Kansas Association of School Social Work (KSSWA)

Officers and Contact Information:

President: Barb Meyer  pbmeyer@cox.net
Vice-President: Cheri Pfanensteil  cheri683@cox.net
Secretary: Laura Chartier  lakreutzer@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Becky Hegler  beckycarter7367@gmail.com
Membership Chair: Sara Grout  sgrout@usd107.org
Legislative Chair: Craig Hidy  craig_hidy@hotmail.com
Communications Chair: Katie Fooshie  kfooshee@gmail.com
(Social Media Manager)

Member At Large: Open

Officers just beginning two year term for 2017-2019

Permanent Committees: Nomination and Awards Committee and Financial Committee
Plan is have a legislative committee beginning this Fall.

State Conference: We have workshops in the Fall and Spring and a Summer Institute

Website: www.ksswa.org  we just updated website with Wild Apricot

Newsletter: Yes: currently 3 times a year (Did not have one previous year)

Facebook Page: www.ksswa.ks.info@gmail.com

No Twitter or Blog

B. Number of State Association Members: 47

C. Number of School Social Workers in the State: No way to track at the state level. Some social workers are employed as counselors, behavior specialists, Special Education Coordinators, etc. Number of 500 has been stated by previous President.
D. Annual Budget and Dues Structure: Budget for upcoming year is 9,700.00. Dues for Regular Members are $40.00, Retired Members are $15.00 and Students are Free. This is an increase for this school year.

E. State Evaluation:

1. Current Strengths of State Association: Updated Website, New Board Members, More active legislatively. We had our first Mental Health Lobby Day in Topeka. Regular Newsletter back. Board Members more committed/active

2. Current Weaknesses of State Association: Membership numbers down from previous years, state budget and funding for education still an issue. Governor’s tax plan just voted out and more funding for schools made available. Need more involvement from Topeka and Kansas City area.

3. Future Plans of State Association: Reach out to areas of the state that are currently not active. More planning on workshop and conferences through a committee. Start more committees to get more members involved. We have been contacted by KSDE by a representative who wants to become involved with our organization. We are in contact with social worker who is in charge of the School Mental Health Initiative for Kansas. Opportunities for networking on state level seem to be coming our way. Kansas City area district just hired 19 new school social workers we plan to reach out to.

4. How can SWAA assist your state? We can use guidance on putting on larger conferences like our Midwest Conference in 2019. Suggestions on increasing membership would be helpful also