Kansas Blueprint for Literacy
Teach Every Child to Read

Empower Subcommittee
9/10/25 Minutes

COMMITTEE PURPOSE: Serve as lead learners focus on best practices for literacy preparation and training; policy recommendations; research and strategies to advance educator expertise in literacy; monitor progress of the implementation of Imperative 2 – Empower strategies in the strategic plan.

The committee meet on September 10, 2025, as part of the Quarterly Blueprint for Literacy Advisory Committee. The meeting was held at Pittsburg State University.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Carolyn Carlson, Dr. Brooke Moore, Amber Pagan, Dr. David Fernkopf, Dr. David Hurford, Dr. Cynthia Lane, and Senator Pat Pettey. Members participating virtually: Dr. Kim Moody (Wilson), Dr. Charlene Laramore, Laurie Winter, Jerri Powers (representing Dr. Laurie Curtis), Representative Susan Estes. Members Absent: Deb Farr. Jeanine Phillips has resigned her position on the Advisory Committee as did not participate in the meeting.

WELCOME, COMMITTEE PURPOSE, INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS:

Dr. David Hurford called the meeting to order and welcomed the sub-committee members. Each member was asked to introduce themselves.

Dr. Hurford as for a motion to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2025 meeting. The motion for approval was made by Dr. Carlson, second by Dr. Fernkopf. The minutes were approved unanimously with no further discussion.

TOPIC DISCUSSION:

1. Dr. Lane facilitated the committee discussion of the Research Advisory: Literacy Teacher Preparation (International Literacy Association and National Council of Teachers of English 2017). The 4 A's protocol was utilized to structure the conversation.

The committee noted that the article was written in 2017, and asked the question "What do we know now?" This question is important, noting the evolving policy landscape. The committee identified two areas for continued discussion: 1) General Education degree course requirements and 2) System alignment and all components to include Field experience hours and quality; mentor teacher qualification, willingness to serve as a mentor teacher, training, schedule challenges between institutions, resources and skills.

The areas identified in the discussion will be included in upcoming committee agendas for continued discussion and exploration

2. The committee reviewed a summary of the Systemwide Analysis of Curriculum Mapping for Elementary Education Licensure Programs. A good distribution of instructional methods was noted. Instructional methods examined include Lecture, Readings, Evaluation/Assignment, and Field Experience. The most dominate method noted in the report was Lecture, followed by Evaluation/Assignment, Readings, and

lastly Field Experience. The outcome of the discussion resulted in the need to further refine categories capture the information intended and to consider breaking out field experience in a continuum.

3. Refine the committee's definition of 'high-impact literacy instruction; and develop a vision for "high quality literacy preparation was tabled due to time constraints.

Dr. Hurford adjourned the committee meeting at 1:30

Upcoming Empower Sub-Committee Meetings – Virtual Only
October 13
November 10
January 12, 2026
February 9
April 13

Upcoming Full Advisory Committee Meetings – In Person		
• December 10, 2025	10:00 – 3:30	Kansas State University
• March 11, 2026	10:00 – 3:30	Wichita State University
• May 20, 2026	10:00 – 3:30	Washburn University

10/13/25 – Motion to approve the minutes was made by Dr. Charlene Laramore, second by Amber Pagan with unanimous approval as written.