

Director of Student Learning Jennifer Gatz Board Report September 2019

KESA Accreditation Cycle

As we begin the 2019-20 school year we are entering Year Four of the Kansas Educational System Accreditation (KESA) process. Throughout the year we will continue implementation of our building and district actions plans. We will continue to analyze data to determine effectiveness of our plans and make adjustments as necessary.

The Primary Objectives for Year Four include:

- Review compliance/foundational structures.
- Review results and progress in meeting the State Board Goals and Definition of a Successful High School Graduate.
- Continue implementation of action plans/revise as necessary.
- Continue identification of data/evidence supporting plans.
- Begin preparation for Year Five.
- Update site councils on progress.
- Inform local governing body of progress.

Our Outside Visitation Team (OVT) visit will take place on April 6th, 2020. Throughout the year I will continue to update the board on our progress related to KESA.

MTSS Update:

As the new school year begins our buildings continue to implement a Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS) model to encourage positive behavior. Each building has been teaching expectations and working on their social/emotional behavior intervention protocols. We will be giving the MySAEBRS and SAEBRS social/emotional assessments at the end of September. We will utilize this assessment data along with office referrals, grades and attendance to identify students that may need additional support in the areas of social/emotional learning. The social/emotional component of our MTSS process will continue to be a focus as work to ensure we are meeting the needs of all students.

In the areas of Math and Reading our students are finishing up their FastBridge screening assessments. New this year in the FastBridge platform is what is called FastTrack Reading. This new suite of assessments will provide teachers with additional information regarding intervention placement to meet individual student needs. FastBridge will be updating some of their reports to make it easier for teachers to determine next steps in providing interventions for students. We look forward to continuing to revise our process to meet the needs of each individual student.

At our September 13th PLC teachers will be analyzing the data from the fall screening. We will be looking at this assessment data to determine students that may need additional support during MTSS. At our building leadership team meeting we will be analyzing district data to determine effectiveness of our current curriculum, resources, etc. Throughout the process we will continue to utilize a problem solving approach to make adjustments as needed to our MTSS processes and core curriculum.

Social Emotional Character Development

Aligned with the Kansas Can Vision our district is focusing on measuring and supporting student's social emotional character development. We looked at our Kansas Communities that Cares data with our Building Leadership Team in August and each building is working on a plan for how to address the needs that have surfaced at the building level. Additionally, the elementary (PK-5) will continue to implement the Second Step program as a core a social emotional curriculum. New this year our middle schools will also begin using the Second Step curriculum designed for these grade levels. At the high school level (6-12) we are utilizing the College and Career Competency Framework. This year we will continue to focus on Self-Regulation and we will add in the competency of Assertiveness as a focus area for the 2019-2020 school year. In each building teachers are teaching nine introductory lessons on assertiveness and they will reinforce this topic through their curriculum throughout the year.

Back-To-School In-service:

We had a successful day of learning on August 20th. In addition to content team time our High School and Middle School staff received training on the Xello program utilized for our Individual Plans of Study while the elementary teachers learned more about the key components of reading instruction. Following the in-service, a survey was shared with teachers to solicit their feedback regarding their professional learning on this day. This information will be used to plan future professional development. We continue to utilize this feedback to plan for future in-service and adjust our professional learning.

ACT and WorkKeys Professional Learning:

I recently had a chance to attend a session offered at Greenbush regarding the ACT and WorkKeys reports that are available to our district. I am currently working through the vast amount of information that is available related to these topics. I look forward to sharing this information at a future BOE meeting. As a district we will continue to focus on this information in order to help prepare students for post-secondary success whether that includes college, military, technical school or the workforce.

Early Childhood Family Festival:

The Sabetha Community preschools met on Friday, August 30th to discuss an upcoming event that we are organizing. This event will take place at Sabetha Elementary on October 19th from 9:00 am – 11:30 am. On this day each of the community preschools will have a booth with activities related to various developmentally appropriate skills for children. In the gymnasium, Brandy Edelman with Parents as Teachers will be having a Block Fest and we are inviting various agencies to have a booth with information for parents and families. Watch for more information to be advertised in the paper and on social media in the near future! We are excited about providing this opportunity for our preschool families and students to learn more about the opportunities and resources we have available in our community.

