

KSNO Board Meets



“Team KSNO” working together for Kansas School Nurses

The winter KSNO Board meeting was held at Logan Elementary School in Topeka, Kansas on February 26th. Garrie Oppitz and Chris Tuck hosted the meeting. Twelve Board members drove through fog and some snowy streets to attend the annual winter board meeting. This number constituted a quorum and the meeting proceeded.

The Board Reports were available to members prior to the meeting on the Member’s Only site of www.ksno.org. Further explanation/questions were discussed for some of the reports. Some items discussed:

- Legislative- SB #51 (concerning the administration of over-the-counter medication) is back in the Education Committee. If passed, this bill would take the authority to establish an over-the-counter medication policy away from local authorities. It would be required to allow ALL over-the counter medication to be administered in schools with parental permission only. KSNO is opposing this bill. Two concerns are removing the right of local authority to establish policy that works best for the community and how “over-the-counter” medication is defined.
HB #2094- Reported to have died in committee (change in immunization exclusion).
SB #33- Treatment of head injuries in high school sports. There are attempts by many groups to raise the awareness of the seriousness of head injuries in school sports and the danger of a second impact. Cindy Galemore shared forms that were developed by the Olathe schools for coaches/parents to respond to head injuries.
- Board members were urged to encourage school nurses eligible for the KSNO educational scholarship to apply. To date, there have been no applicants.
- Cindy Galemore reported on the KSDNO School Nurse Ratio and School Nurse Building Ratio Study. Preliminary data shows that there is 1 FTE RN for every 647 students in Kansas. Cindy is going to check how Kindergarten students were counted in the State data and if children in school sponsored pre-school programs are included in the number totals. This may increase the ratio. It was reported that 57 (20%) of the 287 schools surveyed had no nurse on contract.

- An updated Ks Immunization Requirement School Nurse Tool created by the Olathe Schools in consultation with the Johnson County Health Department is now available on the KSNO website under Resources.
- KSNO discussed having a Facebook page. Information will be brought to the July meeting.
- The proposed budget for April 2011-March 31, 2012 was reviewed. \$2, 225 was trimmed from the proposed budget. A budget of \$11, 075 was approved for the upcoming fiscal year.
- KSNO board members are encouraged to recommend that any member interested in one of the following KSNO Board positions: Treasurer, Member-At-Large- Nominating Committee or Vice president, contact Mary Ann Shorman (Nominating Committee Chair). Duties associated with these positions can be found in the KSNO Operational Guidelines.

KSNO Polly Witt conducts the winter meeting while Secretary Amber Schmalzried records minutes.

