**KSD Advisory Board**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Date: December 6, 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 - Present

Dodie Karr, KAD - Absent

Nancy Perry, Member at Large - Present

Bridgette Mann, District Representative - Present

Joshua Matthews, District Representative - Absent

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 met.
2. Approve Minutes – Minutes approval for previous meeting 10/25/2022. Bridgette Mann motioned to approve the October 25, 2022 minutes, and Jeff Kassinger seconded the motion. All favor and Motion passed.

**Toyah Robey**

1. Principal Updates
2. Accreditation Update: Site visit was 11/13 – 11/16, and toured campus, had dinner. Russell West, former KSD student, is on the Accreditation Team which visited. Team members also included other Deaf School administrators. The Team interviewed students, staff and community, and did classroom observations. Final Exit interview was Wednesday and first barrier was passed. We are being considered for partial or full, with the Team’s recommendation being Full Accreditation. Next step is the CEASD Board meeting at Riverside School for the Deaf, and that is where we will officially be recognized if the board accepts the Team’s recommendation. The Team will send us a report in a few weeks which will state recommendations. Will share that with the Commissioner, advisory board and KSD staff once we receive it. Accreditation will make KSD #25 in the nation for Deaf Schools. Currently Accreditation is only a recommendation, so will not announce anything until we are officially recognized.
3. Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment: Curriculum for textbooks have been identified, specifically to purchase social studies and math text books. Staff is continuing formative assessments, and also looking at internal assessments to formalize assessments we use such as STAR. Genise, Faneshia and Principal meet weekly to analyze our work.
4. 200th Events (Rhonda Bodner and Barbie Harris): Pancake Day was 11/5/22, and financial report will be available in February 2023. About 350 people attended Pancake Day this year. Thanks to Laura McKinney and her team, as well as all the other volunteers, for their phenomenal job on Pancake Day. Jacobs Hall has been decorated for Christmas Tea and Tour with just a few minor things left to finish up this week. Thanks to the Leadership Team for all of their help with ensuring the sidewalk looks so amazing at Jacobs Hall. KSD RAFE will be included in the Christmas Parade in downtown Danville to showcase KSD for the 200th celebration parade float. Next week will be the Christmas reception for students and KSD staff at Jacobs Hall. Gala is coming up with the deadline to purchase tickets being 12/31/22. Jennifer Harris has been working relentlessly on the Gala organization, and so far about 120 participants have signed up. Archie Harris is managing the budget and has been very helpful. 200 people limit, so there are still 80 available tickets.
5. New Staff: Melissa Norton is new to Student Life, this is the only new staff since last advisory board meeting.
6. Miscellaneous: Bentley White attended the United We Learn conference with the commissioner last week. Last year the commissioner had a “Listening Tour” with different districts involved with ways to improve KY Education. The KY United We Learn Program was developed from this, as well as a portrait of learning with 6 foundation principals. The idea is that when students graduate high school they go on to be productive and positive citizens with community and stakeholder relationships. This process has just gotten started. Bentley is the only deaf student to be participating in this.

**Rick Westerfield**

1. Campus Updates: Kerr Hall roofing project is 99% done, Grow is 50% done, Thomas Gym is about 30% completed. Weather has really hampered progress, but work is moving along. Jacobs Hall work is about 70% completed. Will be starting on installation of air conditioning in the gym, waiting for roofing crew to be about 85% completed before work on AC installation can commence. Brady Hall in process of getting things started for small renovation (new lighting, carpet, painting). Principal Robey and Andrew Hourigan are continuing work on fence and card readers. Currently the pool is drained due to debris concern during roofing project. In order to meet regulations a few minor fixes are being done. Will be installing garage-type doors on the south end of the pool which will open straight up, as well as exhaust fans. This will allow kids to swim or hang out on the patio for more socialization opportunities.

**Dr. Faneshia Jones**

1. CEASD Leadership Academy: CEASD has the mission of promoting effective school leadership for deaf students. The Leadership Academy is tasked with preparing school leadership to provide the best educational experience for students. Attended a professional learning which covered some general ideas (promoting liability, national and state laws, etc). All Board members have a CEASD packet which outlines some main ideas and points of contact. Both Doug Brewer and Dr. Faneshia Jones attended this conference, and have mentors who will remain in touch to provide support throughout the program. 2 formal meetings, in November and April, but will meet multiple times through virtual means.

**Doug Brewer**

1. Student Life Update: Melissa Norton joined us, as well as Kevin Hamilton (promoted as supervisor of high school program). Melissa is not yet fluent in ASL, she will be provided with an ASL tutor, and feel confident that immersion in the program will help her learn. James Cline is now our ILS Coordinator (Independent Living Skills). Currently student life has 9 vacancies, and truly thankful for all of our subs. CEASD Leadership conference was very beneficial and offered lots of resources and points of contact. Very nice to attend this, and was able to bring ideas to Amy Hislope for staff recruitment. Currently Brady Hall dorms are vacant due to planning of renovations. All MS and HS are housed in Middleton, with hopes to move parts of those departments back to Brady over the summer. Tomorrow the Elementary will be going to a local church for a Christmas dinner and craft night. Big thanks to Stu Harper and Rick Westerfield for helping with transportation to and from recreational basketball games. This has been a challenge without KSD having a bus for transportation. Currently using 4 state vans on campus to transport students. KSD Staff have stepped up to ensure students do not miss out on any activities. The High School department is hosting a memorial for Shane Hodge in honor of his birthday today. This program is student-led and driven. Nancy Perry recommends that Student Life think about setting up a peer mentoring program. Big thanks to the KSD Charitable Foundation for their generous donation of the large TV’s to our student life program!

**April Pieper**

1. Kentucky Department of Education Update: There are 2 buses on order, a 78 passenger and 72 passenger bus which have been purchased with KSD’s own money. Currently on MOA with a nearby district to borrow a bus, and Motorpool has offered 2 large vehicles to replace KSD’s inoperable ones. The old buses will be returned to Motorpool, most likely for scrap. These should be on the way as soon as possible. We’ve also been working on ensuring curriculum may be ordered in a timely manner. Planning to attend California to the Accreditation conference in April. Mr. Haun recommends that April attends ASL Immersion, did not learn ASL until age 32 himself, and highly recommends it as an extremely helpful tool in learning the language.

**Chair**

1. Discussion: Mr. Haun recommends that KDE recognizes KSD for the 200th anniversary, and sets aside legislative funding for major renovations which are so badly needed at Jacobs Hall. It would be nice if the state donated funds for renovation in honor of the bicentennial.
2. Announcements: Academic Bowl is meeting weekly, and have several things planned in preparation for this event in March. Staff will be working that Saturday to accommodate need. Gallaudet is picking up the majority of the bill, with KSD donating a small amount for hospitality suite. State Spelling Bee is this week in E-town. Dr. Faneshia Jones will attend this, with KSD Outreach staff leading. Principal Robey will share total numbers with the Board when she gets them. KY Classic tournament is coming up. Recreational basketball tournament was in Burgin last week.
3. Next Advisory Board Meeting will be February 21, 2023.
4. Meeting Adjourned at 7:06 pm.