

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Special Meeting
MINUTES

January 15, 2007

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wagnon called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. on Monday, January 15, 2007.

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams (by phone)
Sally Cauble
Sue Gamble
Carol Rupe

Jana Shaver (by phone)
Bill Wagnon
Janet Waugh

Mrs. Martin arrived at 2:12 p.m. and Mr. Bacon arrived at 2:17 p.m. Mr. Willard was unable to be present.

PURPOSE OF MEETING

The purpose of the meeting was to consult with Brenda Welburn, Executive Director of the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE). NASBE had been chosen as the contractor to facilitate the selection process for a new Commissioner of Education. Mrs. Welburn and State Board members discussed the characteristics sought in the new Commissioner and the process for receiving input from across the state.

DISCUSSION

Mrs. Welburn reviewed the work to be done by NASBE, the process for the search and a proposed timeline. NASBE would conduct an environmental scan to determine education attitudes across the state. As part of that effort it was agreed that focus groups would be held in Topeka January 22nd and 23rd and participants would be asked what they perceived as the key education issues in the state; what skill sets they felt would be needed by the new commissioner; and what advice they would share with the Board. A website would also be available to members of the public who wished to share their views on the same topics.

Mrs. Welburn then worked with the board members on what education issues they felt were the most important in the state and the skills that would be needed by the new commissioner.

In the discussion of the timeline it was agreed that the Board would meet by conference call on Friday, February 2nd to hear the results of the environmental scan and to finalize the information that would be in the advertisement for the position. Final details for the application process would also be discussed at that time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Bill Wagnon, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary