

## **AUGUST 2006**

Welcome to KAIRS Today 2006-07.

This is the monthly 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 Web site at <http://www.kairs.org/>.

Our goal is to keep you informed about legislative, regulatory and national news, and educational issues. Please look for this on the 20th of each month.

Contact Corey Reese, editor, with questions or concerns – [crkairs@yahoo.com](mailto:crkairs@yahoo.com).

### **THE AUGUST ISSUE:**

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### **WELCOME FROM NICK COMPAGNONE, KAIRS PRESIDENT**

Welcome back to all KAIRS members – old and new. The school year is underway and every new year is exciting with high expectations. As I continue in the leadership of KAIRS - as your new president - I am reminded of the education mission of our KAIRS organization. In following up the past leadership of Karen Norton, it was decided to continue a focus on “Developing and Nurturing Our Schools.”

We also want to continue conversations with our colleagues at the State Department of Education. Members of the KAIRS executive committee, along with Bob Voboril, Public Policy Liaison, met in late spring with Bob Corkins, Commissioner of Education. It was both interesting and productive. We would like to further pursue the issues of accreditation, teacher professional development, as well as coordinating federal programs. We found Mr. Corkins to be innovative and well versed on the issues of education.

In the area of development, workshops are being planned in the following areas:

1. Establishing a Public Relations Plan
2. Estate Planning

### 3. Strategic Planning

We are setting up dates for these workshops, which will be coordinated with our business meetings. My goal is to shorten the business meetings and focus on professional development. As soon as those dates are set, we will get those to you.

Our first Membership Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 12 in Salina. Sister Carol Cimino, Ed.D, who is with the [William H. Sadlier Textbook Publishing Company](#), will speak to us on creating public relations plans for our schools. She is an outstanding speaker and I know we will all benefit from her presentation.

Other important dates: The Annual Meeting in Topeka is scheduled for February 12 and 13.

The Annual Meeting is always a highlight of our year. We are already working on scheduling speakers and pursuing topics of interest. Please email me at [nickcom@aol.com](mailto:nickcom@aol.com) if you have topics you'd like to see covered at our February meeting.

Please also be thinking of your nominations for Distinguished Teacher, which will be due in late November. Finally, if you have any nominations for Hall of Fame, they will be due in November, as well.

As always, we want to hear from you. So please contact me, or any member of the Executive Committee. Pam Nummela joins the Executive Committee as vice president. She is the principal at Bethany Lutheran School in Overland Park. We welcome back David Swank (Treasurer), Bill Dieckhoff (Secretary) and Shelli Kadel (Annual Meeting Secretary) as they continue in their positions from last year.

I look forward to seeing you at meetings and working for improving education for all our students in Kansas.

-Nick Compagnone, KAIRS President

### **OCTOBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING – NATIONAL CONSULTANT CAROL CIMINO – Establishing a Public Relations Plan**

Please plan to attend the KAIRS General Membership meeting on October 12. This is a departure from the usual September membership meeting, but we wanted to host a talented speaker who would address the pertinent issue of public relations and schools.

Following a brief business meeting, Sister Carol Cimino, SSJ, Ed.D, a national consultant for the [William H. Sadlier Company](#), textbook publisher, will guide our

membership in the process of establishing a workable and effective public relations plan.

Sister Carol is a Sister of Saint Joseph of Rochester, New York. She also co-directs the Catholic School Leadership Institute at Manhattan College. According to her website ([srcarol.com](http://srcarol.com)), previously she was a development director for three high schools. She has been a teacher and an administrator at several levels of Catholic education. Sister Carol continues to teach and give workshops on the marketing of Catholic Schools.

**From Sister Carol's website, [srcarol.com](http://srcarol.com):**

"Sister Carol has written numerous articles for education journals. Her book, *Ensuring a Future Full of Hope*, has been used by parent groups and boards to assist in recruitment efforts. She has written a series of [thumbnail pamphlets](#), which were published by [National Catholic Education Association \(NCEA\)](#) to help school boards become more effective, and her tuition manual, *Life's Other Certainty*, is used by schools of several religious denominations.

"Sister Carol travels the country giving talks and workshops. Although she has given hundreds of these, however, she is proudest of the fact that she is still the only religious woman to have been a 3-day champion on "Jeopardy!"

"[Continuing to Ensure a Future Full of Hope](#), by Sister Carol, was recently published by NCEA and is available on their website."

## **NEW KAIRS PRESIDENT AND BOARD MEMBER**

KAIRS would like to welcome our new president, Nick Compagnone, Ph.D and our newest board member Pam Nummela. Dr. Compagnone is not new to the KAIRS Board, as he has served as vice president, treasurer and co-annual meeting secretary. He is the superintendent of schools for the Salina Catholic School District and the principal of St. Mary's elementary school in Salina.

Mrs. Nummela joins the KAIRS Board for her first term of service. She is the principal of Bethany Lutheran School in Overland Park. Welcome!

## **PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE: Education Acts Updated**

Please note these updates from the Office of Non-Public Education. (*Liaison to the private school community for the U.S. Department of Education.*)

## **President Bush Signs the Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006**

On Saturday, August 12, 2006, President George W. Bush signed into law the ***Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement Act of 2006***, which reauthorizes the U.S. Department of Education's vocational and technical education programs. The act is designed to help develop more fully the academic, career and technical skills of high school and postsecondary students who enroll in career and technical education programs.

In a [press release](#), U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings stated that Congress deserves credit for making some needed reforms to the ***Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education*** programs. "For the first time, Career and Technical Education [CTE] programs will be held accountable for continuous improvement in performance, measured by the academic proficiency of CTE students. Success will be determined through valid and reliable tests, including *No Child Left Behind* assessments in reading, math and science. These changes will help ensure that students graduate with the academic skills valued by employers and colleges alike."

### **Provision for Private School Personnel and Students**

In this reauthorization, the provision regarding the participation of private school personnel has been slightly modified, and new provisions addressing the participation of private school secondary students and consultation with private school officials have been added.

Provisions for the participation of private school personnel and students in the act include:

**Personnel:** To the extent practicable, and upon written request from private school representatives, local educational agencies (LEAs) may provide professional development programs for career and technical education for private school personnel.

**Students:** Except as prohibited by State or local law, LEAs, upon written request from private school representatives, may provide for the meaningful participation in career and technical education programs and activities of secondary private school students who reside in the geographical area served by the LEA.

**Consultation:** Upon written request from private school representatives, an LEA shall in a timely and meaningful manner consult with private school officials regarding the participation in career and technical education programs and activities of secondary private school students.

**KAIRS CENSUS FORMS**

Each year, KAIRS conducts a census of its membership and compiles it in a printed profile. The census forms will be sent out in early September. This year we hope to send them to you on-line, with the opportunity to fill them out and return them on-line as well.

### IMPORTANT 2006-07 KAIRS DATES

Oct 12: Quarterly Membership Meeting, Salina  
Feb 12-13: Annual Meeting, Topeka

### KAIRS 2006-07 OFFICERS

President: Nick Compagnone, Salina Catholic Diocese

Vice President: Pam Nummela, Bethany Lutheran School, Overland Park

Secretary: Bill Dieckhoff, Holy Cross Lutheran School, Wichita

Treasurer: David Swank, Trinity Academy, Wichita

Annual Meeting Secretary: Shelli Kadel, Wichita Friends School

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