

**KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES**

June 12, 2001

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rundell called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 12, 2001, 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	Carol Rupe
John Bacon	Harold Voth
Val DeFever	Janet Waugh
Sue Gamble	Bruce Wyatt
I.B. "Sonny" Rundell	

Dr. Wagnon was out of the country.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Rundell asked for approval of the agenda. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mr. Voth, that the agenda be approved as submitted. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Rundell asked for approval of the minutes of the May meeting. Carol Rupe moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the minutes be approved as submitted. The motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Discussion of Board Goals and Objectives

Dr. Tompkins reviewed his report on current progress on the Board's goals and objectives. He indicated that, as a part of Goal One, Help All Students Meet or Exceed Academic Standards, assessment academies for teachers and reading workshops for teachers in grades K-3 will be offered during the summer. For Goal Two, Recruit, Prepare, Retain, and Support Quality Educators, he reported that a feature had been added to the Kansas Electronic Employment Board (KEEB) that includes an automatic job notification system. Additionally, a blue ribbon task force had been organized to begin discussions on recommendations for recruiting and retaining teachers, and it will be bringing a report of its recommendations to the Board in July. Other Goal Two activities reported included the development of a grant application for the U.S. Department of Education "Transition To Teaching" initiative which could assist in implementing the restricted certificate provisions in the new licensure regulations, and the hiring of a person to oversee the implementation of the Gates Foundation grant for the Kansas Academy for Leadership and Technology. Goal Three activity, Redesign Kansas Schools and Learning Environments, included revision to the timeline for addressing the goal as discussed at the Board's May meeting.

Activities Update

Dr. Tompkins reported on the make-up of the newly formed KAN-ED advisory committee. The four members of

the committee are Dr. Milt Pippenger, superintendent of the Garden City district and a member of the legislative task force, Greg Rasmussen, new director of instructional technology for Wichita and the Department's staff person who ushered the KAN-ED bill through the legislature, Hal Gardner, hired to replace Greg Rasmussen, and Jerry Niebaum from Kansas University, representing the Board of Regents. Dr. Tompkins noted that a conference on KAN-ED is scheduled for July 18th in Topeka.

Dr. Tompkins asked Mrs. Kathy Toelkes, Public Information Officer, to present the initial draft of a pocket school fact sheet. She reviewed the information that would be included and asked Board members for input and suggestions. Lastly, Dr. Tompkins reported that Dr. Alexa Pochowski had assumed the position of Assistant Commissioner for Learning Services June 11th and Dr. Freden had taken over the leadership of the State and Federal Programs team. He also indicated that Bruce Passman would assume his duties as the new team leader for Student Support Services June 25th.

PROGRESS REPORT FROM FIELD KINDLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Representatives from Field Kindley High School, USD 445, Coffeyville, were on hand to report on progress the school had made through implementation of its improvement plan after a year of conditional accreditation and the first of two years working closely with the Department after receiving full accreditation. Assistant Principal Michael Speer reported that the school had received exemplary status after its recent North Central Association accreditation visit. He discussed standardization efforts throughout the district for building profiles, formats for school improvement plans; results-based staff development plans, common K-12 models for problem-solving, reading and writing; and a database to collect and analyze student data. Included in other measures undertaken were training in the QPA process; development of integrated performance-based assessments for grades K-9; development of a comprehensive district assessment plan; curriculum mapping; and strengthened science and math requirements for middle school and high school. Among the other district strategies being developed, Mr. Speer also reported on efforts to improve the graduation rate and to provide opportunities for at-risk pre-schoolers. Mr. Speer also reviewed high school data that reflected improvement in assessment scores and QPA indicators.

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chairman Rundell opened the Citizens' Open Forum at 10:25 a.m. Because of the large number of individuals seeking to address the Board, Chairman Rundell indicated that the time would be extended to 11:30 a.m. and asked that remarks be limited to two minutes per speaker. Because so many were present to comment on the Abilene/Chapman land transfer issue, he asked if some of those present had had similar sentiments made by earlier speakers, they would relinquish their time; nine did. Those addressing the Board were: Joseph Montez, Horton; Kathy Hoover, Christina Stroud, Beth Bebermeyer, Dennis Marston, Roger Forsyth, Kyle Hoover, Nicole Marston, Danny Forsyth, Kara Hoover, Jeanette Raab, Angie Sites, Carla Dill, Eric Keating, Donna Davis, and John Opat, the Chapman, KS area, representing USD 473; and Larry Bathurst, Sharon Chase, Dale Bathurst, Randall Bathurst, Tonya Hagedorn, Danny Wuthrow, Estol Bathurst, Mark Silhan, Talmage, KS, representing USD 435; Marlin Berry, Laura Van Horn, Jennifer Smidt, Gregg Noel, Debbie Barbur, Jim Fennema, Mark Wilson, and Gay Scanlon, Abilene, representing USD 435; and Milo Wilcox, the Abilene-Talmage area, representing himself. Chairman Rundell declared the open forum closed at 11:30 a.m.

The Board took a break until 11:42

REPORT AND ACTION ON PROPOSED ABILENE/CHAPMAN LAND TRANSFER

Mr. Rod Bieker, Department General Counsel, reported on the history and recent public hearing regarding a

request from USD 473 Chapman for the transfer of territory from USD 435 Abilene. He noted that the current request was officially a new petition, but was in actuality a request for reconsideration of action taken by the Board in 2000 on a transfer petition from USD 435. Board action in 2000 had gone against the hearing officer's recommendation and had approved a petition to transfer a portion of the USD 473 Chapman district to the Abilene district. Mr. Bieker reviewed the constitutionality of the Board's decision, noting that the District Court had ruled that the Board had acted lawfully. He indicated that his recommendation to deny the request of USD 473 to transfer back to them a portion of the land transferred in 2000 was based on his review of the recent public hearing testimony and documentation received from both districts. He noted that he had weighed the benefits and burdens of the transfer request and had outlined them in his report. He also noted that the Board could make a different recommendation based on other factors.

Mr. Wyatt suggested that a compromise could be made that could strike a balance by offsetting the factor of close proximity to Abilene with the wishes of two-thirds of the parents of students in the area to transfer back to the Chapman district. The latter factor would become more important the further one moves away from the Abilene schools. He suggested that State Highway 18 be considered as the northern boundary of the Abilene area in question. Discussion followed. The appearance that the Chapman district had been punished with the loss of land as a result of having made the difficult decision to close a school in Talmage two years ago was brought up and several Board members expressed their disappointment that the boards and superintendents of the two districts had not been able to work out a satisfactory solution between themselves. They expressed a strong desire that in the future issues such as this one would not progress to the point that they would need to be brought to the Board. The superintendents and boards of both districts were strongly encouraged to find ways to mend the ill will between the two communities. One suggestion was that the districts be willing to go beyond the ten-mile limit to transport students wishing to attend a different district. Concern was also voiced about the Board not following the recommendation of department staff and establishing a practice of modifying the recommendations of hearing officers at the Board table. Additionally, the expense of parents having to transport their children an excessive distance and the deterrent that distance might prove to parental involvement in activities was voiced. At the close of discussion, Mr. Wyatt moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the State Board approve the petition to transfer territory from USD 435 to USD 473, with the following amendment: All of the area south of state highway 18 shall remain a part of USD 435. The motion carried on a vote of 6-3, with Carol Rupe, Mr. Bacon and Mr. Voth voting "no". Mr. Bieker indicated he would prepare an Order reflecting the Board's decision and that it would be available for approval at the Wednesday meeting. He also indicated he would modify a distance in his findings that was disputed during the Citizens' Open Forum.

REPORTS FROM CONDITIONALLY ACCREDITED SCHOOLS

North Central High School, USD 221

Susan Graham, representing North Central High School, gave Board members copies of the school profile and reported progress to address its Cycle One conditional accreditation. Included were modifications in the school improvement plan to include results-based staff development and establishment of a timeline for monthly practice of improvement strategies across the curriculum and their use by staff. She also indicated that staff had completed the QPA self-assessment and would do so again in September. Ms. Graham indicated that the math curriculum had been aligned with state standards and language arts would be in the next QPA cycle. She reviewed assessments being used; data collection activities; how the data was being used; the assignment of key staff members to provide technical assistance where needed; and reflected on how staff had grown as a result of the year of conditional accreditation.

Harper Elementary School, USD 301

Martha Hadsell, presenting the end-of-cycle report for Harper Elementary School, USD 301, reviewed the accreditation team's recommendations and reported on the impact the conditional accreditation year had had on the school's staff. She indicated that staff knowledge of the QPA process and the use of data had increased and was being used effectively to direct school improvement strategies. Ms. Hadsell reported that the school was now a model school for staff development, with more opportunities for staff training throughout the district. She reported that the latest accreditation visit had given the staff the opportunity to evaluate their progress over the past year. She also reviewed strategies implemented, progress made, and how the school's relationship with the community had been strengthened.

Cathedral of St. Peter School, Kansas City Diocese

Mr. Pat Dalton, Principal, and Ms. Barb Morriss, teacher, the Cathedral of St. Peter School, reviewed progress staff had made in addressing their corrective action plan. Those areas included staff understanding of data analysis and full staff involvement in the QPA process, revisions to the school improvement plan, and the ongoing compilation of the school profile. Ms. Morriss discussed the data collection process and how it was being used to ascertain student needs and develop strategies. She also reviewed results from the local performance assessment the school had adopted and the state assessments, indicating that students were maintaining scores or showing improvement except in 8th grade math. She noted, though, that non-white students had shown a vast improvement in math scores at the 8th grade level. Ms. Morriss indicated that staff would continue to update the school profile and review yearly data to see where different teaching strategies are needed, as well as adding a third target area for cycle two.

Trinity Lutheran Elementary School, Paola

In the report on the May QPA visit, it was noted that Board members, staff and the new principal were present to visit with the accreditation team. Mrs. Barnes, who was reporting for the school, indicated that the staff was at ease and confident during the visit because of their participation in development of the school improvement plan. She also indicated that through the process they realized how beneficial the plan would be to them; primarily, in understanding how the knowledge gained from tracking student progress could indicate where staff training and the implementation of new strategies were needed.

St. John's Military Middle School and High School

Ms. Shelly Gabel, Reading Committee Chair, Mr. Devon Walter, Writing Committee Chair, and Ms. Barbara Nitz, Professional Development Chair, St. John's Military Schools, reported on progress the staff had made since their accreditation visit a year ago. Ms. Gabel reported that the staff and administration had a better understanding of the importance of full participation in the QPA process. She reported that all staff members had been assigned to one of the improvement committees and learned how to review data to develop strategies, and had been involved in the process to select the strategies to be implemented. Mr. Walter reported that the school would continue to have writing as a target area and would continue to use Six-Trait Writing as a strategy. He also noted that the schools' three assessment measures would be the state assessments, the CATS assessment and the ACT. Ms. Nitz reported on the schools' commitment to results-based staff development and how it provided opportunities to examine different staff development tools. She reported that staff now had an awareness for all to be involved in how to use new strategies and be able to communicate with one another in order to model and demonstrate their application. She noted that the staff would be working with low-risk feedback on how strategies were demonstrated and that the commitment to staff development extended to the long-term maintenance of teaching strategies with new staff.

Board comments that followed affirmed the need to continue to keep staff engaged in the QPA process.

PROPOSED AMENDED INSERVICE EDUCATION REGULATIONS

Mrs. Kathy Boyer, Staff Development Specialist, reported that the proposed inservice regulations, K.A.R. 91-1-216 through 219, and the amended regulation K.A.R. 91-1-206, were developed to meet the need of revised inservice regulations to work with the new teacher licensure regulations. She indicated that the Board was being asked to approve the proposed regulations for submittal to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for review. Mrs. Boyer reviewed that research had shown that the components of effective staff development included not only presentation of concepts and theories, but the demonstration of new behaviors, practice with feedback, and coaching in work settings. She also reviewed how the point system used in the new regulations would work and answered questions about the documentation that would be involved and how the effectiveness of training would be verified. She also indicated that there would be one year to pilot the regulations. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Carol Rupe, that the Board approve the submission of the proposed inservice education regulations to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for review. The motion carried.

INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION REGULATIONS

Dr. Martha Gage, Team Leader, Certification and Teacher Education, indicated that staff was requesting that the Board approve submittal of the proposed amended institutional accreditation regulation, which incorporates NCATE 2000 standards, for review. Mrs. DeFever moved, with a second by Mrs. Gamble, that the Board approve the submission of the proposed institutional accreditation regulation, K.A.R. 91-1-70a, to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for review. In the discussion that followed, Mr. Wyatt, noting his reservations about how the NCATE standards were written and what he felt was the lack of an academic focus, asked staff to prepare a proposal for Board consideration, that a major be required in the content area of endorsement. He also suggested that the Board revisit the standards in three to four years and evaluate how they were working in the state. Dr. Abrams and Mr. Bacon also questioned the advisability of turning accreditation over to a national organization such as NCATE. Voicing concern about academic rigor, as well, Dr. Abrams indicated he would have to vote against the motion. Mr. Bacon also stated his opposition based on the lack of choice the adoption of the NCATE standards appeared to give smaller institutions. In response to a question from Mrs. Gamble about whether the state could add to the standards if it felt they were not stringent enough, Dr. Gage indicated that requirements could be added and that minor modifications could also be made. The alternative accreditation organization, TEAC, was briefly discussed and it was noted that the accreditation process could be more expensive and that, because each institution would measure itself based on its own institutional standards, there would be no common standards with which to measure institutions.

The motion to approve submittal of the regulation carried on a vote of 7-2, with Dr. Abrams and Mr. Bacon voting "no". Mr. Bacon requested data to support the assertion that teachers from NCATE accredited institutions in Kansas produce better students.

DISCONTINUATION OF THE PRE-PROFESSIONAL SKILLS TEST (PPST)

Carol Rupe moved, with a second by Mrs. Gamble, that the Board discontinue use of the PPST beginning July 1, 2001 and accept National Board certification as a precertification exam to meet statutory regulation requirements. In the ensuing discussion, Carol Rupe noted that she was not convinced the PPST was a good measure of whether an individual would be successful as a teacher and that she was content with it being discontinued, especially in light of the fact that a content assessment will be part of the new licensure requirements. Dr. Gage clarified that the current test of pedagogy, the Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT), will still be used, as well as a performance assessment. The motion carried on a vote of 9-0. Dr. Abrams suggested that Open Forum speaker who commented on the PPST be notified of the Board's action.

The Board took a break from 2:45 p.m. until 2:55 p.m.

STUDY SESSION ON THE DEFINITION OF A "SUITABLE EDUCATION"

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis briefly reviewed the scope of the legislation requiring the Legislative Coordinating Council (LCC) to conduct a professional evaluation of school district finance in order to determine the cost of a suitable education for Kansas children. The study was to include, but not be limited to, the financing of existing statutory requirements for a suitable education, such as the courses required in elementary schools; requirements for instruction in civics, U.S. Government, U.S. History, Kansas History and Kansas Government; courses required to qualify for a state scholarship; and the courses included in the precollege curriculum prescribed by the Board of Regents. To assist the Board in its discussion, Mr. Dennis had provided of list of areas the Board might want to consider for expanding the definition. He indicated that the Board would need to give its recommendations to the Legislative Educational Planning Committee (LEPC), to which the LCC had assigned the task of defining the contract requirements for the study, before it met in July.

The Board discussed if it should approach the definition from the direction of defining inputs, such as counseling services, library media services, technology training, additional curriculum requirements, etc.; or from the direction of outcomes, such as students attaining a certain level of proficiency in curriculum areas. In addressing the question, members discussed how other states had dealt with the issue and Board Attorney, Dan Biles, was consulted on how the courts had ruled on what an adequate education was. He reported that the Kansas Supreme Court, because of allegations that standards were not met, decided to hold the state to the standards of Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA); he indicated the Court did not want to get into a judicially developed test of what was adequate. It was requested that an additional study session be scheduled at a future date on the issue of suitable funding for public education with the possibility that school finance consultants be available to assist the Board during its discussion. Several Board members indicated that the issue was one of funding at this point and that the Board should let the LEPC know what is needed to achieve the outcomes the Board has established in order to assist them in developing the request for proposals for the study. Because of the connection between QPA and student outcomes, concern was expressed about the necessity of the Board developing a definition before having heard the report and recommendations from the QPA Task Force which was reviewing the QPA process and the adequacy of QPA requirements.

It was suggested that the Board review the list of suggested areas to add to the LEPC definition, Commissioner Tompkins adding that for the purposes of directing the study, it would be helpful to identify the elements necessary needed to accomplish a suitable education. After further discussion, the majority of the Board appeared to agree that, with minor modifications, the areas covered in Mr. Dennis' list should be included in the Board's communication with the LEPC. Additionally, it was decided that QPA should be used as the outcome by which adequate funding and support should be measured. Dr. Abrams opposed the approach and stated that outcomes should be the state board focus. Mr. Dennis indicated that staff would consolidate the Board's suggestions and have a document available for Board review at the next day's meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Waugh moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the Board recess into executive session for a period of fifteen minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of non-elected personnel so the privacy, confidentiality and other rights of such personnel are not violated, and that the open meeting of the Board resume at 5:25 p.m. The motion carried. At 5:25 p.m. the open meeting resumed.

Chairman Rundell recessed the meeting at 5:25 p.m.

I.B. Rundell, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2001

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rundell called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 13, 2001, 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

I.B. "Sonny" Rundell

John Bacon

Carol Rupe

Val DeFever

Janet Waugh

Sue Gamble

Bruce Wyatt

Dr. Wagnon was out of the country and Mr. Voth was attending an Executive Committee meeting of the Kansas State High School Activities Association's Board of Directors.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Rundell indicated that the action on the Order reflecting the Board's decision on the land transfer should be added to the agenda as item 3 a. Mrs. Gamble asked that items 6 e., renewal of a charter school; 6 i., the recommendation to accredit schools; and 6 s., a contract for investigating special education letters of complaint, be pulled from the consent agenda for further discussion. Mr. Wyatt asked that item 6 p., a request to continue the assessment contract with the University of Kansas, be pulled from the consent agenda, as well. Carol Rupe moved, with a second by Mrs. Gamble, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

LAND TRANSFER ORDER

Mr. Rod Bieker, Department General Counsel, presented to the Board a Land Transfer Order in the matter of the petition to transfer territory from USD 435, Abilene, to USD 473, Chapman. He indicated that the order had been modified to reflect the Board's decision made on the previous day and also contained a modification to a distance in his findings as discussed. After brief discussion, Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mr. Wyatt, that the Board approve the Land Transfer Order. The motion carried on a vote of 6-2, with Mr. Bacon and Carol Rupe voting "no".

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Board Recommendations Regarding a Suitable Education

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis presented and asked for the Board's approval of a draft of recommendations to forward to the Legislative Educational Planning Committee (LEPC) as it seeks to conduct a professional evaluation of school district finance to determine the cost of a suitable education for Kansas children. In addition to factors identified in the 2001 legislation directing the study, he incorporated the additional suggestions as agreed upon by the Board during their study session the previous day. Carol Rupe asked that providing for appropriate class size be added to the list. The addition of language incorporating the Board's accreditation standards was also discussed. Mrs. Gamble moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever that the Board adopt the proposal with the two additions suggested. Dr. Abrams expressed his opposition to addressing the issue of suitable education as it was being proposed, indicating that the Board's power lies with accreditation and that the Board is not an advisory body. The motion carried on a vote of 6-2 with Dr. Abrams and Mr. Bacon voting "no". The Board's statement regarding suitable education is as follows:

- A. The State Board believes that the most important feature of a suitable education is the outcomes achieved by students as required through the State Board of Education accreditation regulations.
- B. The State Board believes that in order to achieve these outcomes, the following programs and services must be available.
 - o Recruit, prepare, support, and retain a competent, caring, and qualified teacher for every classroom and leader for every school
 - o Meet all state and federal requirements for special education
 - o Provide a sufficient high school curriculum to ensure that all students have options to attend higher education or enter the work force or military
 - o Provide access to higher education for selected upper-level secondary students.
 - o Ensure student and staff safety
 - o Provide early childhood programs
 - o Ensure appropriate class-size
 - o Provide extended learning time
 - o Provide technical education to students at the secondary level
 - o Provide technology training
 - o Provide library media services
 - o Provide foreign language
 - o Provide alternative school programs for selected students
 - o Provide fine arts
 - o Provide nursing services
 - o Provide counseling services
 - o Provide competitive and noncompetitive (co-curricular) activities/programs
 - o Provide transportation of students to and from school

Review of FY 2003 Budget Priorities

Kansas State School for the Deaf Budget

Mr. Robert Maile, Superintendent of Kansas State School for the Deaf, KSSB, reviewed an outline of the school's FY 2003 budget request. He reported that his estimates for maintaining current service levels were based on a one percent increase over the FY 2002 appropriation. Because he had not yet received information from the Division of Budget regarding his enhancement budget, Mr. Maile reported that the request was based on what was requested for FY 2002, with the exception of two additional items: \$160,000 for special programming for deaf

special needs students; and \$100,000 to purchase property to expand the athletic field. He also reviewed the capital improvement requests, which reflected items scheduled as part of a five-year plan for dormitory renovation and roof replacement and asbestos abatement. Commissioner Tompkins suggested that the request for funds to purchase property for the athletic field expansion be moved from the Enhancement Programs section to the Capital Improvements section of the school's budget proposal.

Kansas Department of Education Budget

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis reviewed state general fund projections through FY 2003, noting that it appeared that \$90 million would need to be cut from the state budget to maintain current service levels and to have an ending balance that met the 7.5% statutory requirement. He discussed the impact on education funding and indicated that if the legislature does nothing to improve state revenue receipts, it would be difficult in FY 2003 to fund any of the additional enhancements the Board might propose in its budget. Mr. Dennis also handed out the Governor's summary illustrating the cost of the tax cuts implemented over the last six years and their cumulative effect on state revenue, which has resulted in a reduction of \$3.7 billion in receipts. The impact the cuts had had on funding for schools versus economic gains was briefly discussed. Mr. Dennis responded that the increased cost of natural gas was currently having a big impact on school district budgets, but that the biggest problem districts were facing was having adequate funding for salaries in order to be able to recruit and retain quality teachers.

Mr. Dennis reviewed FY 2003 budget options based on what was funded for FY 2002 and what had been requested by the Governor and/or the Board, but not funded. At the conclusion of the presentation, he asked if there were any other programs the Board would like to add. Offering districts more money specifically for teacher salaries was not an option because salaries are negotiated at the district level, so the Board explored several other avenues it might pursue to provide more money for teachers' salaries in all Kansas school districts. Signing bonuses, state funding of health insurance, and increasing the base were three options discussed.

Because of time constraints, Chairman Rundell indicated the remaining two agenda items under Legislative matters would be moved to immediately after the Board had held its discussion with the Kansas Teacher of the Year team. The Board took a break from 10:45 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

DISCUSSION WITH KANSAS TEACHER OF THE YEAR TEAM

Mr. Dennis introduced members of the Kansas Teacher of the Year (K-TOY) team who were present to discuss with the Board suggestions for improving schools. They included 2001 Kansas Teacher of the Year, Mrs. Janet S. Lewandowski, fifth- and sixth-grade teacher at Maize East Elementary School, USD 266; and 2001 Regional Teachers of the Year: Mrs. Sue Boldra, social studies teacher at Hays High School, USD 489; Mrs. Hildie E. Brooks, health education teacher at Dwight D. Eisenhower Middle School, USD 383; Mrs. Mary Etta Copeland, Director of Choral Music as well as the psychology and community service teacher at DeSoto High School, USD 232; Mrs. Carol Panzer, fifth-grade communications teacher at Lakin Middle School, USD 215; and Mrs. Renita K. Ubel, first-grade teacher at Eugene Field Elementary School, USD 290.

Chariman Rundell began the discussion, by asking the teachers how they would redesign Kansas schools. Suggestions were made for offering extended learning opportunities, such as all-day kindergarten and extended year for students, including alternative activities and extended day opportunities for at-risk students, to work with issues such as character, team building, reading etc. Post-kindergarten classes for at-risk students were also suggested. Several other Board members asked questions as well. Many suggestions for developing and retaining quality teachers were made. Those included improving salaries and resources for teachers; improvements in

working conditions, including reductions in class size; opportunities to help new teachers develop effective instructional strategies; designing schools to be collaborative working environments that encourage and support risk taking and innovation; the use of exemplary and master teachers as mentors for new teachers and to assist older teachers develop new strategies; and the utilization of more exemplary teachers instead of more administrators to assist with administrative duties. Alternative certification was also discussed and ensuring that teachers following an alternative certification route had sufficient pedagogy was emphasized.

Several members of the K-TOY team discussed difficulties with not having adequate time to work with struggling students and the demands of meeting core curriculum requirements. Along this same vein, concern was expressed that student participation in the arts was being squeezed out and students were being required to do too much homework, particularly at the high school level. The desire for the time to prepare students to participate in a global society, to be multi-tasked, flexible, creative and adaptable, was also expressed. The need for teachers to have more knowledge of mental health issues and the training to recognize students in need of emotional help was noted as well. At the conclusion of the discussion the K-TOY team thanked the Board for its leadership and for the opportunity to share their suggestions and concerns.

2000-2001 SCHOOL YEAR WAIVER FOR USD 431, HOISINGTON

Because of the devastating effects of a tornado in April on the school district and the community, USD 431 was requesting that the Board waive the minimum school term required by law. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Carol Rupe, that the Board approve the request from USD 431 to waive the 2001-2002 school year requirement of 1,116 hours for Lincoln Elementary (23 hours 36 minutes), Hoisington Middle School (10 hours 14 minutes), and Hoisington High School (34 hours 39 minutes). The motion carried unanimously.

AMENDMENT TO THE DEFINITION OF EXTRAORDINARY ENROLLMENT GROWTH

Because of the rapid growth experienced in three school districts, a change to the size definition for an increase in students over a past three year period was requested in order to allow a district to appeal to the State Board of Tax Appeals to continue special tax levying authority beyond the current two year period, in order to build new facilities which are not replacements. Mrs. Gamble moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the State Board define extraordinary enrollment growth under K.S.A. 72-6441 as a three-year average of at least a six percent increase in enrollment, an increase of 1,500 or more students over the past three years, or an increase of 1,200 or more students over the past three years if the new facilities being constructed are not replacements. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Gamble asked that the request for renewal of charter school petitions for six charter schools be voted upon separately. She expressed concern that the Board did not have the authority to deny a petition if a charter school's purpose had changed significantly as was the case with the Spring Hill Elementary Charter School which would no longer offer full-day kindergarten. Regarding item 6 i., the recommendation to accredit schools; Mrs. Gamble indicated her concern about the quality of QPA visiting teams because of a report from a principal that members of a QPA accreditation team who were friends with staff were not as impartial as they should have been when visiting the school. Dr. Adams, School Improvement and Accreditation, reported the issue was one being addressed by the QPA Task Force. In discussing the issue, Mrs. Gamble suggested that providing for an accreditation category of "accredit with concerns" be considered. Regarding item 6 s., a contract for investigating special education letters of complaint, the problems driving the complaints being investigated and the number of complaints received were discussed. Dr. Pochowski indicated that parents were becoming more knowledgeable and the contract was part of the effort for continuous improvement monitoring. She also indicated that seventy

formal complaints had been received last year, but the number was increasing. An advocacy group has even recommended that parents file complaints every two weeks. Concerning the assessment contract with the University of Kansas, item 6 s., Mr. Wyatt asked if other contractors had been considered. Dr. Tompkins indicated that with proper notice the Department would be happy to put the contract out for bid, but that the Board should expect the cost to be four to seven times higher and there was a concern about the legislature providing the funding. He also mentioned that members of the University of Kansas team were consulted as assessment experts by other states. Errors in the assessments were discussed and Board members were assured that all complaints received were shared with the contractor for reply. The opportunity for Board members to attend the next assessment external review meeting in the fall was mentioned. Mr. Bacon indicated he would like Board input into the membership of the assessment bias review committee. Dr. Adams indicated that several Board members had participated on the Equity Advisory Council. Mrs. DeFever moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the consent agenda, expect item 6 e., renewal of charter school petitions, be approved. The motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Approved the FY 2002 salary increases for unclassified staff as recommended.
- Confirmed the appointments of special project staff for FY 2002 and established their annual salaries, effective June 10, 2001: Linda Dunn, Elke Lorenz, Kelly Spurgeon, Miriam Herrick, Linda Loder, Jonathan Loppnow, Christina Madden, Scott Cotrell, Dennis Sampson, Shelby Fenoglio, Gail Matthews, Kelly Kaberline, Zona Clennan, Mende Barnett, Christopher Renner, Ron Johnson, Lucinda Brown, Linda Geiger, LaNetra Guess, Phyllis Kelly, Jean Myer, Carolyn Clement, Rose Roldan, Sherylan Smith, Amanda Jeffrey, Darrell Lang, Joyce Kemnitz, Randy Stout, Donna Matthis, Rose Villalobos, Ron Folk, Jeffrey Cook, Kimberly Hodgson, Karen Maddox, Rebecca Strohm, Mary Stattelman, Deborah Chappell, Kurt Brown, Dawn Simmons, Doug Anderson, Marita Renauer, and Carrie Conley.
- Approved school construction plans for Blue Valley, USD 229; Derby, USD 260; Salina, USD 305; Lebo-Waverly, USD 243; Valley Heights, USD 498; Flint Hills Technical College; South Barber, USD 255; Cowley County Community College; Northeast Kansas Technical College; Rock Creek, USD 323; Kingman- Norwich, USD 331; Wichita, USD 259; Hugoton Public Schools, USD 210; Copeland, USD 476; Fredonia, USD 484; Andover, USD 385; Dodge City, USD 443; Olathe, USD 233 (2 projects); Allen County Community College; Shawnee Mission, USD 512; Nemaha Valley Schools, USD 442; Gardner Edgerton Antioch, USD 231; Pratt Community College; Thomas More Prep-Marian; and Vermillion, USD 380.
- Approved the termination of the Southeast Kansas Special Education Cooperative Agreement and approved the Southeast Kansas Special Education Cooperative Interlocal Agreement.
- Approved the renewal of the Learning Consortium Interlocal Agreement (Galva).
- Approved Cycle 1 accredited status for Kansas schools, USD 259 Wichita: Bostic Traditional Magnet Elementary, Lawrence Elementary, Mueller Elementary School and Hamilton Middle; USD 266 Maize: Maize Elementary (5-6); USD 340: Jefferson West Intermediate; and Trinity Lutheran Elementary,

Atchison; and Cycle II accredited status for USD 233 Olathe: Countryside Elementary; USD 262 Valley Center: Abilene Elementary, Wheatland Elementary, West Elementary, Valley Center Elementary and Valley Center High; USD 293 Quinter: Quinter Elementary and Quinter Junior-Senior High; USD 295 Prairie Heights: Jennings Elementary; USD 310 Fairfield: Fairfield East Elementary, Fairfield High, Fairfield West Elementary and Fairfield Middle; USD 323 Rock Creek: Westmoreland Elementary; USD 331 Kingman-Norwich: Kingman Elementary and Norwich Elementary; USD 340: Jefferson West Middle; USD 343 Perry: Lecompton High; USD 347 Kinsley-Offerle: Southside Elementary, Kinsley Senior High and Offerle Middle; USD 349 Stafford: Stafford Middle/High; USD 350 St. John-Hudson: Hudson Elementary; USD 377 Atchison County Community: Atchison County Community Middle; USD 418 McPherson: Lincoln Elementary and Roosevelt Elementary; USD 425 Highland: Highland Elementary and Highland High; USD 428 Great Bend: Lincoln Elementary, Riley Elementary and Park Elementary; USD 431 Hoisington: Roosevelt Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Hoisington Middle and Hoisington High; USD 433 Midway: Midway Elementary and Midway Junior/Senior High; USD 437 Auburn Washburn: Indian Hills Elementary; USD 453 Leavenworth: Muncie Elementary; USD 457 Garden City: Florence Wilson Elementary, Buffalo Jones Elementary, Abe Hubert Middle and Jennie Barker Elementary; USD 461 Neodesha: Heller Elementary, North Lawn Elementary and Neodesha High; USD 475 Geary County: Grandview Elementary, Custer Hill Elementary, Eisenhower Elementary, Franklin Elementary, Jefferson Elementary, Morris Hill Elementary, Westwood Elementary, and Junction City Middle; USD 480 Liberal: Garfield Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, MacArthur Elementary, McDermott Elementary, Southlawn Elementary, Washington Elementary, Liberal South Middle and Liberal West Middle; USD 483 Kismet-Plains: Kismet Elementary, Plains Elementary and Southwestern Heights Junior/Senior High; and USD 497 Lawrence: Wakarusa Valley Elementary.

- Approved a request for a waiver from USD 383 for Sandra Joy to serve in *Gifted Education*, outside her area of endorsement.
- Approved Quality Performance Accreditation Waiver requests for Baldwin High School, USD 348, and Cummings, Effingham and Lancaster Elementary Schools, USD 377, to extend their accreditation timeline by one year in order to align with other schools in the districts; and for Lincoln Elementary, USD 413, to begin the QPA process as a candidate school.
- Approved conditional accreditation status for Oskaloosa High and Oskaloosa Middle School, USD 341.
- Received LEA allotments for Title I, Title II, Title IV, Title VI, Migrant and Class-Size Reduction Programs for the 2001-2002 school year.
- Approved an Ed-Flex waiver from Class-Size Reduction requirements for USD 411, Goessel.
- Approved funding of Kansas Advanced Placement Grant activities for Shawnee Mission AP Summer Institute, \$21,220; and Tulsa University, \$19,250.
- Approved Kansas participation in the 2002 National Assessment of Educational Progress state-to-state comparison assessment.
- Approved Substitute Teacher Workshop subgrants in the amount of \$5,000 for Iuka Center for Excellence, Northeast Kansas Education Service Center, Smoky Hill Education Service Center and Southeast Kansas

Education Service Center.

- Approved commercial driver training school licenses for Central Christian School, Hutchinson, KS, and Horizons Driving Academy, Salina, KS.
- Approved Carl Perkins Statewide Leadership grants: \$7,020 for Highland County Community College for strengthening the quality of family and consumer science; \$6,450 for Manhattan Area Technical College a technical education leadership initiative; and \$11,261 for Pittsburg State University for program improvement.
- Approved the recommendations of the School Breakfast Program Waiver Review Committee.

Contracts Approved:

The State Board authorized the *Superintendent of the Kansas State School for the Deaf* to enter into a contract and receive payment in the amount of \$900 from Richmond, Centre School District, Kansas City, Missouri for education services for one student to attended KSSD's 2001 Extended School Year program;

and

Commissioner of Education

- to negotiate and enter into a contract with the University of Kansas Beach Center to assist schools in USD 500 on Title I school improvement status, with the contract amount not to exceed \$44,800;
- to continue the contract with the University of Kansas for the development and administration of the state mathematics, reading and writing assessment instruments, as well as for alternate assessment and modified assessments needed for students with disabilities and students with limited English proficiency, with the contract amount not to exceed \$1,413,000;
- to negotiate and enter into contracts with Dr. Richard Whelan and Jerry Stewart to investigate and prepare written reports on special education parent complaints, with the contract amount not to exceed \$50,000 each;
- to negotiate and continue a contract with Bernardt Jones to provide needed support to professionals in the field of speech and language, with the contract amount not to exceed \$41,000;
- to negotiate and enter into contracts with Northeast Kansas Education Service Center and the Lawrence Public Schools to provide required support services for the implementation of Continuous Improvement Monitoring;
- to negotiate and continue a contract with Families Together, Inc. to provide the management and coordination of training and identification of persons for appointment as education advocates for children with disabilities, with the contract amount not to exceed \$100,000; and
- to negotiate and enter into contracts to coordinate the activities of secondary and postsecondary students

who participate in career and technical student organizations, funded equally in grants of \$35,302 from state and federal funds for: Kansas State University, for FFA/KYF; Pittsburg University, for SkillsUSA VICA; and Emporia State University, for DECA/BPA.

RENEWAL OF CHARTER SCHOOLS

Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Carol Rupe, that requests for renewal of charter schools received from USD 230, Spring Hill; USD 249, Frontenac; USD 348, Baldwin; USD 361, Anthony Harper; USD 435, Abilene, and USD 458, Basehor-Linwood, be approved. The motion carried 6-2, with Mrs. Gamble and Mr. Wyatt voting "no".

APPROVAL OF NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

National Association of State Boards of Education

Mrs. DeFever moved, with a second by the Carol Rupe, that the 2002 National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) dues in the amount of \$16,977 be approved. The motion carried.

Education Leaders Council

It was moved by Mr. Bacon, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that 2002 Education Leaders Council membership dues in the amount of \$5,000 be approved. The motion failed on a vote of 2-6, with Mrs. DeFever, Mrs. Gamble, Mr. Rundell, Mrs. Rupe, Mrs. Waugh and Mr. Wyatt voting "no".

BOARD REPORTS

Board Attorney

Mr. Biles briefly reviewed his written report, providing the Board with updates on a personal injury lawsuit involving a student at the Kansas State School for Deaf; the appeal of the Charles Marsh termination appeal; and the school finance case in which the plaintiffs have requested a postponement. Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mr. Wyatt, that Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for May be paid as presented. The motion carried.

Legislative Coordinator

Mrs. DeFever reported that she intended to attend the first interim hearing regarding the contract to conduct a professional evaluation of school district finance to determine the cost of a suitable education for Kansas children.

Other Board Member Reports

Mr. Wyatt reported he had attended a NASBE early childhood special education meeting and had the opportunity to hear what other states are doing. He noted that it pointed out the need for providers of services throughout the state to sit down and examine what's being done, if there is overlap and duplication, and what is being overlooked. He indicated Mrs. DeFever would be chairing a committee to address those issues. Mrs. DeFever reported that there was the possibility of the state receiving a grant to help pay for the collaboration among agencies.

Chairman Rundell reported he had just returned from an IMEC (International Migrant Education Council) meeting in California. He noted that some states are enabling the children of migrant workers to continue their education as they move from area to area through the use of computers that are being provided for them.

Mrs. Gamble reported that she had attended the induction of Commissioner Tompkins into the Kansas Teachers Hall of Fame in Dodge City. She reported the suggestion had been made that as inductees return to their

communities local celebrations be held to honor them. She reported on the possibility of this occurring at the Kansas Association of School Boards convention in December.

BOARD MEMBERS REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Wyatt stated that the Board should continue its work on defining a "*suitable education*" after it receives the report and recommendations from the QPA Task Force in August.

APPROVAL OF BOARD TRAVEL

Mrs. Waugh moved, with a second by Mrs. Gamble, that the travel requests be approved. The motion carried.

Chairman Rundell recessed the meeting for lunch at 12:42 p.m. and members returned for an afternoon study session at 1:30 p.m.

STUDY SESSION ON REDESIGNING KANSAS SCHOOLS AND LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR A NEW CENTURY

To begin its study of issues to be considered for redesigning Kansas schools and to adequately anticipate the changes that would need to be made in education learning environments and delivery mechanisms, the Board reviewed and discussed information on the current configuration of public schools in the state, including grade span groupings, magnet schools, charter schools, alternative schools, secondary schools providing dual credit opportunities, extended day or after school programs, summer school programs, and non- traditional instruction via technology. The Board also examined what worked well within the current design of Kansas schools, such as parental involvement in site councils; higher expectations for students; broader curriculum; assessment driven instruction; curriculum alignment with statewide standards; better preparation for postsecondary education; improved services for children with disabilities and an improving recognition and ability to meet the learning needs of all students which has improved the opportunities for everyone to learn; lower drop-out rates; and the development of alternative schools. Additionally cited were school choice allowed between districts, continuity of instructors, increased opportunities for staff collaboration and joint planning, and the movement toward learning facilitators.

During the consideration of some of the systemic obstacles that prevented the unique needs of individual students to be met, the fact that the current system had been developed to meet the needs of groups was discussed and that individualizing programs and services was difficult while also ensuring equity for all students. Some of the problems created because of this included the fact that some students are not able to progress at the pace at which they are capable; the struggles dealing with students in inclusive environments and how to ensure equitable time for all students; and the fact that some children have a lot of trouble fitting into a typical mold. Difficulties encountered by students from lower socio-economic backgrounds, increased mobility, and the fact that many students are not prepared with the prerequisite skills to begin school were examined. It was noted that some students do not have parents who are able to be of help. This was particularly noted with students with limited English skills and where English was probably not spoken in the home. The lack of understanding about diverse home environments, including culture and family structure was also cited. Also discussed was the lack of time within the current system - lack of time for teachers to team, plan and prepare adequately, and the lack of the extended learning time necessary for students to experiment and learn from experience. Broader curricular offerings cited as a positive element in the current system, were also noted as obstacles because there was the perception that students in some instances were faced with too many choices. Lack of choice in smaller districts was also noted. The lack of enough quality teachers and administrators was also mentioned, as was the resistance of some teaching staff to changes in instructional techniques and strategies. This was also mentioned when the

lack of quality inservice education opportunities was discussed. The need for better understanding between teachers and administrators and the need for better communication between schools and parents were also discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board ended its discussion at 3:37 p.m. There being no further business, Chairman Rundell adjourned the meeting.

I.B. Rundell, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary