

December 2007

Welcome to *KAIRS Today* 2007-08.

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. Contact Corey Reese, editor, with questions or concerns – crkairs@yahoo.com.

From the Editor: We will be changing our *KAIRS Today* schedule this year, as we move to five issues instead of 10.

We pray for a blessed Christmas and Happy New Year to all our members.

DECEMBER ISSUE:

1. ANNUAL MEETING – FEBRUARY 11 & 12
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ANNUAL MEETING - FEBRUARY 11 & 12

It's time to register for the KAIRS Annual Meeting in Topeka! The meeting is scheduled for February 11 and 12 and once again will feature outstanding speakers and timely topics. The meeting is a highlight of our year with not only excellent speakers, but also worthwhile interchanges between professional peers, an opportunity to honor our outstanding educators, and time for building professional relationships with other educators throughout the state.

One of our featured speakers will be Sister Carol Cimino SSJ, Ed.D, national consultant for the William H. Sadlier Company, textbook publisher. She also co-directs the Catholic School Leadership Institute at Manhattan College. Some may remember that she addressed a KAIRS General Membership meeting in October 2006, and is an extremely knowledgeable, energetic and engaging speaker. You won't want to miss her.

Sister Carol is a Sister of Saint Joseph of Rochester, New York. According to her website (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. Her book, *Ensuring a Future Full of Hope* has been used by

parent groups and boards to assist in recruitment efforts. Her tuition manual, *Life's Other Certainty*, is used by schools of several religious denominations.

The meeting will follow much of its traditional format with check-in beginning at 9 a.m. on Monday, February 11.

We begin our day with excellent speakers, exhibits and lunch. The afternoon will feature additional speakers and break-out sessions. The Hall of Fame Banquet follows at 6:30 p.m.

The Monday evening Hall of Fame Banquet is always highlighted by the presentation of the 2008 KAIRS Distinguished Teachers and Hall of Fame inductees. If you haven't attended one of these inspirational banquets, plan to do so this year.

Tuesday, February 12, will begin with breakfast and the annual business meeting. Roundtable discussions and discussions regarding accreditation will complete our meeting.

The two days - February 11 and 12 - will be filled with insightful speakers, good fellowship and spirited dialogue. You won't want to miss it. Register soon!

Registrations will be available on the website beginning the week of December 17.

NOVEMBER 13 MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of KAIRS meeting in Topeka – November 13, 2007

Nick opened the meeting with prayer.

The minutes were reviewed and MSP to accept the minutes as presented, with one typo correction.

Nick presented the treasurer's report from David Swank. MSP to accept the treasurer's report. Nick explained the need to encourage additional schools into membership. He presented a draft letter he intends to send to independent and religious schools of Kansas. Shelli suggested that Nick's letter be followed up with a personal phone call to those schools that have not yet submitted dues. It was suggested that KAIRS web site should be included on the letter. Larry Daugherty also recommended that we bullet list other points of interest regarding KAIRS.

Nick asked Bob Eggold (a KAIRS Founder) to give a recap of some of the history of KAIRS. Bob shared the past efforts of several individuals who gave of their time and energy in the early years of KAIRS, then known as KANS.

Nick noted that Staci Warren (Coordinator Educational Alternatives, Professional Learning Communities, Kansas Department of Education) had a conflict of schedule, which did not allow her to attend today's meeting. He also reported on the meeting held with Dr. Posny, Kansas Commissioner of Education. This was a favorable meeting allowing KAIRS members to present several items of interest and concern such as teacher licensing. We invited her to our annual meeting in February and she has yet to respond to the options given her.

Nick reported that Dr. Philip Kerstetter, president of Wesleyan College, sent information to other colleges regarding their potential participation in KAIRS. He will attend the annual meeting in February, and come with a recommendation from the colleges regarding their participation.

Nick reported on the NCA meeting he attended, noting that NCA is now a part of Advanced Ed. He reported on discussions with Nancy Bolz, Kansas director of NCA. Nick has been invited to the NCA meeting in Chicago. He suggested that Nancy Bolz come to our annual meeting for a breakout session. The intent would be to form KAIRS as an umbrella under Advanced Ed.

Nick asked Corey to update us on the census report. A database is being developed at this time and is scheduled to be included on the web site. Discussion centered on the questionnaire for schools and which items should be included or deleted.

Nick gave an update on the annual meeting plans. Congressman Moran has been invited; however, nothing has been confirmed at this time. Also, the agenda could include the U.S. Department of Education, Dr. Nancy Bolz, and Dr. Philip Kerstetter. Sister Carol Cimino has been asked to be the keynote speaker on Ministering the Mission.

Vendor presentations might include Smart Board 101, Pass Key, and the use of "clickers."

Other breakout sessions might include Sports as a Ministry, Health Initiatives, Hands on Science, and Future of High Schools.

Shelli presented several samples of potential agendas for the annual meeting.

Discussion addressed both costs of the annual meeting as well as what audience we're trying to reach, teachers or administrators, or both. MSP to raise the registration fee from \$75.00 to \$80.00 for the first person, and \$70.00 for each additional person from the same school.

We discussed the Hall of Fame and Teacher of the Year Awards.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill D. Dieckhoff, KAIRS Secretary

Those in attendance:

Nick Compagnone, KAIRS President

Shelli Kadel, KAIRS Annual Meeting Secretary

Bill Dieckhoff, KAIRS Secretary

Terry Tilson, KAIRS Vice President

Larry Daugherty, Secondary Principal, Maranatha Academy, Shawnee

Jim Bradshaw, Executive Director of Educational Services, Kansas District,
Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Bob Eggold, KAIRS Founder

Corey Reese, KAIRS Public Relations Director, via Internet

CORRECTION FROM LAST MONTH'S MEETING NOTES

We apologize for the mistake in last month's KAIRS Today – Larry Daughtery attended the KAIRS meeting, not Boyd Beck.

NEW KAIRS VICE PRESIDENT APPOINTED

Pam Nummela, KAIRS Vice President for the past year, has taken a new position at her church, and is no longer the principal of Bethany Lutheran School in Overland Park. At the October 2nd KAIRS meeting, the name of Terry Tilson, Superintendent, Berean Academy, was presented as a replacement for Pam, and it was accepted. Terry is the new Vice President of KAIRS. Thanks to Terry for his continued service to KAIRS.

CENSUS TO BE TAKEN VIA WEBSITE

We are currently working with technical advisors and hope to be able to tabulate our KAIRS Census information via our website in the next month or two. We'll keep you posted, but we're thankful to have such competent technical experts working on our project.

IMPORTANT 2007-08 KAIRS DATES

General Meetings

April 8, 2008 - 10 a.m.

Executive Board Meeting:

January 16, Wednesday, 10 am at the Wichita Catholic offices (Central and Broadway)

Annual Meeting
February 11 & 12, 2008

KAIRS 2007-08 OFFICERS

President: Nick Compagnone, Salina Catholic Diocese
nickcom@aol.com

Vice President: Terry Tilson, Head of School, Berean Academy
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Secretary: Bill Dieckhoff, Holy Cross Lutheran School, Wichita
Billdieckhoff@holycrosslutheran.net

Treasurer: David Swank, Trinity Academy, Wichita
swankd@trinityacademy.org

Annual Meeting Secretary: Shelli Kadel, Wichita Friends School
kadelshelli@juno.com

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