

Candidates for LF KS Board



Election for Learning Forward Kansas Board ~ April 10, 2012

Election for members of the 2012-2013 Learning Forward Kansas Board

will be held at the LF KS Leadership Conference
on the morning of April 10, 2012. All LF KS members are eligible to vote.



President-Elect **Jill Lachenmayr**

Current Work Position: Asst. Supt. for Human Services, Newton USD 373

Professional Experience: Director of Elementary Programs, Newton USD 373; Principal, Newton USD 373; Elementary Teacher, Newton USD 373; Elementary Teacher, Hutchinson USD 308; Member of Learning Forward Academy of 2012; Learning Forward Kansas Secretary, Newton Area Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, Cognitive Coaching Agency Trainer, KSDE State Assessment Monitoring Visit Representative, KSDE Title I School-wide Application Reader

Education: District Leadership Program, WSU; Master of Educational Administration, WSU; Bachelor of Science, Emporia State University

I believe professional learning is critical to the success of our schools and most importantly, student learning. We must do everything in our power to ensure that every educator engages in effective professional learning by creating the conditions that result in aligning the work and learning of adults around improving the learning of every student. Learning Forward Kansas is a powerful way to collaborate with educators across Kansas to make professional learning an integral part of successful learning schools.



Ever heard of E6?

Every educator engages in effective professional learning every day so every student achieves.

Secretary

Vicki Bechard



Current Work Position: School Improvement Specialist, Southeast Kansas Education Service Center (Greenbush)

Professional Experience: Educational Consultant; Kansas Learning Network Fellow; Trainer for DIBELS, AIMS-Web, KPALSS, TESA, On Watch; Developed Professional Learning for the following topics: Collaborative Conversations (PLCs), Common Core, Differentiated Instruction, Effective Instructional Strategies, Literacy in the Content Areas, Mentoring, and Teaching Students in Poverty; K-12 teacher, school improvement leader, MAP coordinator, book study leader, athletic director, interim principal, athletic coach, adjunct instructor for Highland Community College; Presenter at conferences including *Learning Forward*, *KSDE*, *USA*, and *NCA*; Board Member and Awards Chairperson for *Learning Forward Kansas*

Education: B.S. Physical Education, Kansas State; M.S. in Educational Leadership, Emporia State

I believe that professional learning must be collaborative, engaging, based on effective practices, reflective, and on going. The impact of teaching on learning is dependent upon our ability as educators to take what we learn, apply it to the classroom, and continually refine our practice. Improving teaching and learning is what I do; what I believe is key to future achievement; and what Learning Forward can do for the teachers and students of Kansas through our vision, leadership and support. Given my past experience as a teacher representative for Learning Forward Kansas, and as a past recipient of District Staff Developer of the Year Award, I believe I can once again contribute to this mission by serving as Secretary of Learning Forward Kansas.



Principal Representative

Jo McFadden

Current Work Position: Principal, Graber Elementary, USD 308

Professional Experience: Middle School Instructional Coach, Middle School Algebra and Geometry, Adjunct professor for Newman University teaching English as a Second Language endorsement program, Baldrige criteria, Kagan Cooperative Learning, Cognitive Guided Instruction, Teaching with Rigor and Relevance, Ruby Payne trainer, ASQ- Koalaty Kids trainer, Presenter at conferences, including NCA, KSDE and NMSA.

Education: Bachelors in Elementary Education, Wichita State; Masters in Administrative Leadership, Wichita State; ESL endorsement.

Staff development is a very important piece that leads to improved student learning. It is our responsibility to encourage our students to be life long learners, as well as to continually research and implement best practices in order to improve student achievement. I have served two years as a board member for Learning Forward as the Principal representative. I am also currently the Membership chair and the 2013 Leadership Conference chair. I have a love for curriculum, instruction and staff development, and would like to serve as a board member for Learning Forward for another term.

KSDE Representative

Pam Coleman



Current Work Position: Director of Teacher Education and Licensure

Professional Experience: Teacher, Principal, Assistant Superintendent, Higher Education Faculty, DOE Employee

Education: BA, M.Ed., Ed.S., Currently working on doctorate

The primary purpose of high-quality professional learning is to improve teaching and learning supporting the district's theory of instruction. Professional learning opportunities should be both job-embedded as well as personal professional learning. It is the ethical responsibility of LF KS to support the third edition of the national Standards for Professional Learning, which defined the essential elements of and conditions for professional learning. LF KS is the state voice advocating for strong educator support.

Teacher B Representative

Kristin Meyer



Current Work Position: School Improvement Specialist

Previous Professional Experience: Third grade teacher

Education: Master's in Science of School Leadership

Professional learning reflects a cycle of necessary recurrent improvement to increase educator effectiveness resulting in amplified student achievement. To shape this capacity for learning, educational leaders must be willing to take risks and insight change. Student learning will increase tenfold in educational systems that promote professional learning, dig deep to provide research based resources, and determine ways to prevent abandonment of these imperative practices.

Representative B East of 281

Karen Brack



Current Work Position: Director of Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment, Spring Hill USD 230

Professional Experience: Language Arts teacher, Paola High School; Assistant Principal, Spring Hill High School

Education: BS in Education: Concordia College, Seward, NE; MS in Educational Leadership: Pittsburg State; EdD in Educational Leadership: Saint Louis University

For students to reach their potential, teachers must also participate in learning that is rigorous and relevant.

Representative B West of 281

Suzan Patton



Current Work Position: Assistant Superintendent, Pratt-USD 382 and Cunningham USD 332

Previous Professional Experience: Assistant Principal Maize High School

Education: Wichita State University and Ft. Hays State, Will begin doctoral program at WSU in fall of 2012

Because of Learning Forward Kansas, I have had the opportunity to collaborate with many of the state's best curriculum leaders. I have grown personally and professionally through this organization. As we all know, the most effective resource in raising student achievement is the classroom teacher. However, even the best teacher needs top quality job-embedded professional learning in order to respond to changing data, new research and emerging technologies. The LF KS standards have helped me develop a professional learning culture in my district that is benefitting teachers and students. I am excited to continue my affiliation with this great organization.

Service Center Representative

Lori Jensen



Current Work Position: Education Consultant, Service Center at ClearWater

Professional Experience: Developed workshops on assessments, instructional strategies, curriculum alignment, inclusion, crisis response, Classroom Coach, Facilitated Support Group for Principals, MTSS Certified Trainer

Education: BSE in Secondary EMH, TMH, and Psychology, Emporia State University; MSE, Curriculum & Instruction, Emporia State University

My name is Lori Jensen and I'm education consultant in my 12th year at The Service Center @ ClearWater. I have provided a variety of services for our member districts in the area of curriculum, instruction, assessment and crisis response. I live in Anthony and am a proud momma of two beautiful and bright girls.

My experience with school and district leadership and professional development has been varied and vast throughout my career. I have developed in-services and workshops on assessments, instructional strategies, curriculum alignment, inclusion, crisis response and several other topics. In 2008, I began my work to become an MTSS Certified Trainer. I currently assist 17 districts with their MTSS trainings in math, reading and behavior at elementary, middle school and high school levels. I have served as a classroom coach for four different districts over the past two years. For five years, I facilitated a support group for principals based on their leadership needs and school reform. I have assisted schools in their school-improvement process through writing of plans, data analysis, goal writing, strategy implementation training and school-improvement team leadership. I view coaching as my primary task as a consultant.