



Jennifer Gatz Assistant Superintendent
Board Report September 2022

Kansas Education System Accreditation (KESA)

As we begin the 2022-2023 school year we are beginning the 2nd year of our KESA cycle. During this year we will be identifying strategies that will help us move forward towards achieving our goals. On September 16th, our KESA pilot team will be attending a training at Greenbush in Lawrence sponsored by the Kansas State Department of Education. This training will help provide us with turnkey activities we can bring back to our building leadership team and our staff.

MTSS Update:

The fall screening window in Fastbridge closed on September 2nd and teachers in each building are reviewing the data to determine areas of strengths and growth for our students. At our September 9th PLC teachers will be meeting to determine next steps for students that are performing below grade level. The official start date for interventions in each building is no later than September 19th.

WorkKeys Assessments

The free WorkKeys assessment will be given to high school juniors during the month of October. This year we have elected to give the assessment online as this format ensures the fastest turnaround time for student results. Last year was the first year this assessment was given in the fall instead of the spring semester. Parents will have the option to opt students out of this assessment via a letter that will be sent home. The WorkKeys assessment is intended to measure work place readiness skills. It is highly recommended that all students planning to enter the world of work take these assessments. You can watch a [video at this link](#) regarding the WorkKeys assessment.

Back-To-School In-service:

The classified in-service was held on August 9th and the certified in-service was August 16th. Both of these in-service days featured information on school safety. We were excited to have John Calvert who is the Head Safety Specialist with the Kansas State Department of Education in our district for the certified in-service. He reviewed our crisis plan with our staff and answered questions. During both in-service days staff had the opportunity to download the Panic Button app which is an app that can be used for communication during a variety of situations that may arise in the buildings. At the certified in-service our content teams also had time to meet to discuss and revise curriculum, set goals, and address the needs of their specific content area.

September 26th In-Service

During our September 26th in-service our elementary teachers will have the implementation training for their new Envision Math series. The high school and middle school teachers will continue their work towards becoming trauma-informed with training provided by our resilience coaches and meeting with their content teams. We are looking forward to a great day of professional learning.

PreACT Assessments 8/9

Again this year the state will be providing the PreACT 8/9 free of charge for all 9th grade students. These assessments will help prepare students for the ACT and also allow us to measure the effectiveness of our instruction and curriculum as we look at growth from 9th grade to 11th grade. The testing window for the PreACT 8/9 is October 3-November 11, 2022. Visit the PreACT 8/9 FAQ [at this link to learn more.](#)

Social Emotional Character Development

Aligned with the Kansas Can Vision our district continues to focus on measuring and supporting student's social emotional character development. We continue to monitor our Kansas Communities that Cares data at the building and district level. At the elementary and middle school level again this year we will implement the Second Step Program.

At the high school level (9-12) we are utilizing the [College and Career Competency Framework](#). Again this year we are focusing on the following competencies at each grade level:

- Self-Regulation - Freshman Assertiveness - Sophomores
- Conflict Management – Juniors
- Self-Efficacy - Seniors