

KISA RETREAT
Holiday Inn – Big Rapids
April 23 & 24, 2015

**“WORKING TOGETHER TO INCREASE ACHIEVEMENT FOR
EACH CHILD IN KENT COUNTY”**

OUTCOMES

- Address our career/college ready goal through coordinated efforts to prepare students and staff for the SAT, implement Pre-SAT diagnostic tools and use them to improve student achievement
- Learn from our colleagues their experiences with early/middle college credit in high school and discuss ways to extend the experience countywide, through individual and regional efforts
- Better define the work we’re doing, and the results of those efforts, toward our student-centered goals of kindergarten readiness, third-grade reading proficiency, eighth-grade math proficiency and career/college ready graduates

Thursday, April 23, 2015

8:30 – 9:00 **Continental Breakfast**

9:00 – 9:10 **Welcome / Introductions**
 Agenda Review / Revision

Kevin Konarska

9:10-Noon **Secondary programs/initiatives**

The pendulum is swinging back to secondary with the introduction of the SAT, a renewed commitment to WorkKeys/NCRC and continuing efforts to provide early college credit and our own student-centered goal of career/college ready graduates. We’ll spend the morning drilling down into:

- SAT/Summer Seminar with the College Acceleration Network
Mark Thomas and Dorothy Vanderjagt will share the work we’ve done to introduce the SAT and College Board diagnostic tools to secondary principals, as well as share plans to create a cohort of secondary principals/buildings working together through the College Acceleration Network in a Harvard Change Model to improve student performance on the Michigan Merit Exam.
- National Career Readiness Certificate
While we’re focused on the Michigan Merit Exam, we should revisit WorkKeys and the National Career Readiness Certificate. Every 11th grade student taking the WorkKeys tests next year will receive a certificate if they qualify, which will may bring pressure on schools to issue certificates as they do diplomas. Northview and Byron Center are planning to do that this year. In addition, our major employers are now rediscovering and rallying around the NCRC as a recruitment, retention and retraining tool.

Mark Thomas is a member of the Workforce Development Board and chair of the Education Advisory Group. He'll discuss the renewed interest in these tests and the NCRC credential.

- **Early/Middle College**
We've well-established early and middle college programs in several of our districts and several others are exploring them. Those operating these programs will share what they've learned and we'll use this opportunity for others to ask questions and determine how they might offer early college courses to students, either as a standalone program in their high school, in conjunction with a neighboring district or as part of a regional consortium. Mike Shibler, Tom Reeder and Jerry Hopkins will lead the discussion, and we'll be joined by Deedee Stakely of Ferris State University, who heads the FSU concurrent credit effort and started a state chapter of the national concurrent credit organization. We'll also share data identifying the credits already being earned across Kent ISD through the various programs now underway.
- **College Clearinghouse Data/College Ready**
College clearinghouse data helps us better understand the percentage of our students who are truly college ready when they leave our districts. We'll also share data collection and development of career-ready profiles. Both will provide proof-points toward our college/career readiness goal. As we move forward with this data collection, it would be well for us to identify those students who have earned credit in high school to validate our belief early exposure to the rigor of college classwork will result in students who perform better than those without that exposure and have a higher graduation rate in a shorter period of time.

12:00-1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00-1:45 MASA President Chris Wigent Kevin Konarska/Chris Wigent
There's a new troika of education leadership in Lansing, with Brian Whiston selected as the state superintendent, former Ottawa Area ISD Superintendent Karen McPhee as the governor's education advisor and Chris Wigent recently selected as head of the Michigan Association of School Administrators. Chris will join us to share his thoughts on the future of MASA and to gather your feedback on the organization.

1:45-2:30 Reading Now Network Tom Reeder/Dorothy VanderJagt
We completed the first 18 months of the Reading Now Network and participating districts received rave reviews for the work. What's next for this initiative and how do we apply what we've learned here to our other student focused goals?

2:30-2:45 Break

- 2:45-3:30** **8th Grade Math** **Bill Smith**
What we're learning about algebra readiness through our new assessment may make 8th-grade math/algebra readiness the likely suspect for our next major initiative. Assuming the all-day kindergarten, early childhood and RNN/early literacy initiatives pay off with less need for remediation in the early grades, can we replicate what we've done with reading to boost math scores?
- 3:30-4:00** **Your Turn** **All**
We'll go around the table and give each of you the opportunity to follow up on topics discussed earlier in the day, provide a committee update or share an issue with your colleagues. Among the topics recommended were the school calendar, professional development days, negotiations and merit pay.
- 5:00** **Hospitality – Kevin Konarska's Room/Leisure Time**
- 7:00** **Dinner at the Blue Cow, transportation courtesy of Ferris State University** (meet near main lobby entrance at 6:45)

Friday Agenda on Following Page

Friday, October 17, 2014

7:30-8:50 **Breakfast on your own (Sporting News Grill/formerly Bennigan's)**

9:00-9:45 **Legislative/Proposal 1** **Mike Shibler/Chris Glass/Ron Koehler**
Legislative activity has taken something of a backseat to the Proposal 1 ballot initiative, as budget bills wait to be passed or amended based on the election outcomes. Other legislation is moving slowly, although there is some activity on educator evaluation and a proposal to eliminate February elections. We'll bring you up to date and discuss the final push for voter information on Proposal 1.

9:45-10:30 **Collaboration Committee – Ethan Ebenstein/Glen Finkel/Mike Hagerty**
Security Audit and SE Trend Data

The KTAC Security Task Force has produced a set of policies, guidelines, and procedures to our districts establish strong cyber security practices. This is a first step in helping our districts keep up in the rapidly changing areas of security and privacy. Additionally, the team will provide you with questions that you can ask your staff to gauge the risk in your district. In addition, trend data will be shared on special education student enrollment and costs.

10:30–10:45 **Break**

10:45-11:30 **GSRP/TS Gold/KEA Exit Data** **Mike Ghareeb**
We'll share kindergarten readiness data from the TS Gold assessment of GSRP students, recap GSRP for this year and provide a preview for 2015-16.

11:30-11:45 **Wrap Up** **Kevin Konarska/All**
We'll discuss the work completed during the course of our retreat and the next steps required to move forward.

11:45 **Adjourn/Box Lunch**

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