**KSD Advisory Board**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Date: June 21, 2022, in Kerr Hall**

**6:00 pm EST**

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 - Present

Jeff Kassinger, Former Student - Present

Debbie Martin, Member at Large

Dodie Karr, KAD

Nancy Perry, Member at Large - Present

Bridgette Mann, District Representative

Joshua Matthews, District Representative

Toyah Robey, KSD Principal - Present

Vacant, Parent of deaf children

Vacant, Parent of deaf children

**Chair, Scott Haun**

1. Welcome and call to order.
   1. Quorum was not met. Debbie Martin, Joshua Matthews, Bridgette Mann, and Dodie Karr not present. No actions will be taken due to not meeting quorum, but will move ahead with presentations of information.
   2. Will open the floor for 30 minutes after presentations for public comments.

**Toyah Robey**

1. Principal Updates
2. Accreditation: last time the school went through accreditation was 1995. Typically this process takes 1-2 years to complete, and our team has nearly completed in about 8 months. Final edits should be ready soon to submit to Frankfort. Hope to have the Accreditation team on site visit this fall. We are one of 4 schools in accreditation process currently.
3. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment: Curriculum review cycle is assisting teachers in building their curriculum maps, unit plans, and reviewing those with feedback. Response to intervention data: have seen significant growth in that area. Assessment Plan: focused last few years on formative assessment. We ask our teachers to do formative assessments daily and report that data. Summative assessment gives a lot of data to show that formative assessments give good data. 7% of teachers stated they can use more guidance on this process, while the majority feel confident. Staying very targeted to what we are required to teach and can better measure what our students are learning. Resources library has been developed for teachers, and their feedback has been very positive.
4. CEASD Conference: Brittany Voll, Stu Harper, Doug Brewer and Principal attended this conference in Utah. Spent a lot of time talking about the Cogswell-Macey Act. Will send a link. Commissioner Glass is looking at this Act and encourage all to take a look at it. LRE information document will be shared by DoSE at upcoming conference. There was a lot of talk about Audism. Very good for us to be able to be with others doing the same job as us. Able to introduce Doug to one of my colleagues from Indiana and they made a great connection. Association for Student life has a training for staff this fall and are working on a way to send our student life staff to this training.
5. Budget: deep dive into finances as part of our accreditation. Last few years has been about 500,000 which is really low, due to personnel cost. Fortunate to have federal COVID dollars to supplement this cost. But, this year, our budget is almost 1.6 million, a 300% increase. Part of that not budgeted for School Resource Officers which is now law. Out of this money we will have to cover 3 SRO’s (each shift).
6. 200th Celebration Update: Barbie Harris and Rhonda Bodner are the Co-Chairs for the 200th Anniversary events, and presented some of the planned activities. All information related to the 200th Anniversary can be found online at: www.ksd200yearsold.com

A link to the website will be emailed to board members. MDO will kick off the 200th celebration next month July 10-16. Several events are already planned (some still in approval process) including the KSDAA Social on 7/29 and picnic on 7/30, 5K Run/Walk in honor of Mr. Finke in October, Deaf Festival 200th booth at Center College, Pancake Day, Christmas Tour and Tea, Gallaudet Banquet, extra Museum tours, Classes Reunion 1940’s – present day with time capsules, Gala at Hilton Hotel in Lexington, special Graduation guest speakers, and sporting event led by Chris Miller of Maryland. Encourage board members to visit the website for more details.

1. New Hires: Ellen Fisher in food service. Faneshia Jones is assistant principal. She was here in the past as an HSC and worked with Ruth Sigler, and we are very excited to have her. Eddie Durr is our new Woodshop teacher, from Trailblazers program so he is familiar with our students. We are close to a culinary person. Interviewing this week for a math teacher and ASL Specialist. One more position possibly will post to focus on computer science and possibly additional support in ES (not yet written). Carol Ann Morrison has taken a new position at KDE, and will be posting her position on list serve and notionally. MOA will be done to do training for new hires on deaf culture / communication, etc.
2. Miscellaneous: Students were taken to Washington (juniors and seniors). Next year they will have option of what large city they would like to visit. Planning that MS will get to do an in state overnight trip to experience hotel. Juniors/Seniors will take 2 large educational trips before they graduate. MS students studied Ky Standards to develop their own lesson plans and evaluate themselves as students. They were harder on themselves than their teachers. Out of the 3 students that did this, feel one of them will become a teacher. Gallaudet Academic team went to nationals and brought home sportsmanship award. KSD didn’t place, 1st place was MSSD. KSD was “the buzz” because we’re small with 3 students (one of which, Bentley White, is in the audience this evening). Very proud of our coaches and students on the Academic Bowl Team.

Agriculture teachers from across the nation came to visit KSD for the 2nd time, and our FFA program did an amazing job showcasing our campus. Stained glass project for 200th anniversary is displayed above the front doors of Thomas Hall gym. Students designed and built it with assistance and guidance from Dr. Lee Alan Roher and Alex Heckert. It is one of a kind. Events list for school was shared.

**Caitlyn Buckley**

1. Kendall Writing Assessment: Presentation was provided to all members. ES and MS writing data will be shared this evening. “The limits of my language are the limits of my world”. This is a complex issue. Language impacts everything. When a person has language they have power. Language deprivation causes struggle. KSD often sees students who are language deprived, and it is our responsibility to battle that. Often it is tough to recognize that we need to make improvements, recognize our failures and successes. May not have heard of the Kendall assessment before. It uses different criteria for each area tested. This impacts our average scores here at KSD. Kendall assessment was developed in 1999 specifically for Deaf/Hard of Hearing authors. 3 goals: summarize previous data, present current data and impacts, and to share future goals. 5 semesters of documentation pre-COVID were analyzed. Average level is a 3 several years straight. Have noticed some improvements, but in only about 1/3 of students. This year the assessment was proctored for elementary students twice, fall and spring. 20/34 students assessed showed great improvement in their score. Noticed that some students during COVID lost some skills. Average level was a 3, concurrent with previous years. This spring 33 students were assessed, and 17 showed improvement. Noticed average level was a 3+. Official Kendall guide doesn’t have ½ steps, but we at KSD utilize half-scores to show borderline skills. KSD saw enormous growth with new student enrollment this past school year. 16 total new students this year as compared to 12 new students within 2 school years previously. Also have had great training, writer’s workshop, distance learning. Kendall Level 4: must use articles (“a”, “and”, “the”) which are not used in American Sign Language. Hearing students naturally are exposed to them through hearing/talking and easier to incorporate in their writing, whereas deaf students are only exposed to them with purposeful planning in writing only. This is the reason our student haven’t achieved Level 4 as average. What do we do with our data? Providing reports and consulting with teachers, providing assistance to individual students. Have been talking with other teachers and collaborating to revitalize our teaching. We prefer the word “data”, and assessing and tracking our students’ needs daily. We look at their social skills, school work, etc. Everything is impacted by language which in turn effects students’ brains. HS doesn’t use the Kendall, and we want to see how students are progressing after MS. The 3 departments are going to collaborate to see what is effective and what needs to change concerning student progress. Will also report student successes to families in a family-friendly language. Do not have exact percentage of student who are already language-deprived when they arrive to KSD. MS students have 1-1 teacher conferences to discuss progress, and feedback is positivity-driven. Still required to report ESL yearly, and is the reason we are hiring an ASL specialist. In past years the Kendall was used in conjunction with SLPI, and the data showed concurrent data (low SLPI = low Kendall score).

**Rick Westerfield**

1. Campus Updates:

* Argo has been on Phase 3 for over a year due to complications from COVID closings / issues. Has taken a considerable long time to complete everything. Prom was held in the art room in Argo this year, and it was absolutely beautiful. Restoration of the original floor was exceptional. Mrs. Webb’s classroom was also renovated with all new cabinets and furniture. Now in process of final punch out.
* Pool is up and running now. Observation windows are gone due to having a leak in that area. Numerous coats of sealant were used and also hand-painted.
* Roofing project starting soon with the gym, as well as long-needed air conditioning installation. Pool area will not be air conditioned, but have had some discussion on some possible future projects to make it more “play-worthy”. Possibly also new lighting.
* Jacobs Hall new boiler is completed and is doing great job so far. Large building housing the boilers is no longer in use and water is off to it. Smaller building is still in use.
* Camera project is under way and Andrew Hourigan has jumped on board. Around 280 cameras are active on campus right now. There are so many areas on campus that were previously not visible. This project alone is close to 1 million dollars.
* Maintenance department Storage shed is completed. Would like to explore solar power to allow us to have water and electricity in this shed sometime in the future. Spoke with Mr. Hullett, and in process of speaking with mural artist to paint “Colonels Est. 1823” on the side of the shed.
* Paving project to start soon. Front lot of Argo will be re-paved, as well as the drive behind Argo to the stop sign at Clerc Dr. Will widen the road way to allow more space for 2 cars. Also adding more crosswalks for students to utilize. Entire parking lot and driveway of Jacobs Hall will be re-paved and will open more parking with opening of more handicapped accessible spots closer to the building. With the trees gone, the back of Jacobs Hall will be accented with lights and more beautification. Will do some concrete work to make it more accessible as well, in the middle with original brick outline. Will have to completely redo the current ramp due to brick separating. Front doesn’t need as much work, but looking at getting some painting done on front columns.
* Since new lighting has been installed this campus looks so nice. But, has also showcased Lee Hall which does not help campus look nice. Frankfort has approved painting the exterior columns to beautify campus. Also 1 million dollars set aside for a study of Lee Hall to see what parts of the building can be restored and which need to be demolished. Remaining moneys will be used for those improvements.
* Very proud of maintenance / housekeeping department. Matthew Dezarn really stands out. He took initiative to beautify our campus by stripe-mowing, and has also taught other guys how to do it. They’ve all shown how proud they are of this campus, and go above and beyond. Also Kudos to Sandy Smock and her students on their beautiful job, and to Logan Wiley for her beautification of campus. By end of this week will have added more flowers. Parking lot entrances below Brady have been fixed by the City so pull in drives aren’t as steep.
* We have a vendor for the fence, and will start Phase 1 for installation on 2nd street. Looking at bids for entrance to Argo with stone columns and a large fancy gate for electronic entrance. This will be our new hallmark and our 200th anniversary “gift” back to campus. Also gate installation in the back of elementary, and another for Clerc Dr. entrance. Fence will start at edge of property on 2nd street, white fence will be replaced with heavy black decorative steel fence. It will not look like a prison fence. It will cut in behind the lower Brady parking lot so pedestrians aren’t able to cut across campus any more.
* Argo will become our main building for visitors. Grow Hall will have a copper colored metal roof installed in the very near future, to match Marshall Hall. Kerr Hall skylights are going to be removed, and installing new lighting to mimic the skylights. It will be a drop-down and will be much brighter.
* Sidewalk in front of Jacobs Hall is broken and dropped down. Have a deal worked out with the City, and they are going to take out all broken concrete and install the new concrete for us, KSD will purchase the concrete. Have talked with the City and they say the sidewalks are our responsibility. Will be talking with the City about the rest of the sidewalk, and would love to be able to preserve the brick. Once we know the cost of this project will be better able to plan and find funding.

**Chair**

**We cannot take action on the agenda or any other items due to quorum not being met.**

1. Resolutions: Toyah hasn’t gotten any feedback from the Department on legislation. A date for the Commissioner to attend a Board meeting has not been identified, but believe they are working on attending this Fall. Would also like to know if the commissioner and chair / other KDE members can attend an ASL immersion to raise awareness. EKU typically provides immersion, but this year KSD couldn’t host it due to our summer program running for 4 weeks.
2. Advised to form a committee of Deaf community to become involved in downtown Danville project. Recommend that KSD and KDE be aware that the City of Danville may be in contact. Copy of project emailed to Principal Robey and she will forward to KDE.
3. Next Advisory Board Meeting will tentatively be on August 16 or 23, will ask other board members.
4. Public comment: Archie Harris – Mainstreaming in public schools is the new norm for most deaf students. Compared to other deaf schools, KSD’s enrollment of around 75 is about double the average of national numbers. KSD is a great school, alumni include Bethany Yance, who is currently working on her PhD. Not sure what happened to alumni Sarah Joiner, if she’s in college. Also proud of Jemima Chong, got a job in EKU Rec. Department. KSD is doing a good job with their students. A recent KSD graduate had planned to attend BCTC for welding, but toured Gallaudet and fell in love, so currently plans to attend Gallaudet after BCTC, become a teacher and return to KSD! We are seeing more students attending Gallaudet, which makes me happy and proud. We are thankful for KSD staff efforts which ensure post-secondary success for students.
5. Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm