

KAIRS Today Summer 2016

This is the electronic newsletter of the Kansas Association of Religious and Independent Schools (KAIRS). *KAIRS Today* is sent as a service to KAIRS members across Kansas. Each issue will also be available on the KAIRS website at <http://www.kairs.org/>.

Our goal is to keep you informed about legislative, regulatory and national news, and educational issues. Contact Corey Reese, Communications Director and Editor, with questions or concerns – crkairs@yahoo.com.

Congratulations to all for the successful completion of another memorable school year. This is a wrap-up issue for our year. We also want to continue to encourage your teachers to attend the KAIRS Summer K-12 Teachers Conference, August 1-2 at the Cosmosphere. More information is given below. Have a blessed summer break and we'll look forward to seeing you in August. – the editor

Summer KAIRS TODAY:

- 1. KAIRS K-12 TEACHERS CONFERENCE, “SCIENCE, TECH & COSMIC CURRICULA,” AUG 1-2 AT COSMOSPHERE – STILL TIME TO REGISTER**
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- 3. KU SPONSORING CYBER SECURITY CAMP FOR KANSAS TEACHERS – ALL COSTS COVERED – AUGUST 9/10**
- 4. NEW STUDENT TEACHER PROGRAM IN DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN KAIRS SCHOOLS AND EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY**
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Visit the KAIRS (Kansas Association for Independent and Religious Schools) Facebook page and LIKE us! If your teachers attend the KAIRS Summer K-12 Teachers Conference in August you might see their photo posted from the event!

KAIRS K-12 TEACHERS CONFERENCE, “SCIENCE, TECH & COSMIC CURRICULA,” AUG 1-2 AT COSMOSPHERE – STILL TIME TO REGISTER!!

KAIRS 2016 K-12 Teachers Conference, "Science, Tech & Cosmic Curricula"

The 2016 KAIRS K-12 Teachers Conference, “Science, Tech & Cosmic Curricula: Stronger Thru Community Connections,” will be hosted by the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson, August 1-2. Registration ends Tuesday, July 26.

Encourage your teachers to attend! It’s a great value: the \$30 registration fee includes lunch both days. The location is unique: the Cosmosphere is hosting the event.

College credit is available again this year: Friends University is offering one credit hour for attending.

For our ACSI Schools - Thanks to the leadership of Tony Ryff, Ed S, Academic Dean for Trinity Academy in Wichita, teachers and administrators from ACSI schools will earn 2 Education CEUs for attending the conference.

Keynote speaker, Janet Ivey, creator of “Janet’s Planet,” a dynamic science, space, history and health series, brings more than two decades of award-winning multi-media science education and programming. She will give two inspiring keynote presentations and several exciting breakout sessions.

There are motivational breakout session speakers:

Brad Nuest, Space Science Educator and Scout Program Manager, Cosmosphere

Mimi Meredith, Vice President of Development, Cosmosphere

Traci Kallhoff, Education Manager, Exploration Place

Registration ends Tuesday, July 26!! \$30 per person includes lunch both days. Hotels are listed on the attached registration flier.

Questions? Contact Dr. Jamie Finkeldei, Associate Superintendent, Catholic Diocese of Wichita, finkeldej@catholicdioceseofwichita.org • 316-269-3950

STATE ACCREDITATION UPDATE FROM DR. NICK COMPAGNONE

On May 17, I attended the Kansas State Board of Education Meeting in Topeka. On the agenda was a report from the Kansas State Department of Education Staff discussing the framework of the new accreditation model (KESA).

The framework reported the following components:

1. The Five Standards developed by KSDE as the focus on school improvement.
2. Regulatory requirements for all accredited schools must be met.
3. Accreditation will focus on Systems rather than Individual Buildings
4. Accreditation will be on a Five-Year Cycle
5. Outside Visiting Teams will be required to validate data. (Teams will be trained and approved by KSDE)

KSBE was advised that full implementation would not take effect until 2017-2018 although district will be asked to start to prepare for the process starting the 2016-2017 school year. KSBE also was informed that the details of KESA has not been finalized and is still being studied by the Accreditation Advisory Council. KSDE was asking for approval of the framework and timeline. That approval was deferred until next month's

KSBE meeting.

After the presentation by staff of KSDE was given, one of the first questions that was asked by a board member related to the private schools in the state. One member recognized my presence and asked the question on the impact of the private schools in Kansas. Another board member asked the question if there would be flexibility to allow private schools to use other accreditation models, like AdvancED for example. The staff from KSDE responded that private schools would be able to use other models like AdvancED.

During the break several KSBE members approached me and asked me for my opinion on the progress with our discussions with KSDE. My response was that I was anxious to see how the final version of KESA would incorporate alternative accreditation. However we would be prepared to ask KSDE to support alternative accreditation as policy. There seemed to be general support from the members I talked with.

KU SPONSORING CYBER SECURITY CAMP FOR KANSAS TEACHERS – ALL COSTS COVERED – AUGUST 9/10

Attention KAIRS members – please pass this along to your teachers!! This is an opportunity for them to attend this camp for FREE!

The University of Kansas will host a National Science Foundation/National Security Agency (NSF/NSA) GenCyber Summer Camp on August 9th and 10th. The vision of the GenCyber program (Inspiring the Next Generation of Cyber Stars) is to be part of the solution to the Nation's shortfall of skilled cybersecurity professionals.

KU School of Engineering recently received an NFS grant to encourage high school students to pursue a degree in engineering/cyber security by offering full tuition to pursue this career path. Due to the incredible demand for cyber security specialists, this grant allows engineering students to receive a full-ride scholarship for the last two years of their education and get a job with the government.

Part of the grant is to host a two-day cyber security camp for area teachers. For educators traveling, mileage and lodging are paid for by the grant. Educators need to arrange their own lodgings and will be reimbursed.

Schedule

August 9th, Morning: Lectures on the First Principles of Security: Domain Separation; Process Isolation; Resource Encapsulation; Modularity; Least Privilege; Abstraction; Data Hiding; Layering; Conceptually Simple; Minimization.

August 9th Afternoon: Lectures on Cyber Defense: Different operating systems; common services and their purpose; basic administration; basic red team tactics. Preparation for cyber defense competition (work with student assistants): get familiar with the systems provided by the white team; configure and harden the systems; identify possible vulnerabilities (including malicious account/service/software deployed by the white team).

August 10th: Full day of a red/blue team exercise.

Register at <http://sfs.ku.edu/>. Registrations are accepted until August 8. For additional information, contact Noelle Uhler, CyberCorps: Scholarship for Service at KU, University of Kansas School of Engineering, 785-864-4171, www.engr.ku.edu.

NEW STUDENT TEACHER PROGRAM IN DEVELOPMENT BETWEEN KAIRS SCHOOLS AND EMPORIA STATE UNIVERSITY

A new program for Emporia State University (ESU) teacher education majors during their senior year has opened up the opportunity for these students to spend four weeks in a KAIRS member school as a student teacher.

Ken Weaver, Dean, The Teachers College, Emporia State University, at the invitation of Dr. Nick Compagnone, KAIRS President and Dr. Leo Pauls, KAIRS Public Policy Liaison, attended the KAIRS Annual Administrator Conference in February to provide details. Matt Lindsey, President, Kansas Independent College Association accompanied Dean Weaver.

“I much appreciate the developing partnership between Emporia State and KAIRS schools to create student teaching placements for our students who are considering teaching in a private school environment,” he said. “The opportunity also allows the KAIRS schools to observe a prospective teacher in an authentic environment.”

A key element of the program highlights the options now available to the ESU students who have completed the 12 weeks of student teaching required by the state of Kansas to attain a BSE and licensure. One of the choices can be to spend four weeks at a KAIRS school once their student teaching is finished.

The creation of this unique collaboration began when ESU students wanted to explore using this month-long period for a variety of programs, including studying abroad, teaching in other parts of the country, or in different types of school in Kansas. A meeting between Dean Weaver and Dr. Compagnone, Superintendent of the Catholic Diocese of Salina, broadened these options to include KAIRS member schools.

Following up the February KAIRS conference, Dean Weaver and Dr. Pauls met with Terry Tilson, Headmaster, Berean Academy, last spring to discuss future participation. Mr. Tilson said, “It’s a unique program and I hope it is successful. The keys for us are that the ESU student fits in with our criteria and also, we still want student teaching to meet a certain level.”

The Teachers College is working on a one-page agreement between KAIRS schools and ESU. Dean Weaver said, “Berean Academy is the first KAIRS school to express an interest in having an ESU student teacher and Terry Tilson is currently reviewing the agreement.”

Once the agreement is signed, a short description of the school will be requested in order that the prospective ESU student can review it to make an informed decision about the four-week placement. Dean Weaver said the KAIRS school may also want to interview the student before finalizing the placement.

The dates for student teachers are the second week of November through December, and April through May. Dean Weaver anticipates ESU students being in KAIRS schools in the spring of 2017.

Interested administrators who would like to explore having ESU students in their schools can contact Dean Weaver at 620-341-5552 or kweaver@emporia.edu.

KAIRS ANNUAL ADMINISTRATOR'S MEETING, FEBRUARY 13-14

The KAIRS Annual Administrator's Meeting will be held February 13-14, 2017 in Topeka. The Hall of Fame Banquet will continue to be held at that meeting on Monday evening, February 13.

IMPORTANT 2016-2017 DATES

August 1-2, 2016: KAIRS K-12 Teachers Conference, "Science, Tech & Cosmic Curricula: Stronger Thru Community Connections," Cosmosphere, Hutchinson.
September 28-29, 2016: AdvancED Annual Kansas Fall Conference, Wichita. Pre-meeting for all private schools – September 30.
October 24-26, 2016: KSDE Annual Conference; Preconference, Monday, Oct. 24; Main Conference, Tuesday, Oct 25 – Wednesday, Oct 26
November 18, 2016: ACSI and Independent School's Distinguished Teacher nominations due to Jamie Finkeldei.
November 18, 2016: Hall of Fame nominees due to Kim Cochran
December 9, 2016: Catholic and Lutheran School's Distinguished Teacher finalist names due to Jamie Finkeldei.
February 13-14, 2017: KAIRS Annual Administrator's Meeting, Topeka
March 2017: Early Childhood Conference, TBA
Summer 2017: K – 12 Teacher's Conference TBA

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