

KGTC President's Letter

February 21, 2020

Good Day,

I hope this finds most of you have completed Parent Teacher Conferences and are well on your way to wrapping up yet another quick quarter for the 2019-2020 school year. We had a great turn out and a really suburb retreat in January at the Gulfer's Mansion in Emporia, and most everybody was able to attend. The KGTC Executive Board meetings for the year have been confirmed for Emporia State University in Visser Hall, room 221 (Faculty Lounge) and has been reserved from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM for the following dates:

Saturday, March 28, 2020

Saturday, June 27, 2020

Saturday, August 22, 2020

Saturday, November 14, 2020

There is no charge for the room and Visser Hall and the faculty lounge doors should be unlocked by 9:00 AM. We are asked to return the arrangement of chairs and tables, clean off tables and counter tops if used for eating, and close the doors. If needed, we can call Connie at 316.737.2405. I like to share any and all information just in case I was not able to attend that day, the board would have a follow-up plan. Thank you to Dr. Connie Phelps and Jessica LaFollette for arranging our meeting place.

Dr. Phelps would like to attend executive meetings as Historian whenever possible but also stated her post-sabbatical schedule this semester seems pretty intense with out-of-state and possibly international travel. She would also like to propose a transition for the Historian position—and herself—into a combined position as an ex-officio (non-voting) liaison between the Great Plains Center for Gifted Studies and KGTC. The GPC-GS already serves an archival capacity for KGTC within the Historian position. Also, the center conducts research that complements the mission of KGTC and broadens its reach. If permitted, she suggested drafting a new position description in consultation with Jessica and myself for approval at the March board meeting.

Our next information comes from Robyn Aeschliman, from the January 23, 2020 KLFA (Kansas Learning First Alliance) Meeting. National Public School Week, Leah Fliter (KASB) February 24-28, 2020. The URL takes you to the site with media information you can use at the local level to promote this week. <https://aasa.org/uploadedFiles/Resources/PublicSchoolsWeek2020Toolkit.pdf> In addition, there will be a presence at the Capitol on February 26 from 8:30-4:30 on the 2nd Floor Rotunda. A number of education-related groups will be in attendance. Students are welcome to attend to share their experiences. There are also tables for organizations if they wish to display information. Posters, photographs, etc are welcome. Contact Leah Fliter at KASB to bring students or provide information relevant to the organization. Other ideas: share former student successes who have made an impact (career, volunteer work, etc...), write letters to the editor, twitter and FB posts, and PSAs. The next meeting will be April 9, 2020. For more information, visit: <https://klfa.org>

Several Regional Conferences are in the making and Region #5 just had their conference on Monday, February 17th in the afternoon at Maize High School. Close to a dozen attendees received information presented by KSDE and TASN on “Identification of Underrepresented Populations”. It was a very informative afternoon and greatly appreciated. Additional information can be found at <https://www.ksdetasn.org/resources/2506>.

Region #2 information will be added to the KGTC webpage and shared as it is in the final stages of being scheduled.

Region #3 conference is scheduled for Saturday, April 4, 2020 in Kansas City. MO.

Region #4 conference is scheduled for Thursday, April 9 in Garden City.

Region #6 is scheduled for Monday, March 30th, in Joplin MO, at Missouri Southern State University with Brandi Klepper and Tracy Elford. April 6th is a back-up plan in case of inclement weather.

I have updated information on the shared Google Doc for KGTC Conference History. I especially added additional information to the “Regional conferences” and encourage you to do so as well. This doc will serve as a wonderful resource when we are thinking of ideas or looking for presenters. I’ve also shared an updated Google sheet of “Gifted Board of Directors” via’ the KGTCPresident20.21@gmail.com new email, with the latest and updated email addresses.

Have a great weekend and until we meet again, do a random act of kindness to someone you do not know. 😊

Sincerely,

Connie Staley,

KGTC President