hard of hearing students. 1998 I was a chairperson for VSD. Looking forward to an even better celebration for KSD 200th. 2023 we will host the Mason-Dixon tournament, we really have to get behind that and help. The number of deaf teachers at KSD is severely dwindling. Deaf teachers are so important for deaf students as role models for them, who can truly have empathy for them. Our school should strive for this goal, having more deaf teachers here. What is the status of our school mission? Ask that the Board follow up after the meeting, before the next board meeting. Have noticed that there are a lot of people working at KSD who speak and don’t sign in front of students. We can’t have this at a deaf school. They experience that at public school, the emphasis here should be on ASL and language acquisition. Also we have lots of great teachers and staff, who are willing to work here and we need to advertise this. I would like to serve on an interview committee, or at least screen for interviews. Also want to recognize Sandra Frank, who will be performing in a Broadway show which will be televised. We need to advertise our alumni who have gone on to lead very successful lives and are doing great things.
4. Next Advisory Board Meeting February 8, 2022 at 6:00 pm EST at Kerr Hall.
5. Close Meeting: Nancy Perry motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Kassinger 2nd the motion. Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm EST. Principal Robey will email travel vouchers for board members.