

# FALL FORUM

2022



KANSAS • MISSOURI  
Superintendents  
Leadership Forum

THANK YOU  
FOR  
ATTENDING

October 5-6, 2022  
Intercontinental Hotel, Kansas City, MO

# KMSLF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

along  
**leadership** a p

with the ability to direct or le  
the best or most successful  
guides, or inspires others

**President:** Dr. Curtis Cain, Rockwood

**Vice-President:** Dr. Renee Nugent, USD 409 Atchison

**Secretary-Treasurer:** Dr. Yolanda Cargill, Center School District

Dr. Richard Asbill, Bolivar R-I Schools

Dr. Fred Dierkson, USD 443 Dodge City

Linn Exline, USD 305 Salina

Tim Hallacy, USD 450 Shawnee Heights

Dr. Dale Herl, Independence 30 School District

Adrian Howie, USD 210 Hugoton

Dr. Michelle Hubbard, USD 512 Shawnee Mission

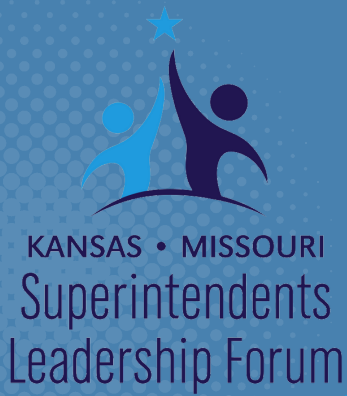
Dr. Kenny Rodriquez, Grandview C-4

Dr. Susan Wally, PREP-KC, Ex-officio

Dr. Bob Watkins, Ex-officio

## PURPOSE

THE PURPOSE OF THE KMSLF FORUM IS TO  
IMPROVE STUDENT LEARNING BY ASSISTING  
SUPERINTENDENTS TO BECOME MORE  
EFFECTIVE LEADERS.



# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2022 CORPORATE PARTNERS

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## **Achieve 3000**

*K-12 Digital Solutions*

## **BeneBloc**

*Administer Employee Benefits*

## **DLR Group**

*Architecture, Engineering and Planning*

## **Filament**

*SOCs Websites, Marketing, Branding*

## **Guin Mundorf, LLC**

*Legal Representation for Public Schools*

## **JE Dunn**

*Construction and Management*

## **Piper/Sandler**

*Public Finance*

## **The Core Collaborative**

*Learning Network*

## **The Kincaid Group**

*Kincaid Information Technology, ADS,  
Learning Resources, Safety, and Bus Transportation*

## **ThoughtExchange**

*Crowdsourcing Platform for Leaders*

## **TRANE Technologies**

*Energy Services & Building Performance*



**DR. MARION WILSON**  
Superintendent -  
District 31 - NYCDOE

Dr. Marion Wilson supports the district and school teams with her expertise in instructional leadership, strategic data analysis, evaluative feedback, equity initiatives, and organizational and systems thinking.



**CHRISTINE CHAVEZ**  
Deputy Superintendent -  
District 31 - NYCDOE

Christine Chavez - educator, optimist, mother and wife - holds a record of strategic leadership spanning innovative instructional practices that support both student and adult learning.

# Wednesday, October 5

## A G E N D A

**8:45 AM - 10:45 AM**

KMSLF Board of Directors Meeting-Pavilion 3

**10:00 AM - 11:30 AM**

Registration-Outside Salon 1

**11:00 AM - 11:40 AM**

New Member Orientation-Pavilion 3

- Dr. Susan Wally, CEO PREP-KC, Ex-officio Board Member, KMSLF Founder
- Dr. Bob Watkins, Ex-officio Board Member, KMSLF Founder

**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

Lunch-Salon 1A

**11:40 AM**

ThoughtExchange, Kevin Skelcher

## SESSION 1

**12:30 PM - 12:45 PM**

Call to Order & Welcome-Salon 1B

Dr. Curtis Cain, Rockwood School District  
President KMSLF Board of Directors

### Guiding Questions

- How do you evaluate principals and provide support for their leadership development?
- How do building principals contribute to your district's teacher retention and recruitment?
- How do your district's principals build cultures where teachers thrive?

**12:45 PM - 2:15 PM**

### "Collective Leadership, Efficacy, & Equity Through Collaborative Principal Inquiry"

- Dr. Marion Wilson & Christine Chavez

*Introduction- Sarah Stevens, Core Collaborative*

Join colleagues and leaders in an interactive and facilitated discussion on collective leadership efficacy through collaborative principal inquiry. Listen to effective research-based practices that will help build coherence across schools to promote equitable and sustainable student outcomes. Engage in conversations to formulate your own bridge-to-practice to implement strategic goals and tiered action plans to support principal leadership development.





### RON COX

Ron Cox, Kincaid CEO

Ron is extremely passionate about K-12 environments and ensuring staff and students have the safest learning space possible.



**JONATHAN RICHARD**  
TNTP Leadership Coach



**CAITLIN SHARP**  
TNTP Partner



Social time with colleagues!  
Great food and beverages!  
Tour the Stadium!  
Raffle Prizes!

- There will be ONE opportunity to return to the hotel from the venue @ 8:45 PM

# Wednesday, October 5

## A G E N D A

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**2:15 PM - 2:30 PM**

**Break**

**2:30 PM**

### **“School Campus Security: The Future is Now”**

- Ron Cox, Kincaid CEO
- Motorola Solutions Team

*Introduction: Dr. Yolanda Cargile, Center Schools, KMSLF Secretary-Treasurer*

Fact and a top concern within the United States—There were more mass shootings in the past five years than in any other half-decade since going back to 1966. Ron Cox, a former K-12 administrator with nearly 26 years' experience in facility design, capital improvements and risk mitigation, and his team will provide superintendents with a comprehensive look into current technology and devices being deployed around the United States in 2022 to help secure K-12 and higher education campuses. Devices will range from state-of-the-art gun detection systems, visitor management software, access controls, video recording options, notification systems, as well as facility audits.

**3:00 PM - 4:15 PM**

### **“Greenhouse Schools: How Schools Can Build Cultures Where Teachers Thrive”**

- Jonathan Richard, TNTP Leadership Coach
- Caitlin Sharp, TNTP Partner

*Introduction- Dr. Curtis Cain, Rockwood School District, KMSLF President*

**4:15 PM**

- BENELOC, David Wiggins & Andy Thayer
- DLR, Amber Beverlin
- DS Bus Lines, Derrick Dayton

**4:30 PM**

Closing Remarks, Suzan Patton, KMSLF Director

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## NETWORKING

**4:45 PM - 5:15 PM**

The Welcome Reception @ the Hotel Lobby Bar

**5:15PM**

Buses leave for Arrowhead Stadium

**6:00PM**

The KMSLF Partners invite you to an evening event at Arrowhead Stadium

# Thursday, October 6

## A G E N D A

7:00 AM-Salon 1A

**Breakfast**

7:15 AM - 7:50 AM

Business Partner Information

## SESSION 2

8:00 AM-Salon 1B

Call To Order

Dr. Curtis Cain, Rockwood School District,  
President KMSLF Board of Directors

### Guiding Questions: Reactive vs. Proactive?

- What plan or strategies does your board utilize when confronted with tough conversations and district challenges?
- Are you and your board prepared for communicating complex, controversial decisions?
- Are you and your board aware and prepared for current legal challenges?
- How do you maintain balance in your life?

8:05 AM

JE Dunn Jeremy Baum

8:10 AM

### “Post-Pandemic Board Blues”

- Deb Zila & Mike Seitz

*Introduction- Dr. Renee Nugent, USD 409 Atchison, KMSLF Vice-President*

No one was prepared for the challenges and divisiveness that were brought on by COVID. Now, more than ever, if a school board is to be effective and support the administration and district, it must agree on its PURPOSE, ROLES, GOALS and BEHAVIORS.

Deb Zila and Mike Seitz, both former board members with a combined 25 years of serving their districts, will discuss the importance of a board's concurrence and agreement, not only exiting COVID, but at all times. They will provide examples and anecdotes and present ways to help boards understand the impact of their actions and lack of agreement, and a method to promote board unity.



DEB ZILA



MIKE SEITZ

Deb Zila and Mike Seitz have a combined 80+ years of governing board experience, supporting their communities, schools, and organizations by serving on volunteer, appointed and elected boards.

They formed BOARDynamics to coach boards toward agreement of purpose, roles, goals, and behaviors. They also advise boards regarding new board member interest sessions and orientation, formation of board norms, leadership mentoring and strategic planning.



## DAVID A. SMITH

Chief Communications  
Officer, Shawnee Mission  
Schools

Mr. Smith served as a  
Senior Research  
Associate at the  
Annenberg Institute for  
School Reform at Brown  
University, where he  
studied the relationship  
between schools and  
communities.



## DAN MEERS

KC Wolf Mascot

Dan Meers is a man  
whose energy, humor  
and excitement not only  
entertain but also  
encourage others to  
strive for the best.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

KMSLF 2023

Spring Forum is

March 1-2, 2023

Wednesday + Thursday

# Thursday, October 6 AGENDA

## 8:55 AM

Achieve 3000, Lori Bancroft and Christina McColley

## 9:00 AM

### "Thoughtful, Timely and True: Building Trust Through Effective Communication"

- David A. Smith, Chief Communications Officer, Shawnee Mission Schools

*Introduction: Dr. Yolanda Cargile, Center Schools, KMSLF Secretary-Treasurer*

## 9:55 AM

TRANE, Jason Dial

## 10:00 AM

### "Legal Issues in a Modern Education World"

- Shellie Guin & Jessica Bernard, Guin Mundorf, LLC

*Introduction- Dr. Renee Nugent, USD 409 Atchison, KMSLF Vice-President*  
Shellie Guin and Jessica Bernard, partners of Guin Mundorf LLC, offer years of insight and experience in providing trusted advice and counsel to education clients across the Midwest. Their expansive practice addresses every operational area of school systems and any issues that impact public education. In addition to general counsel, the firm represents education clients in administrative, state and federal litigation.

## 11:00 AM

### "Courageous Leadership-Living a Life of Influence"

- Dan Meers

*Introduction- Dr. Curtis Cain, Rockwood School District, KMSLF Board President*

Dan Meers has been KC Wolf, the mascot of the Kansas City Chiefs, for more than 30 years. In 2006 he was selected as the first NFL mascot inducted into the Mascot Hall of Fame.

On November 23, 2013, Dan Meers came within inches of losing his life while practicing a bungee jump and zipline stunt at Arrowhead Stadium. What Dan anticipated being the thrill of a lifetime ended up being a spill of a lifetime. The stunt went terribly wrong, and Dan plummeted 75 feet before crashing into the stadium seats. Dan will share his incredible story and the important lessons about leadership and life that he learned during his long road to recovery.

## 11:50 AM

### Announcements and Adjournment

Dr. Curtis Cain, Rockwood School District,  
President KMSLF Board of Directors

# Speaker Profiles

## Dr. Marion Wilson

Superintendent  
District 31 - NYCDOE



Dr. Marion Wilson has been in education for over 23 years and has worked for the NYC Department of Education for the past 16 years. She believes in excellence and educational equity. She is committed to ensuring that all students can achieve their full potential in order to succeed beyond the K-12 system. In her current role as Superintendent for District 31 in Staten Island, New York she supports the district and school teams with her expertise in instructional leadership, strategic data analysis, evaluative feedback, equity initiatives, and organizational and systems thinking. District 31 comprises 72 community schools and 12 early childhood centers (3k and Prek) serving Kindergarten - 12th grade with approximately 55,000 students.

Prior to her current role, Dr. Wilson started as Gifted & Talented teacher in East Orange, NJ in 1999, then Literacy Coach at the Harlem Children's Zone, and the longest serving Principal of the Jackie Robinson School in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, NY for eight wonderful years. She is an Adjunct Assistant Professor for the City University of New York and has authored publications.

During her tenure as principal, the Jackie Robinson (Brooklyn, NY) school received several accolades including a N.Y.S. Proclamation from former State Senator Eric Adams acknowledging the school's removal from the persistently failing state designation to a school in good standing with dramatically increased test scores and an A+ rating. Her success story was highlighted in two books written by Alan Blankstein entitled, *Failure is Not an Option* [Second edition] and *The Answer is in the Room*.

Dr. Wilson received her Doctorate in Education in Educational and Organizational Leadership from the University of Pennsylvania (UPENN); a Masters of Science from Mercy College, NY; a Masters of Science from Pace University, NY; and a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Hofstra University, NY.

# Speaker Profiles

## Christine C. Chavez

Deputy Superintendent  
District 31 - NYCDOE



Christine Chavez - educator, optimist, mother and wife - holds a record of strategic leadership spanning innovative instructional practices that support both student and adult learning. Throughout her 23 years in education, she has held progressively prominent roles that include Teacher, Reading Recovery Specialist, Literacy Coach and Assistant Principal, Principal and currently Deputy Superintendent of District 31

In her current role as Deputy Superintendent of District 31, Christine supports the collective District 31 vision of equity. To empower every student's voice to cultivate their brilliance & intellectualism, so that they think critically about the world around them, problem solve tomorrow's future, feel included in the community, value differing perspectives, advocate for themselves - to discover their inner champion, so they are successful post-secondary. (VOICE - Vision of Inclusivity & Collective Efficacy). She is guided by the beliefs: Our students WILL learn and grow, Staff DESIRE the best for all D31 students, Equity-in-action, Students SHOULD have voice and choice in their learning experiences and Parents are OUR partners. She is utilizing her knowledge as a Compassionate Systems Master Practitioner to support the Superintendent and District to simultaneously transform the climate and culture in which students learn in District 31.

As Principal of Public School 45 - The John Tyler School, she was recognized as a recipient of the United Federation of Teacher Innovation in Education Award for the work of reducing suspensions and the school-to-prison pipeline. She was a Plenary Panelist at the American Federation of Teachers Convention and a Fellow in the Teachers College Columbia University Cahn Fellowship Program. In her ongoing work she is collaborating with The College of Staten Island, New York City Department of Education District 31 Borough Field Office and the PS45 school community to create and pilot a teacher residency program that teaches current mentors and future teachers to strive for racial equity.

Christine has served as an advisor to support the leadership at the District and City level. She was selected by the former New York City Executive Superintendent Anthony Lodico to present at the 2019 Courageous Conversation Summit, and has incorporated the practices of the Courageous Conversation About Race Protocol into her former school community. She expanded on her leadership experience serving on NYC Chancellor Carranza and NYC Chancellor Porters Principal Advisory Council. Most recently she is part of the Developing Leaders and Learners for Professional and Academic Excellence EdPacesetters Cohort III. Where she is working with the Central Leadership Team to engage in a capstone project supporting Chancellor Banks Four Pillars: 1-Scale, sustain, and restore what works. 2-Reimagine the school experience so that youth are excited about coming to school. 3-Prioritize student health & wellness and measure its impact on student success. 4-Intentional Engagement with parents, families, and communities.



# Speaker Profiles

**Ron Cox**  
Kincaid CEO



Ron Cox, Chief Executive Officer with The Kincaid Group received a Bachelor of Science degree in Finance and later obtained a master's degree in Business Administration.

Ron has 30-plus years in operations helping local, regional, and national organizations. Including both public and private sector companies.

In 2017, Ron retired from Public Education. Shortly after retirement Ron, Scott Kincaid and Buddy Mason became business partners in American Digital Security (ADS). ADS is one of the largest providers of access controls, visitor management and security cameras in the United States. Ron is extremely passionate about K-12 environments and ensuring staff and students have the safest learning space possible.

**Jonathan Richard**  
TNTP Leadership Coach



In his role as Partner, Jon oversees strategy across the state of Missouri. He designs and provides professional development and leadership coaching for executive, system, and school leaders on a range of topics including leadership development, diversity, equity, and inclusion, comprehensive talent management and diversification, and change management. He supports systems by designing and implementing innovative and high-impact change management and training programs that support achieving business goals. Prior to TNTP, Jon was the school principal at Sumner Academy of Arts and Science, the highest performing public high school in the state of Kansas. In Missouri, Jon was the principal at Lincoln College Preparatory Academy where it ranked as the state's second highest performing public high school and achieved a national Blue-Ribbon Award. He lives with his three teenage children in Kansas City, Missouri.



# Speaker Profiles

## Caitlin Sharp

TNTP Partner



Caitlin Sharp is a Partner overseeing TNTP's work in Nebraska and Kansas. Her work focuses on Learning Acceleration at the state, regional, and district levels, bringing increased access to the Four Resources named in the Opportunity Myth. Prior to joining TNTP, she helped build and lead the Ewing Marion Kauffman School network in Kansas City, where she managed the district's instructional and operational performance and helped found the first high school and the network team. Prior to that, she consulted for state education agencies implementing longitudinal data systems with Double Line, Inc. in Austin, TX. Caitlin taught 3rd grade in The Bronx as a TFA Corps Member and earned a Masters in Public Affairs from the University of Texas at Austin. She lives in Kansas City, MO

## Deb Zila



## Mike Seitz



Deb Zila and Mike Seitz have a combined 80+ years of governing board experience, supporting their communities, schools, and organizations by serving on volunteer, appointed and elected boards.

Deb is a graduate of Iowa State University and served on the Shawnee Mission School District Board of Education for 12½ years, with 5 years in board leadership roles. She helped bring Real World Learning to the district and currently serves in several roles, including being a mentor in the Women in Leadership program and is on the Northeast Johnson County Chamber of Commerce Foundation board.

Mike graduated from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania and served 11 years on the Blue Valley School District Board of Education. He currently serves on the Johnson County Mental Health board and is on the Board of Trustees at Baker University.

They formed BOARDynamics to coach boards toward agreement of purpose, roles, goals, and behaviors. They also advise boards regarding new board member interest sessions and orientation, formation of board norms, leadership mentoring and strategic planning.

# Speaker Profiles

## David A. Smith

Chief Communications Officer,  
Shawnee Mission Schools



David A. Smith serves as the Chief Communication Officer for the Shawnee Mission School District, a position he assumed in July, 2018. Prior to that, he served for 13 years as Chief of Communications and as Chief of Staff in the Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools. Mr. Smith came to Kansas City in 1999 to serve as an Assistant Superintendent for Communications in the Kansas City, Missouri Public Schools.

Mr. Smith has also served as a Senior Research Associate at the Annenberg Institute for School Reform at Brown University, where he studied the relationship between schools and communities. Mr. Smith earned a master's degree in religion from Yale Divinity School, and a bachelor's degree in psychology from Yale University.

## Dan Meers

KC Wolf Mascot



Dan Meers is a man whose energy, humor and excitement not only entertains but also encourages others to strive for the best of life. Dan has served as KC Wolf, the official mascot of the Kansas City Chiefs for over 30 years. His work and experiences as a professional sports mascot have reinforced to him the philosophy that laughter and a cheerful heart are good medicine. After listening to Dan, you realize that what makes him so truly special is his genuine desire to motivate others to enjoy life as much as he does. The constant smile he wears comes from within. The humorous message he shares has inspired thousands to live life to the fullest and to enjoy it each and every step of the way.

On November 23, 2013, Dan Meers came within inches of losing his life while practicing a bungee jump and zip line stunt at Arrowhead Stadium... home of the Kansas City Chiefs. What Dan anticipated being the thrill of a lifetime ended up being the spill of a lifetime. The stunt went terribly wrong and Dan plummeted 75 feet before crashing into the stadium seats. Miraculously Dan survived. He spent 9 days in the hospital and got some really big scars. Dan smiles when he says, "Scars are just Tattoos that come with a Cool Story". Dan is the author of the book "Wolves Can't Fly" and during his powerful presentation Dan shares his incredible story and the important lessons that he has learned about leadership and about life.