

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES

March 14, 2000

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Voth called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. on Tuesday, March 14, 2000, in the Board Room of the State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams

Harold Voth

John Bacon

Janet Waugh

Mary Douglass Brown

I.B. "Sonny" Rundell

Dr. Wagon, Mr. Hill and Mrs. DeFever were attending a legislative hearing and would be joining the Board at its conclusion. Mrs. Holloway was not present because of a death in the family.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Voth reported that because of a legislative hearing conflict on the Department budget, Deputy Commissioner Dennis had requested that his legislative report be moved to the morning. To accomplish the change, discussion of the February recommendation from the Evaluation Review Committee and the Board Policy Committee recommendations would need to be changed to the first items after the lunch break. Dr. Abrams asked that consent agenda item 13 h., concerning a conditional accreditation of a school, be pulled for further information. There being no additional changes, Mrs. Brown moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Voth asked for approval of the minutes of the February, 2000 meeting. Dr. Wagon asked that the parenthetical statement about his absence after the vote on the contract for external review of the science standards be removed, noting that because his absence was mentioned earlier, it was redundant.

Mr. Rundell moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the minutes be approved as amended. The motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF 1999 NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFIED TEACHERS

Mr. Ken Bungert, Team Leader, Certification and Teacher Education, introduced Susan Helbert, Certification staff member, and Linda Hazel, Director of the Great Plains Center for National Teacher Certification, the Jones Institute for Excellence in Education, at Emporia State University. Ms. Hazel gave a brief history of the Advanced Board Certification offered by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She also reported on what was involved in the assessment process and indicated that the Advanced Certification was the highest honor the teaching profession has to bestow and teachers with the certification serve as role models and spokespersons in the effort to build and strengthen the profession. Board questions followed and included discussion of what the Department could do to encourage teachers to pursue the certification. One suggestion included articles in *Education Matters* which could include information on the process and the materials and equipment needed. In response to a question about how many Kansas teachers had taken the most recent examination for the certification and the number of those who had passed, Ms. Hazel reported that 18 of 32 had passed the 1998-1999 assessment and noted Kansas had a 60% passing rate with Kansas candidates passing with significantly high scores. 1998-1999 recipients of the Advanced Board Certification who were present were: Chele Behrens, USD 259; Sue Boldra, USD 489; Delaina Brown, USD 404; Kathryn Bruhn, USD 233; Lisa Crooks, USD 233; Gregory Kifer, USD 233; Cynthia McNally, USD 250; Sandra Peer, USD 259; Terry Boyd, USD 428; Linda Runyan, USD 250; Patricia Salvatore, USD 497; Tywlia Sekavec, USD 489; Lisa Wilson, USD 233; Nancy Harman, USD 489; and Sandra Whitaker, USD 259. Each received a certificate of recognition from the Board and had their pictures taken with the Commissioner and Chairman Voth.

Page 2

MINUTES

March 14, 2000

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chairman Voth declared the Citizen's Open Forum open at 10:29 a.m. Mr. Hill and Mrs. DeFever returned from the legislative hearing at 10:35 a.m. Appearing to speak before the Board were Kristin Brumm, Lawrence; Gary Butler, Merriam; Christy Levings, Osawatomie, representing the Learning First Alliance; Brian Kennell, Newton; Jack Krebs, Lawrence, representing Kansas Citizens for Science; Harry McDonnell, Olathe John Richard Schrock, Emporia; Adrian Melott, Lawrence, representing Kansas Citizens for Science; and Leo Kerwin, Wellsville. Chairman Voth declared the open forum closed at 10:45 a.m. and called for a break until 11:00 a.m.

Chairman Voth called for a short break and the Board reconvened at 11:15 a.m. Mr. Hill left at 11:15 a.m.

KANSAS-TRAINING INFORMATION PROGRAM (K-TIP) REPORT AND KANSAS VOCATIONAL EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT FOR FY 1998

Dr. Merlyne Hines Starr, Team Leader, Technical Education, presented the 1998 K-TIP Report which contained employment placement rates and average salaries earned by program completers, reported by program and institution. She indicated that because data contained in the report was based on students leaving and completing programs and employer satisfaction after their experience with program graduates, there was a lag time between the period the programs were completed and the time the data was gathered and compiled. Dr. Starr also presented the 1998 Kansas Vocational Education Accountability Report, indicating that the accountability report provided information for all programs statewide by category on placement and completion rates, salaries, performance standards and business and industry's ratings of employee's skills. Dr. Starr, in response to a question from Dr. Abrams indicated the salaries included in the report had been annualized. Board discussion followed about whether the Board's should be promoting programs which had a low earning potential. Dr. Starr reported that Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act III funding would emphasize high skill/high salary training programs. Dr. Wagon asked if there were any policy implications for the Board resulting from the reports. Dr. Starr explained that the data would be analyzed and the information would be used by the Technical Education Advisory Committee during its program approval process later in the year. She also indicated that the information was used in the development of the state plan. Dr. Wagon asked that policy implications be included when reports were presented to the Board.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Kansas Department of Education

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis reviewed the current status of FY 2000 and FY 2001 budgets, noting current proposals from the Governor were to fund the base/pupil state aid with an increase of \$50 and to fund special education at 85%, both from Medicaid matching money that would be available. He also reported that the technology infrastructure bill was moving with the Senate funding it at the level proposed by the Governor, but contingent on the receipt of E-Rate discounts. Mr. Dennis reported that the agency was two-thirds of the way through its budget appeal before the subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. Mr. Dennis also answered questions and reviewed activity on education legislation. He indicated that the prevalent trend in both the House and the Senate was to not approve bills with any cost to the State attached, noting that state general fund receipts as of February were \$13.8 million below estimates. Mr. Dennis invited Board members to accompany him to the budget appeal hearing in the afternoon.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:46 p.m. and reconvened at 1:45 p.m. Mr. Hill was not present.

MINUTES

March 14, 2000

EVALUATION REVIEW COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Board revisited the Evaluation Review Committee recommendation, tabled at the February meeting, to *approve with stipulation* a new Middle-Level Social Studies program at Pittsburg State University (PSU). Dr. Sheila Drake, Professor of Education at MidAmerica Nazarene College, and Dr. Jerry Long, Professor of Education at Emporia State University, were present to discuss the program review process and answer Board questions regarding the (PSU) recommendation. Dr. Drake presented an overview of the folio review process undertaken when approval is requested for a new program. Board members shared their concern about the nature of the weaknesses cited in the recommendation for approval. In order for Board members to be able to put into perspective the weaknesses cited, Dr. Long gave members a summary of what Pittsburg State had already included in the areas with weaknesses. Dr. Long indicated that, viewed as a whole, the program at PSU was not viewed as one with serious flaws. He was asked if, in fact, there was some evidence that many of the components of the standards cited were included in the program, why the language in the recommendation stated that "*there was no evidence...*". Mr. Ken Bungert, Team Leader for Teacher Certification and Accreditation, stated the language was provided by the folio review team when the materials were prepared to bring to the Board. Several members indicated that if the recommendation had not stated that there was no evidence of a standard being met, they would have been able to vote in favor of it in February. Staff was directed to use more specificity in preparing information to be sent to the Board. Board members asked questions about when programs which had been approved with stipulations were again reviewed. Dr. Long indicated it could be as much as two years after program approval, and that a progress report was required sixty days after the beginning of the second semester of the school year when students were admitted to the program to the first time. After further discussion, Mr. Rundell moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the Board accept the recommendation of the Evaluation Review Committee for "approved with stipulation" status for Middle-Level Social Studies Program at Pittsburg State University through December 31, 2003. The motion carried.

STATE BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Abrams presented the Board policy changes recommended by the Board Policy Committee. They included the Preface, Mission and Vision Statement; Policy 1002, Governing Style; Policy 1003, Policies, Regulations and Guidelines; Policy 1005, Board Member Development; Policy 1007, Officers – Election, Tenure and Duties; Policy 1010, Operation of the State Board; and Policy 1013, Public Hearings. Mr. Rundell moved with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the Board approve the changes as recommended by the Committee. The motion carried.

Dr. Abrams also presented further policy changes for the Board to review, with expected action at the April meeting. Policies included were Policy 1012, Citizens' Open Forum; and State School Policies, 3220, Relationship with the Commissioner, and 3410.2, Conditions for Admission. Brief discussion followed about the Open Forum procedures.

PROPOSED SPECIAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS

Staff Responses to Public Comments

Dr. Alexa Pochowski, Team Leader, Student Support Services, reviewed the attendance at the public hearings which had been held on the proposed special education regulations. She noted that the Department was required to have its regulations and eligibility requirements in place and forwarded to U. S. Department of Education by April 14, 2000. Staff would be bringing the proposed regulations to the Board for its approval at the April Board meeting. Dr. Pochowski also reviewed the staff responses to public comments. Those included comments with which staff concurred and changes were made in the proposed regulations, as well as comments which would substantially expand the regulations beyond the
Page 4

MINUTES

March 14, 2000

federal law, would violate provisions of state or federal law, or would repeat language in the state law. In those cases, staff provided the Board with a written summary of the public comments and stated the reason for keeping the regulations as originally proposed. Areas of particular concern brought out in the public comments included the lack of specific eligibility criteria for determining a specific learning disability. Dr. Pochowski indicated that those concerns were not about the regulations themselves, but language contained in the proposed guidance document and that additional input would be sought from those who expressed the concern when making revisions to the document. The issue of class size and case load limits was also an area of concern. The concern raised was that the class size and caseload of teachers and other service providers would be increased to the point that children would be inadequately served. Dr. Pochowski handed Board members illustrations comparing the average special education classroom in 1990 and 2000. She indicated the Department would offer guidelines to help districts determine what is needed and that the guidelines will be reviewed in a year. In the discussion that followed, Dr. Pochowski reported on the different class size caseload models that are currently being piloted in the state. Further discussion followed on the avenue for appeals for parents who were concerned with the class size case load formula being used in a district. Also discussed were options available for parents to pursue who wanted special education for their child when district staff don't agree. Dr. Pochowski indicated that parents can request an alternate assessment and can also resort to due process and ask for a review. An additional concern discussed was that of a special instructional program parents of children with dyslexia wanted included in the regulations. Dr. Pochowski reported that if the program were adopted, districts would be prevented from using programs which were based

on current information and research.

Mr. Hill returned to the meeting at 2:33 p.m. Mrs. Brown left the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION OF ORDER CANCELING TEACHING CERTIFICATE

Mr. Rundell moved, with second by Mr. Hill, that the State Board deny Ms. Dawn Richman's Petition for Reconsideration of the Final Order canceling her teaching certificate because of breach of contract. The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Steve Adams, Team Leader, School Improvement and Accreditation, provided some background information on item 13 h., the recommendation for conditional accreditation of Harper Elementary, USD 361, as requested by Dr. Abrams. Dr. Adams reported that an early accreditation visit had been conducted in conjunction with a visit to another school in the district. He indicated that as a result of the visit, two technical assistance visits had been made, as well as visits with the local Board, the district office and school staff. Dr. Adams reported on the declining scores on local and state assessments for mathematics and flat scores in reading, noting that staff were not well-trained or informed on how to use the data from the assessments to develop consistent strategies to assist in improving students' performance. He reported the school would be working on a more focused and measurable improvement plan. Dr. Abrams stated he had pulled the item from the consent agenda because he was concerned about how much of a decline had taken place in scores. He indicated that he felt comfortable with having the item returned to the consent agenda. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Dr. Wagnon, that the consent agenda be approved as submitted. The motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Confirmed the appointments of Linda Loder to an unclassified special projects Information Resource Specialist III position the under the South Central Technology Support Consortium Grant, effective June 26, 2000, at a biweekly pay rate of \$1753.60; Kelly Kaberline to an unclassified special projects

Page 5

MINUTES

March 14, 2000

- Secretary I position for the Kansas Commission on National and Community Services, effective February 7, 2000, at a biweekly pay rate of \$644.80; and Sherylyn Smith to an unclassified

special projects Office Assistant IV position for Charter Schools, effective March 5, 2000, at a biweekly pay rate of \$728.80

- Approved a responsibility pay adjustment for Greg Rasmussen increasing his biweekly pay to \$1981.60, effective March 20, 2000.
- Approved school construction plans for USD 259 Wichita (3 projects); Johnson County Community College; USD 382 Pratt; USD 205 Bluestem; Northeast Kansas Area Vocational School; USD 507 Satanta; USD 503 Labette; and Central Christian College.
- Approved Cycle I accredited status for Wichita Catholic Diocese: Resurrection Catholic School; USD 232 DeSoto: DeSoto High School; USD 259 Wichita: Bryant Core Knowledge Magnet, O K Elementary, and Woodman Elementary; USD 265 Goddard: Clark Davidson Elementary and Goodard Primary Learning Center; and approved Cycle II accredited status for USD 415 Hiawatha: Hiawatha Elementary, Hiawatha Sr. High School, and Robinson Middle School; USD 382 Pratt: Liberty Middle School; USD 286 Chautauqua County Community: Sedan Elementary and Sedan High School; and USD 490 El Dorado: El Dorado Middle School and El Dorado High School.
- Approved requests for waiver of state QPA regulations for the 1999-2000 school year from districts to utilize the services of individuals to teach courses as follows: USD 259 – to teach Gifted Education: Albert Conrad and James M. Woody at the secondary level, Cindy Ehrstein at the middle school level and Julie Riley at the elementary level; and to teach Interrelated Special Education: Darnell Hamilton and Dennis Kalp at the elementary level, Kimberlie Householter at the middle level, and Camille-Woods-Harding at the secondary level; USD 262 – Janet Decker to teach Gifted Education at the secondary level; USD 307 – Amy Yonally to teach Family and Consumer Science at the secondary level; USD 418 – Amy Elliott to teach middle level Mentally Retarded; USD 500 – Kelli Thomas to serve as Library Media Specialist at the elementary level; Barton County Cooperative of Special Services – Amber Dowlin to teach K-12 Gifted Education; Doniphan County Education Cooperative #616 – Alma Cross to teach secondary Interrelated Special Education; Harvey County Special Education Cooperative – Lois Little-Winter to serve as school audiologist; Kansas State School for the Deaf –to allow Cecily Colle to serve as a substitute for a 95 day assignment; North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative – Jessica Bilinger to teach elementary Interrelated Special Education; Sedgwick County Area Educational Interlocal #618 – Debra Cooksey to teach elementary Interrelated Special Education and Theresa Coor to teach secondary learning disabilities; and Special Services Cooperative of Wamego – Carrie Thompson to teach early childhood Special Education. Additionally, QPA waivers were granted to allow districts to extend their accreditation cycle II for one year: USD 261 Haysville for Rex Elementary, Oatville Elementary, Nelson Elementary and Haysville Middle School, USD 443 Dodge City for Wilroads Garden Elementary, and USD 453 Leavenworth, for East Middle School.
- Approved conditional Cycle II accreditation status for USD 361, Anthony-Harper, Harper Elementary School.
- Approved the inservice education plans from Pittsburg USD 250.
- Approved the Kansas Curricular Standards for Listening, Viewing and Speaking.
- Accepted the recommendation of the Certification Review Committee in cases 1797-1798, 1804, 1807-1812, and 1815.

MINUTES

March 14, 2000

- Accepted the recommendation of the Evaluation Review Committee for Newman College: "approved with stipulation" status through June 30, 2001 for Elementary Education (U, K-9).
- Approved Parents as Teachers expansion grants for USD 231 Gardner-Edgerton in the amount of \$6,537, USD 259 Wichita in the amount of \$20,000, USD 418 McPherson Special Education Cooperative, in the amount of \$1,115 and USD 509 South Haven in the amount of \$1,213.
- Approved a \$20,000 1999-2000 Educate America Act Program Local District for Individual Building School Improvement Initiatives for Comprehensive School Reform subgrant for USD 202, Turner Elementary and Oak Grove Elementary.
- Approved an FY 2000 commercial driving training school license for BWB Driving Academy, Olathe, KS.
- Approved a Carl Perkins Statewide Leadership grant for Professional Development for Family and Consumer Science, Pittsburg State University, in the amount of \$11,244.
- Approved the State Plan for Vocational and Technical Education, FY 2001-2004.
- Issued orders for Bonner Springs USD 204, Lebo-Waverly USD 243, Valley Falls USD 338, Ellinwood USD 355, Effingham USD 377, Coffeyville USD 445 and Axtell USD 488, granting them authority to hold an election on the question of the districts' general bond debt limitation.
- Approved Technology Literacy Challenge Fund grants as follows: *Continuing Generation* [www.Y](#) in the amount of \$15,000 for USD 313 Buhler, USD 397 Centre, USD 410 Durham-Hillsboro-Lehigh, USD 218 Elkhart, USD 487 Herington, USD 336 Holton, USD 298 Lincoln, USD 408 Marion, USD 211 Norton, USD 398 Peobody-Burns, USD 439 Sedgwick, USD 237 Smith Center, USD 320 Wamego, USD 406 Wathena, and USD 287 West Franklin; in the amount of \$30,000 for USD 260 Derby and USD 383 Manhattan-Ogden; and in the amount of \$45,000 for USD 497 Lawrence and USD 259 Wichita. *New Generation* [www.Y](#) in the amount of \$15,000 for USD 435 Abilene, USD 413 Chanute, USD 307 Ell-Saline, USD 281 Hill City, USD 497 Lawrence, USD 342 McLouth, USD 373, USD 221 North Central Schools, USD 367 Osawatomie, USD 392 Osborne, USD 202 Turner and USD 287 West Franklin; and in the amount of \$45,000 for USD 457 Garden City, USD 308 Hutchinson, USD 383 Manhattan-Ogden, and USD 259 Wichita. *Network Certification Program* in the amount of \$20,000 for USD 435 Abilene, USD 204 Bonner Springs Edwardsville Schools, USD 413 Chanute, USD 315 Colby, USD 260 Derby, USD 457 Garden City, USD 281 Hill City, USD 308 Hutchinson, USD 461 Neodesha, USD 211 Norton, USD 368 Paola, USD 270 Plainville, USD 434 Santa Fe Trail, USD 334 Southern Cloud, USD 230 Spring Hill, USD 202 Turner, and USD 287 West Franklin; and the amount of \$60,000 for USD 259 Wichita. *Other Student Leadership* in the amount of \$15,000 for USD 435 Abilene, #622 ESSDACK, USD 489 Hays, USD 383 Manhattan-Ogden, #621 North Central Kansas Educational Service Center, USD 295 Prairie Heights, and #609 Southeast Kansas Education Service Center. Continuing Professional Development in the amount

of \$50,000 for USD 435 Abilene, USD 490 El Dorado, #622 ESSDACK, USD 383 Manhattan-Ogden, USD 461 Neodesha, USD 512 Shawnee Mission, #629 Smoky Hill Education Service Center, #609 Southeast Kansas Education Service Center, USD 230 Spring Hill, and USD 287 West Franklin. *New Professional Development* in the amount of \$60,000 for USD 435 Abilene, USD 409 Atchison, USD 413 Chanute, USD 286 Chautauqua, USD 315 Colby; USD 253 Emporia, USD 446 Independence, USD 298 Lincoln, USD 305 Salina, and USD 230 Spring Hill. *Online Professional Development* in the amount of \$15,000 for USD 406 Wathena and USD 238 West Smith County; in the amount of \$25,000 for USD 435 Abilene, USD 413 Chanute, #622 ESSDACK, USD 265 Goddard, USD 364 Marysville, and USD 320 Wamego; in the amount of \$40,000 for USD 497 Lawrence, USD 233 Olathe and USD 512 Shawnee Mission; and in the amount of \$60,000 for USD 260 Derby and USD 259 Wichita.

Page 7

MINUTES

March 14, 2000

Contracts Approved:

The Superintendent for the Kansas State School for the Blind was authorized to enter into a contract with the Oak Grove, Missouri School District for Non-Resident student tuition for Tony G. in the amount of \$7,800 for the 1999-2000 regular school year.

The Commissioner of Education was authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with Research and Training Associates to provide evaluation services for the Kansas Reading Excellence Grant Program, with the contract amount not to exceed \$96,800.

The Board took a break from 2:55 p.m. until 3:10 p.m. Dr. Wagon left the meeting at 2:55 p.m. and Mrs. Brown returned and was present after the break.

APPOINTMENTS TO THE KSHSAA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE BOARD

Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that Mr. Voth be appointed to serve on the Executive Board of the Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) and that Mrs. Brown be appointed to the KSHSAA Board of Directors. Mr. Rundell indicated he would like to vote on each individual separately and asked to divide the question. There was also discussion to clarify the length of term for each appointment. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mr. Rundell, that Mr. Voth be appointed to serve a two-year term on the Executive Board of the KSHSAA. The motion carried. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that Mrs. Brown be appointed to serve a one-year term on the KSHSAA

Board of Directors. The motion carried on a vote of 7-1, with Mr. Rundell voting "no".

BOARD REPORTS

Chairman

Chairman Voth reported that four Board members, Mrs. Holloway, Dr. Wagnon, Dr. Abrams and Mrs. DeFever, had volunteered to read Byrd Scholarship applications. He also handed out a copy of news article on a school greenhouse project funded with education grant money. Chairman Voth asked the Commissioner to update members on the schedule for the visits to the Kansas State School for the Blind and Kansas State School for the Deaf. Commissioner Tompkins reported that rather than have the Board visit the School for the Deaf, he had asked Superintendent Johnson to come visit with the Board at the Kansas State School for Blind after lunch and give the Board an update on the situation at the school concerning the accidental death of a student over the previous weekend.

Board Attorney

Mr. Biles reported on his recent activity on behalf of the Board. He indicated that a new judge had been appointed in the school finance case and that activity on the case would be speeding up. He also reported that he had appeared before the Governor's Task Force on K-12 Funding. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for February be paid as presented. The motion carried.

Legislative Coordinator

Mr. Hill reported he had testified in opposition to proposed legislation on restructuring the State Board of Education. He asked Mrs. DeFever to provide the Board with a further update, since he was not able to serve as actively as the Legislative Coordinator this year and she had been attending meetings and visiting legislators on behalf of the Board. Mrs. DeFever reported on the governance bill, KAN-Ed bill, and indicated it was hoped that funding for the four-year old at-risk program and early childhood would be amended into another bill.

Mr. Hill left at 3:29 p.m.

Page 8

MINUTES

March 14, 2000

Commissioner

Commissioner Tompkins reviewed his written report. He indicated that NAEP was finding it harder to get states to participate in the testing and that more and more were pulling out of the program. He noted that a feedback report composed of raw data would be available for Board use in its study session on the reading, writing and mathematics assessments in May or June. He also commented on the work the Department was engaged in to try to get the Carl Perkins Vocational Program funding moved back to the Department of Education from the Board of Regents where it had been inadvertently moved last year. He reported that the Board of Regents was now considering the idea of sharing staff for program approval.

Board Member Reports

Mr. Bacon reported on information he had received from a mother whose son had collapsed and died at a sports event and her request that ambulance service be made available at events. It was suggested that her request be communicated by one of the Board representatives to the KSHSAA. Mr. Bacon also reported on a packet of materials he had received from Senator Stan Clark. Senator Clark had forwarded correspondence and a copy of reading materials from a constituent who was questioning its appropriateness. Dr. Tompkins indicated he had heard about Senator Clark's letter and was following it up. He indicated the materials would be sent to those Board members who had not received it.

Mrs. DeFever suggested the Board might want to consider recommending to districts textbooks that aligned with the state standards. Dr. Freden indicated that the Board is prohibited by law from making any recommendations. Mrs. DeFever also reported on her attendance at the NASBE legislative conference and Government Affairs meeting. Mr. Rundell indicated he had also been in Washington at the same time to attend the NASBE study group meeting on Teacher Accountability.

APPROVAL OF BOARD TRAVEL

Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the travel requests be approved as requested. The motion carried.

PRESENTATION BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Representative Ralph Tanner, Chairman of the House Education Committee, was present to provide the Board with an update on legislative issues and discuss issues of mutual interest. Before he began his presentation he introduced an exchange student from Prague, Czechoslovakia, who was paging for him. He reported on pending legislation and answered Board members' questions. When asked by Dr. Abrams about recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on Education Finance, he reported that a bill was pending that would give districts the opportunity to increase their Limited Option Budget percentage. He also noted there was bill, yet to pass the House, that would allow districts to use sales tax dollars unless challenged by 5% of the electorate, when such use would have to be put to a public vote. Dr. Abrams also asked about the line item in the budget for discretionary grants, including Ag in the Classroom. Mr. Rundell also mentioned the Dodge City Heritage Center. Representative Tanner

indicated he would make a motion to restore some of the funding for those programs. Representative Tanner reported that a bill had passed the House which would fund \$50 on the base state aid per pupil through 2002. He indicated he had voted against it because of prior budget commitments and concerns about the state revenue stream. Mr. Bacon asked about charter school legislation and Representative Tanner indicated there was still a problem with the bill on the Senate side, because of issues concerning the roles of the local districts and the State Board of Education. Deputy Director Dennis reported that a surprise had occurred in the legislature that day, with the passage in the House of a bill that would fund 90% of special education on demand transfer. Discussion followed.

Page 9

MINUTES

March 14, 2000

RECESS

There being no further business, Chairman Voth asked for a motion to adjourn. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Harold Voth, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

Meetings at the Special Schools

March 15, 2000

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Board members Chairman Voth, Dr. Abrams, Mr. Bacon, Mr. Rundell, and Mrs. Waugh, gathered with staff of the Kansas State School for the Blind (KSSB) in the student cafeteria at 9:00 a.m. Dr. Wagnon Mrs. DeFever were attending a legislative hearing and were not present. Superintendent Daugherty welcomed the Board and made introductory remarks. He also discussed partnership networks for

services for students and their families that provide support for the student in the home district; provides access to equal opportunity for visually-impaired students; and address the high unemployment rate with better preparation after K-12 education.

The Board began its tour of the school in the Sensory Motor Room. Ms. Janie Parr, pre-school teacher and Visually Impaired Inservice in America (VIA) instructor, pointed out to Board members features of the room, which included a exploration station with a light box where students and teachers work on vision utilization and vision enhancement. Moving next door, to the preschool room, Ms. Parr discussed how readiness activities from a variety of curriculum areas are incorporated into weekly themes. Ms. Parr also explained the VIISA program.

The Board moved on to the the computer lab where Cheryl Love, Secondary Social Studies teacher, Helen Boduch Hahn, Language Arts teacher, and Steve Hahn, Technology Specialist, showed members many of the assistive technology items that have been developed to address the differing needs of visually impaired students in the classroom. The Board moved to the room where work with students with multiple disabilities was illustrated. Staff Tim Schierbeck, Kim Lieber and Christy Bowen, reported on some of the activities used to promote positive behaviors and improve their quality of life and prepare the students for the transition from educational to non-educational setting in their local community and in workshop or vocational activities. Next, the Board was taken to the Assistive Technology Lending Library where equipment is maintained for use by districts with visually impaired students. Districts have access to special equipment at no cost for the first eight weeks and pay 35% of the purchase cost per year thereafter, unless they chose to purchase their own equipment. The initial eight-week period provides districts with the opportunity to determine if the equipment is the best fit for a student's needs before making a purchase decision. Lastly, the Board visited the new dormitory where Sheila Dahm, Rehabilitation teacher, reported on providing students with the training necessary to live independently. At the conclusion, staff and Board members returned to the dining hall for presentation of the 1999 Accessible Arts Awards.

ACCESSIBLE ARTS AWARDS

Mr. Daughtery introduced Ms. Patty Scott, Vice President and Honors Committee Chair of the Accessible Arts, Inc. Board, and Paul Lesnik, Executive Director, who welcomed participants and thanked the State Board of Education for its support of Accessible Arts, Inc. They also reviewed the history and purpose of the awards. Mr. Lesnik introduced Martin English, who would be taking his place as Executive Director of Accessible Arts, Inc. Chairman Voth presented the 1999 AAI 1999 Distinguished Service Award in Arts and Disabilities to co-recipients, Roger Prideaux and Marsha Eastep. Mr. Lesnik introduced 1999 Educator of the Year in the Arts and Disabilities, Sondra Horning. Chairman Voth presented her with the award. Each recipient also received a framed picture painted by students commemorating their awards. In a final surprise, Mr. Lesnik was also presented with artwork created by students to commemorate his tenure as Executive Director and the contributions he had made to Accessible Arts, Inc. Following the awards ceremony, the Board had lunch with staff and students of the school.

Page 2

MINUTES

March 15, 2000

KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

After lunch, Board members, including Dr. Wagnon, who had just arrived, adjourned to the new dormitory, where they were joined by Superintendent Johnson, Kansas State School for the Deaf. Mr. Johnson was there to provide Board members, the Commissioner and the Board Attorney with an update on the death of the student from KSSD the previous weekend.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Rundell moved, with second by Dr. Wagnon, that the Board recess into an executive session for a period of 45 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of nonelected personnel so the privacy, confidentiality and other rights of such personnel are not violated, and for consultation with the Board attorney so that the Board could preserve the attorney-client privilege, and that the open meeting of the resume at 1:20 p.m. The motion carried. At 1:20 p.m. the open meeting of the Board resumed and Mr. Voth, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, moved that the executive session be extended an additional 20 minutes and that the open meeting of the Board resume at 1:40 p.m. The motion carried. The open meeting resumed at 1:40 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Voth adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Harold Voth, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary