

## KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

### MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 1999

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Holloway called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 11, 1999, in the Board Room of State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

#### ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams	Linda Holloway
John Bacon I.B.	"Sonny" Rundell
Mary Douglass Brown	Harold Voth
Val DeFever	Bill Wagnon
Scott Hill	Janet Waugh

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Holloway indicated that item 9, receipt of the validation study of the Professional Knowledge Test, should be pulled from the agenda. Dr. Abrams asked that item 16 h., recommendations to accredit schools under Quality Performance Accreditation, be pulled from the consent agenda. Mrs. Brown asked that item 16 m., recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee be pulled from the consent agenda. Mrs. DeFever moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Holloway asked for approval of the minutes of the April meeting. Mrs. Brown moved, with a second by Mr. Voth, that the minutes be approved as submitted. The motion carried.

#### INTRODUCTIONS

##### **New Kansas Department of Education Staff**

Mr. Lanny Gaston, Department Director of Personnel introduced new staff members: Sarah Barnes, Public Service Administrator I, School Finance; Deborah Chappell, Education Program Consultant,

Student Support Services; Rebecca Strohm, Secretary I, Student Support Services; Laura Terrel, Office Assistant IV, Consolidated and Supplemental Programs; Bonnie Eagle, Secretary I, Consolidated and Supplemental Programs; and Dale Pember, Applications Programmer Analyst III, Agency Budgeting and Program Accounting.

- **1999 Kansas Community Colleges Winners**

Dr. Joe Birmingham, Assistant Commissioner, Lifelong Learning, introduced Frayna Scrinopskie, Education Program Consultant, who reported on the 1999 Kansas Community Colleges Academic Excellence Challenge. She introduced Todd Leif, Physical Science Instructor and coach of the winning Cloud County Community College team. Mr. Leif introduced each member of the team: Miles Stearns, Courtland; Brad Henry, Concordia; Neil Offutt, Beloit; Jason Tholstrup, Concordia; Jason Anderson, Clay Center; and Donald Edinborough, Salina. Team member Tara Pralle was unable to be present. After the introductions, each member was presented with a certificate of recognition and posed for a photograph with Board Chairman Holloway and Commissioner Tompkins.

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## CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chairman Holloway opened the citizens' open forum at 10:28 a.m. Appearing to speak were: Rev. David Grimm, Burlingame; John Van Keppell, Leawood; Matt Grogger, representing Mainstream Coalition, Overland Park; Gene Neely, representing KNEA; Paul Rothberg, Overland Park; John Calvert, Lake Quivira; Vearl Bacon, CWA, McPherson; Harry McDonald, Olathe; Dave Raffel, Shawnee; John Davidson, Kansas Academy of Science, Lawrence; Prof. M. H. Michael Crawford, representing the Human Biology Association, Lawrence; Bill Harris, Prairie Village; Mary Williams, Leon; Chris Mammolitti, Pratt; Adrian Melott, Lawrence; Timothy Miller, Lawrence; Philip Kimball, Lawrence; Philip Baringer, Lawrence; Tom Willis, Cleveland, OH; Kevin Knevzi, Perry & Oskaloosa; Rebecca Messull, , representing the American Association for the Advancement of Science, Overland Park; Tony Kostusik, Leawood; Lisa Volland, representing the Kansas Association of Biology Teachers, Topeka; and Ellen Barber, Parents Association for Objective Science and History, Lawrence. Chairman Holloway called for a short break at 11:20 a.m. and the open forum resumed at 11:25. Appearing after the break were: Dr. Denise Lepley, Bishop Seabury Academy, Lawrence; Archie Heddings, Kansas City; Pete Distler, Overland Park; Ken Carlson, Overland Park; Jeff Dykstra, Overland Park; Dr. Larry

McKenna, Overland Park; Larry Rink, Overland Park; Mary Kay Culp, Kansas Catholic Conference, Kansas City; David Huett-Vaughn, Overland Park; and Pam Hanley, Leawood. Chairman Holloway declared the open forum closed at 11:50 a.m.

The Board took a short break until 11:55 a.m.

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD ACCELERATED PROGRAM (ECAP)**

Commissioner Tompkins introduced Dr. Jerold Stewart, USD 259 Director of Special Education. Dr. Stewart discussed how the district made its decision to begin a pre-school gifted program. He indicated a study committee was formed to evaluate early intervention efforts with children with the potential for giftedness and to investigate how to identify such children prior to enrollment in elementary school. Dr. Stewart introduced gifted facilitator/ECAP teacher, Valerie Weeks. Ms. Weeks reviewed the procedures used to assess potential interest with parents and the screening process used to identify children for enrollment in the pilot program. She indicated ten four-year-olds were chosen to participate from 9-11, Monday through Friday. She indicated ECAP consisted of a structured curriculum concentrating on mathematics, reading and creative writing. Ms. Weeks passed around a portfolio of the children's work for the Board to review. She indicated two professors from Wichita State would be providing ongoing program evaluation and the collection of longitudinal data. Ms. Weeks also discussed common traits of gifted children: a high vocabulary, creative play, curiosity, a sense of humor, and a more mature understanding of the world. The next step for the program will be to expand it to underserved minority and disadvantaged children, Mrs. Weeks reported. Ms. Peggy Thorpe, Coordinator of USD 259 Gifted Services discussed the steps the district would take to expand the program and indicated Hispanic females and African-American males would be targeted for inclusion. Board questions followed.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:38 p.m.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **Amended Quality Performance Regulations**

Chairman Holloway opened the public hearing on new and amended Quality Performance Regulations

at 1:30 p.m. with all Board members present. They heard comments from Rod Bieker, Kansas Department of Education General Counsel to relay the comments received from the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations; Peg Dunlap, Kansas-National Education Association, Topeka; Bill Majors, Assistant Executive Director/Education Services, Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB); and Beth Reust, Superintendent of USD 380, Vermillion. There being no further speakers, Chairman Holloway declared the public hearing closed at 1:46 p.m. After the close of the hearing, Board members discussed the approval process and the appropriate time for Board discussion. The question was also raised about the difficulties of small schools holding athletic practice.

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### **EDUCATOR LICENSURE**

Commissioner Tompkins reviewed a summary which compared the Professional Standards Board proposal for educator licensure and the Board's subcommittee proposal and explained the process the subcommittee had used in arriving at its recommendations. Areas of variance included the GPA in pedagogy required for a conditional license and the requirement for a pedagogical assessment for a school leadership license; provisions for a 7-year license upon completion of a performance assessment; requirements for licensure after practice under a restricted certificate; levels of licensure; requirements for receiving an emergency substitute license; requirements for out-of-state applicants to receive a conditional or professional license; number of endorsement areas; performance assessment provisions for renewal of a professional license and renewal of certificates issued prior to enactment of the new regulations. Other issues, to be addressed in Board policy, for which agreement is still sought include standards and indicators to be included in policy; the development of the performance assessment; and the policy on visiting scholars. Board discussion included how the subcommittee envisioned the performance assessment; requirements for emergency substitutes; the addition of language to address mentoring for new teachers; and the need to move forward with implementation of educator licensure redesign. Mr. Bacon asked for an example of a performance assessment for his review. Staff indicated they would furnish him with one.

The Board took a break from 2:55 p.m. until 3:08 p.m.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION**

Mr. Rundell moved, with a second by Mr. Hill, that the Board adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of the Professional Practices Commission and approve the recommendations of the Commission in cases Nos. 98-FC-13 and 98-FC-14. The motion carried.

## **PRESENTATIONS ON READING**

### **Draft Publication for Schools and Parents on Reading**

Dr. Sharon Freden, Assistant Commissioner for Learning Services, introduced Gayle Stuber, Education Program Consultant, who reported on the draft reading brochure provided to Board members. She indicated it had been developed to promote family literacy and to give parents and families information about the reading skills and needs of young children. Ms. Stuber reported the draft brochure would be disseminated across the state to reading teachers for comments. Ms. Stuber also asked for Board comments. The Board briefly discussed the brochure.

### **Reading Research and Recommendations for Teacher Training**

Dr. Freden introduced Dr. Michele Berg, Director, and Trudy Stegelman, Learning Disabilities Specialist and Head of Teacher Training, Menninger Center for Learning Disabilities, Topeka, KS. Dr. Berg spoke about the need for using the best approach to reading instruction for all students and the need for policy makers and educators to take advantage of the best available research to make decisions about reading instruction. She indicated that a research effort by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) had been underway since 1985 to identify the nature of reading difficulties, their

causes and the most effective method for reading instruction. The NICHD research has shown that most reading difficulties are solvable with current best practices, but that if not addressed early the literacy gap widens as time goes on and the mastery of other skills decreases as well.

Ms. Stegelman discussed her work as a trainer of teachers in multi-sensory phonics and language techniques. She reported that most teachers lack sufficient formal training to reach all children and that the number of reading courses taken by primary teachers during teacher preparation averages 1.3. She indicated teacher training skills for effective instruction should include: 1) conceptual foundations regarding the reading process; 2) knowledge of the structure of language; and 3) supervised practice in teaching reading. Ms. Stegleman said their recommendations were that sufficient training for certification requirements be mandated and university teacher training programs should be urged to update and

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modify their offerings to provide adequate teacher preparation. She also recommended that more reading mentoring and inservice be provided for teaching reading and that an across-the-state standard for inservice be developed. Board questions followed.

**Kansas Accelerated Literacy Learning (KALL) Program**

Dr. Freden introduced Dr. Diane Nielsen, Associate Professor in the School of Education at the University of Kansas. Dr. Nielsen reported that recent efforts in dealing with reading difficulties have moved away from remediation to giving beginning readers a good start. She discussed her work with an accelerated literacy learning program developed to provide children entering first grade with limited reading-related skills (emergent readers) one-on-one assistance in learning five effective word identification strategies to help them become successful readers. Dr. Nielsen related how the program had been modified in Kansas to include a model for struggling readers and a small group model, as well as the emergent reader model. She reported that the program had been piloted in the Lawrence school district and was now in use with teachers trained in Olathe, Council Grove, Hoyt and Kansas City. Because of her many years of experience with reading research, Dr. Nielsen said it was advisable to be cautious about research claims. Board questions followed.

The board took a break from 4:30 p.m. until 4:40 p.m.

**REPORT ON COLLABORATIVE PLANNING FOR SCHOOL SAFETY**

Mr. Ken Gentry, Team Leader for Consolidated and Supplemental Programs reported on recent programs to address school violence. He noted a five-day summer institute on school violence in which school representatives develop action plans for safety and violence issues; develop crisis plans and have drills to deal with various situations. He also reported that the annual effective schools conference recently held had a pre-conference on school safety and violence. Several questions arose from the conference, including potential legal issues, development of crisis plans and dealing with the media. Mr. Gentry noted that the Attorney General's Task Force on School Safety was developing guidelines for schools and had looked at legislative changes to deal with gun issues on school property. He reported that the Wichita school district would be having a Safe Schools 2000 conference August 5-6, 1999. He also noted that an interim legislative study committee was being considered and that funding for a safety hotline had been made available in the recent legislative session. Board questions followed, including questions about wrap around programs like Communities in Schools and grants for Kansas schools.

## **CONTRACT TO CONSOLIDATE AGENCY DATABASES AND DEVELOP AN ELECTRONIC DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM**

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis and Sal Tayani, Team Leader for Computer Information and Communication Systems, reviewed the request to contract with SoluTech to assist the department in developing a centralized computer information system, integrate agency databases in order to allow schools districts to submit data electronically from the Internet with user-friendly web-designed applications. They provided a comparison of the two bids received for the project and Mr. Tayani reviewed elements of the contract objectives as well as the timeline for overall department technology objectives. Mr. Dennis indicated that funding would come from federal technology funds. Board questions followed. Mr. Rundell moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that the Board authorize the Commissioner to enter into a contract with SoluTech to provide the requested services, with the contract amount not to exceed \$230,000. The motion carried.

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### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Dr. Abrams indicated his desire further information about item 16 h., recommendations to accredit schools under Quality Performance Accreditation. He asked what penalties a school might incur for not fulfilling one of their accreditation data points. Dr. Steve Adams, Team Leader for School Improvement and Accreditation indicated that the department might recommend conditional accreditation or offer strong recommendations to the school for the next accreditation cycle with the requirement that the school report on how the recommendations had been addressed. Mrs. Brown indicated her questions had been answered about the recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee. Mr. Rundell moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that the consent agenda be approved. The motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Confirmed the appointment of Stacie Phillips to an unclassified special project Applications Programmer/Analyst III position under the Child and Adult Care Food Program, effective May 3, 1999, at biweekly pay rate of \$1,961.60.
- Approved school construction plans for Newton, USD 373; Shawnee Mission; USD 512; Olathe , USD 233; Hesston College (2 projects); Gardner–Edgerton–Antioch, USD 231; Hugoton, USD 210; Centre, USD 397; and Rural Vista, USD 481.
- Approved the Smoky Hill/Central Kansas Education Service Center Interlocal Agreement.

- Received the third quarterly report from the Kansas State School for the Blind.
- Received the third quarterly report from the Kansas State School for the Deaf.
- Received the FY 2000 unclassified salary schedules for Kansas State School for the Blind and Kansas State School for the Deaf.
- Approved Cycle I accredited status for Wichita Catholic Diocese: St. Joseph Catholic School; USD 233 Olathe: Washington Elementary, Santa Fe Trail Jr. High and Oregon Trail Jr. High; USD 497 Lawrence: Broken Arrow Elementary and Hillcrest Elementary; USD 501 Topeka Public Schools: Ross Elementary and Jardine Middle School; USD 314 Brewster: Brewster Elementary and Brewster High School; USD 496 Pawnee Heights: Pawnee Heights West and Pawnee Heights High School; USD 502 Lewis: Lewis Elementary and Lewis High School; USD 379 Clay Center: Garfield Elementary and Longford Elementary; USD 440 Halstead: Bentley Primary School; USD 346 Jayhawk: Blue Muond Elementary, Mound City Elementary, Jayhawk-Linn High School and Prescott Elementary; USD 261 Hayville: Haysville Middle School, Freeman Elementary, Nelson Elementary, Oatville Elementary and Rex Elementary; USD 266 Maize: Vermillion Primary K-1; and USD 266 Renwick: Colwich Elementary, St. Joseph Elementary and St. Marks Elementary.
- Approved requests for waiver of state QPA regulations from: Wichita USD 259 to utilize the services of Christine Sue Gardner and Frank G. Jarrett to teach Special Education Interrelated at elementary level; Jaqueline Ann Hultman to teach Special Education Interrelated (LD, BD, MR) at the high school level; Kimberlie D. Householter to teach Special Education Interrelated (LD, BD, MR) at the middle school level; Albert V. Conrad to teach Special Education Gifted at the high school level; and Joseph J. Belden to teach Special Education Interrelated (LD, BD, MR) at the high school level; Buhler USD 313 to utilize the services of Amy Strong as an Emergency Substitute for the remainder of the school year, May 1999; Russell County USD 407 to allow Simpson Elementary to utilize the services of Charlotte Michel as Library/Media Specialist; Tonganoxie USD 464 to utilize the services of Jennie M. Burkin as an Emergency Substitute in English at the high school level until the end of the school year, May 1999; Ingalls USD 477 to utilize the services of Melissa Sanders to serve as K-

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- 12 Counselor and Careers Counselor; Liberal USD 480 to utilize the services of Susan Loggins to facilitate the Gifted Program at the elementary level and Cary Loggins to facilitate the Gifted Program at the middle and high school level; Butler County School Board Council Special

Education Cooperative El Dorado USD 490 to utilize the services of Regina Efflandt to Special Education at the secondary level and Synthia Wilson to teach Special Education at the elementary level; High Plains Education Cooperative Interlocal #611 to utilize the services of Connie S. Tennis, Patricia L. Konda, and Rita J. Baxta to teach Special Education Interrelated at the elementary level and Tim W. Erickson to teach Special Education Interrelated at the middle school level; Southwest Kansas Area Cooperative USD 613 to utilize the services of David Slater and Les D. Christensen to teach Special Education at the high school level and Debra Cooksey to teach Special Education at the elementary level; Three Lake Educational Cooperative USD 620 to utilize the services of James Bauck and Jennifer Jones to teach Special Education interrelated at the elementary and secondary level; Tri-County Special Education Cooperative to utilize the services of Cheryl Palkowitsh to teach Special Education at the elementary level; Christine Hagerman to teach Special Education Interrelated resource room at the middle school level; and to continue to use the services of Bobbi Tripp as Speech Therapist and Lea Bender as the Speech Language Pathologist for the Cooperative; and Wamego Special Education Cooperative to utilize the services of Amy B. Largent to teach Special Education at the high school level.

- Approved the inservice education plans from Remington-Whitewater USD 206, Hill City USD 281, Smoky Hill USD 302, Ness City USD 303, Haven USD 312 and Peabody-Burns USD 398.
- Established the certification fee for FY 1999-2000 at \$24.00, effective July 1, 1999.
- Accepted the recommendations of the Certification Review Committee in cases 1704, 1714-1718, and 1721.
- Approved the recommendation of the Evaluation Review Committee for:
  - Tabor College: through December 31, 2004 *approved* status for Elementary Education (U, K-9), Business Education (Bookkeeping, Business Law, Typing, Office Practice, Business Economics, Business Education, Comp.) (U, 7-12), Music (U, K-12), Physical Education (U, K-12, 7-12), Health (U, K-12, 7-12), Mathematics (U, 7-12), General Mathematics (U, 7-12), General Science (U, 7-12), Chemistry (U, 7-12), Social Studies (American History, US Government, Economics, Sociology, World History, Anthropology, and Social Studies, Comp.) (U, 7-12), Psychology (U, 7-12) and Biology (U, 7-12); and through December 31, 2000: *approved with stipulation* for English (U, 7-12).

Newman University: through December 31, 1999 *approved* status for Mathematics (U, 7-12), Middle Level Mathematics (U, 5-9), General Science (U, 7-12), Chemistry (U, 7-12), Middle Level Social Studies (U, 5-9), Speech Communication (U, 7-12), Computer Studies (U, 7-12), English (U, 7-12), and Middle-Level English (U, 5-9); and through December 31, 1999:

*approved with stipulation* for Middle-Level Science (U, 5-9), English as a Second Language (G, K-12), Biology (U, 7-12), Social Studies (American History, US Government, Economics, Sociology, World History) (U, 7-12); and *not approved* for Journalism (U, 7-12)

- Reappointed Neoma Bates and Tom Brungardt to their second three-year term of office and reappointed Carla Ridener to her first three-year term of office on the Teaching and School Administration Professional Standards Advisory Board.
- Reappointed Nancy Dain to her second three-year term of office on the Certification Review Committee..
- Reappointed Jane Oeser to her first three-year term of office on the Professional Practices Commission.

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- Approved the additional tests suggested for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade diagnostic reading assessment.
- Certificates of Approval under the Kansas Proprietary Schools Act were issued to Production Welding Institute, Elwood, KS; and Lowry School of Real Estate, Sycamore, KS
- Approved the service contracts between Southeast Kansas Education Service Center, Greenbush, and USD 229, Blue Valley; USD 230, Spring Hill; USD 231, Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch; USD 232, DeSoto; and USD 233, Olathe.
- Approved the amendment to the Kaw Area Technical School vocational education cooperative agreement..
- Approved recommended new programs to be offered at Kansas community colleges, area vocational technical schools, and technical colleges.
- Extended accreditation to Allen County Community College as an associate degree granting institution through the 2008-2009 academic year.
- Approved accreditation of Kaw Area Technical School as a state accredited institution through the 2003-2004 academic year.
- Established the GED credential processing fee at \$5.00 for calendar year 2000.
- Approved the submission of the proposed revised regulations for proprietary schools to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for approval.
- Issued orders to USD 338, Valley Falls; USD 360, Caldwell; USD 376, Sterling; and USD 429, Troy; granting them authority to hold an election on the question of the districts' general bond debt limitation.

- Approved increases in the 1998-99 approved operating budgets for area vocational schools/area vocational-technical schools/technical colleges as recommended.

## **RECESS**

There being no further business, Chairman Holloway recessed the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

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Linda Holloway, Chairman

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Penny Plamann, Secretary

## **KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

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## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Holloway called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 12, 1999, in the Board Room of State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

## **ROLL CALL**

Members present were:

Steve Abrams	Linda Holloway
John Bacon I.B.	"Sonny" Rundell
Mary Douglass Brown	Harold Voth
Val DeFever	Janet Waugh
Scott Hill	

Dr. Wagnon arrived at 9:06 a.m.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chairman Holloway asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mr. Voth, that the agenda be approved. The motion carried.

## **LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

### **FY 1999 and FY 2000 Budget**

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis reviewed highlights of the FY 1999 and 2000 budgets, based on final action of the 1999 legislature. He indicated that \$75,000 had been appropriated for FY 1999 for a school safety hotline to be staffed by the Kansas Highway Patrol and to become operational July 1, 1999. He reported that Base State Aid Per Pupil had been increased by \$50 for the next two years, increasing it to \$3,770 for FY 2000 and to \$3,820 for FY 2001. Special education funding was maintained at 85% of excess costs and Parents as Teachers grants were increased by \$777,833. Budget line items totaling \$96 million and 8 FTE will be transferred to the State Board of Regents per the requirements of the Coordination of Higher Education Act. Line items include community college credit

hour aid; community college out-district tuition; community college general state aid; technology grants to community colleges and Washburn University; technology innovation and internship grants; postsecondary aid for vocational education; vocational capital outlay aid; adult education; GED; proprietary schools; and truck driving training. Discretionary grant funding of \$100,000 was appropriated to fund environmental education grants, Agriculture in the Classroom, and the Cultural Heritage Center, a decrease of \$5,000 from the Board request for the three programs. The \$250,000 National Geographic Education Endowment was approved; \$250,000 was added to the budget to fund a study of Kansas school district boundary lines; \$500,000 was appropriated for an experimental wraparound competitive grant program to implement mental health support services to focus on violence prevention; and \$88,000 was provided to fund the federal match for the Kansas Office of Community Service. Mr. Dennis indicated that funding appropriated for the state assessment program would provide the additional \$100,000 requested to administer the second grade reading diagnostic test, but did not include funding for parental reports and increased validation of the writing assessment.

Mr. Dennis briefly reviewed education legislation and provided Board members with state general fund FY 1999 receipt information and projections through FY 2004.

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### **Funding for Board Goals**

Mr. Dennis had provided a list of the new Board goals with his agenda material and indicated that there would be an opportunity at the June meeting to review KSBE programs as they relate to each goal. Dr. Wagnon suggested that a block of time be set aside solely for funding of Board goals and to discuss what programs the Board wanted to have implemented and how much they would cost. He noted the Kansas State Board of Education Accountability Report would provide a good starting point for their work.

### **REVISED KANSAS SCIENCE STANDARDS**

Dr. Freden asked for questions from the Board on the fourth draft of the revised science standards that was made available to the Board in their materials. Dr. Loren Lutes, Co-Chair of the Standards Writing Committee, was asked by Dr. Wagnon to provide an overview of the committee's process in developing the revised standards. Dr. Lutes indicated that since the committee's formation in the summer of 1998, it had met twelve times. He reviewed the make-up of the committee and noted it included the Biology Chairs of all the Regents' institutions. Dr. Lutes reported that because they were well-based and represented current scientific thinking, the committee had used national science education standards as a writing guide, as well as the 1992 and 1995 versions of the Kansas standards. He indicated that the revised standards had undergone four revisions. Comments and recommendations received from review of the proposed standards by four hundred schools, the public, external standards reviewers, and the State Board had been integrated into the standards. Dr. Lutes reported that a copy of alternative science standards proposed by Board member Abrams had been received and distributed to members of the Science Standards Writing Committee.

Mr. Brad Williamson, member of the writing committee, addressed the Board about the basic difference the committee perceived between Dr. Abrams' proposal and the committee's proposed standards, noting that one of the basic differences was in the definition of science. He also commented the committee felt Dr. Abrams' proposal promoted a negative treatment of science and scientific theory. A discussion of the difference in the definitions of science and treatment of theory, as well as the level of skepticism to bring to scientific theories followed. Mr. Hill asked the committee about its decision to use the national science standards document. Committee member Mr. Ken Bingman, and also responding as a former member of the national science writing committee, indicated the Kansas writing committee had worked hard to develop a guide for schools to use in developing a curriculum and that much work to that end was reflected in the national standards document. He also indicated the state writing committee had added to and modified those standards to fit Kansas. Dr. Wagnon commended the committee for the balance represented in the Kansas document between national expectations and Kansas values and noted that all of the Kansas standards writing committees had used the standards of national groups when writing the state standards. He also complimented the committee on its use of strong unifying themes and concepts found throughout the Kansas science standards document. Other comments regarding minor clarification followed.

The Board took a break from 10:50 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

Dr. Abrams presented his reasons for developing the alternative draft of science standards. He indicated that his basic problem with the committee standards document was that it did not discuss what constitutes "good" science. He stated good science consisted of what was "observable, measurable, repeatable and falsifiable". Dr. Abrams also noted that he had been accused of trying to bring the teaching of religion into the classroom with the idea of "creation by intelligent design". He indicated that his difficulty with the theory of evolution was the teaching of macro-evolution, which he believed was not based on sound science. Dr. Abrams discussed several other issues for which he had been criticized, including how his opinions of historical science and theoretical science were perceived. He indicated that all theories should be approached with a healthy dose of skepticism and should be tested. He also stated that his proposal did not mandate that creationism should be taught or that evolution cannot be taught and expressed his desire to work with the standards writing committee on their differences.

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Several issues were discussed by the Board including the need for the names, credentials and biographical material for the individuals who participated with Dr. Abrams in developing his proposal; the need to mention that the standards would be used by "accredited" schools instead of "public" schools; and concern about a procedure for developing standards that would lead to another set of standards being written independently. Also discussed was the difference between falsifiable and testable. Chairman Holloway complimented Dr. Abrams on his inclusion of a statement in his proposal that "Nor can the cause of science education be served well by censoring, ridiculing or in any other way discouraging students from proposing and defending alternate theories." It was commented upon there were strong points in each document, but that each was written from a different perspective and Dr. Abrams was asked if he could visit with the science writing committee and try to inject the needs of the business community into the standards since his perspective appeared to reflect the view of people who use science in their work everyday. Chairman Holloway asked Dr. Lutes if the committee could work with Dr. Abrams to develop a document that was acceptable. Dr. Lutes indicated that the committee's and Dr. Abrams' views were philosophically different. He noted the Board had the authority to have the standards it wanted and that, though he had not spoken to all members of the standards writing committee, those he had spoken to indicated they would not want to integrate any of part of Dr. Abrams proposal into the committee standards and would respectfully withdraw from the committee. Chairman Holloway stated that a Board decision on the science standards would be necessary because Board member names would be on the document. Mrs. Waugh asked that no decision on the standards be made at the June meeting because she would be unable to attend.

## **Plan for Administration of Revised Writing Assessment**

Dr. Freden presented the staff proposal for the administration of the revised writing assessment beginning in school year 1999-2000. Noting that the assessments would be processed by the Center for Educational Testing at the University of Kansas, Mrs. Brown requested that time be allowed in the near future to study testing. Other discussion followed about whether the use of word processors should be allowed on the state writing assessment and staff was asked to provide information, if available, on the percent of schools using word processors. Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the Board approve the proposed plan for the administration of the writing assessment as submitted. The motion carried on a vote of 8-2.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:35 p.m. until 1:25 p.m.

## **ACTION PLAN FOR BOARD GOALS**

Commissioner Tompkins reviewed the draft of a suggested action plan for the Board goals established at the February planning retreat. Dr. Tompkins suggested action plan items could be helpful to Board members as they identify FY 2001 funding priorities. Board members discussed the need for gifted education programs and reading programs to help struggling readers in middle and high school. It was also noted that the passage of the postsecondary education reorganization would require postsecondary items to be dropped from the Board goals. Dr. Abrams asked if it would be possible to develop a graphic representation of student distribution throughout the state. Dr. Wagnon indicated it would be helpful to have agenda items cross-referenced to Board goals. It was the consensus of the Board that the postsecondary goal should be dropped and a corrected copy of the action plan should be sent to Board members.

## **FY 2000 UNCLASSIFIED SALARY SCHEDULES FOR KSSB AND KSSD**

Mr. Voth moved that the Board approve the proposed FY 2000 salary schedules for the Kansas State School for the Deaf and the Kansas State School for the Blind. The motion, which was seconded by Mr. Rundell, carried.

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**NOMINATIONS FOR REAPPOINTMENTS TO AT-LARGE POSITIONS ON THE KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION (KSHSAA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Dr. Tompkins indicated that because of the recent change in the KSHSAA by-laws which changed how at-large positions were filled on its Board of Directors, it was necessary for the Board to nominate for reappoint eligible individuals whose terms would expire June 30, 1999. It was moved by Mr. Hill, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that the Board nominate Barbara Ballard, Sherman Jones and Teresa Clouch for reappointment as at-large members on the KSHSAA Board of Directors. The motion carried.

**ELECTION OF THE KANSAS BOARD SELECTIONS FOR NASBE YEAR 2000 OFFICERS**

Board members reviewed the nominees for NASBE Year 2000 officers. Selected on the first ballot are to be Cleo Matthews, President; Corine Hadley, Vice President; and Connie Rogers, Central Area Director.

**BOARD REPORTS****Board Chairman**

Chairman Holloway reported on activity as a member of the higher education transition team. She indicated eight positions would be moved from the Department of Education to the Board of Regents. One of the biggest problems facing the team, she reported, was what would be needed to accomplish the transition without much money to do it. Chairman Holloway asked for a volunteer to address Girls State in June and provide them with an overview of Board responsibilities and oversight. Mr. Bacon was selected. Chairman Holloway indicated that all the new Board members had expressed interest in attending the new board member training provided by NASBE later in the summer. She also mentioned sending a letter to Governor Graves asking to meet with him, along with Mr. Voth and Dr. Tompkins. The Governor's Office indicated that the Governor could not meet at the proposed time. This was the second attempt made by Chairman Holloway to meet with the Governor to discuss education issues. Chairman Holloway reported that some Board members had indicated an interest in changing the time of the Wednesday Board meeting to 10:00 a.m. After discussion there appeared to be no consensus for a

time change.

### **Board Attorney**

Mr. Biles reviewed his recent activity on behalf of the Board. He also reported he had been asked by the Kansas State School for the Deaf to conduct employment training law sessions for their personnel and that Mr. Bieker, Department General Counsel would assist as well. He indicated he had agreed to provide the requested service for the same hourly rate he charged the Board and that the first session had been held during the past week. Mr. Rundell moved, with a second by Mr. Hill, that Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for April be paid as presented. The motion carried.

### **Legislative Coordinator**

Mr. Hill indicated that it was nearing time to develop the FY 2001 budget request and that to maintain credibility with the legislature it was advisable to keep the request at a reasonable level.

### **Commissioner**

Commissioner Tompkins reported that the external assessment reviewers would be meeting in Topeka at the Capitol Plaza Hotel at the end of June and had agreed to extend their stay on June 25<sup>th</sup> to meet with Board members. Mrs. Brown said she would be unable to attend. Dr. Tompkins indicated the Department would tape the session. Dr. Tompkins noted the inclusion in his written report of a summary of Board responses to the new member orientation program evaluation; a revised transition plan for the Professional Knowledge Test; and an update on the development of literature examples to accompany the reading and writing standards. Mrs. Brown expressed her concern about examples for the elementary level. Dr. Tompkins reported on the Kansas Educational Employment Board website, indicating it was

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receiving a great deal of use. He also mentioned a new distance learning task force which would be visiting a virtual high school in Florida in July and asked if any Board members were interested in joining the task force on their visit. Chairman Holloway, Dr. Abrams and Mr. Hill expressed interest in participating.

### **Other Board Member Reports**

Dr. Abrams asked about the extent of Board authority on requests from school districts to hold elections on the question of issuing bonds over their bond debt limitations. Dr. Tompkins indicated staff would respond to the individuals from Troy, Kansas, who had written objecting to the request from USD 429 to hold such an election. Mr. Voth spoke of his experience with reading the Byrd Scholarship applications and how proud he was of what the schools and young people in the state were doing. Mrs. DeFever also spoke of her recent experience addressing students in Sedan and how pleased she was to hear them express an interest in what they could do to improve the economic standing of their community. Mr. Bacon indicated that the Teen Council in Olathe was coming up with amazing things to do in the community. Mr. Hill complimented Board members with the way they were dealing with one another on issues where there were divergent views.

### **APPROVAL OF BOARD TRAVEL**

Members reviewed the composite travel request. Mrs. Waugh asked to add a regional KASB meeting in Olathe and a television interview in Kansas City on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Hill asked to add legislative meetings on April 21<sup>st</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, a KSHSAA Board of Directors meeting April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> and a television interview in Wichita on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Wagnon asked that his request for May 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> be changed to salary only. Mrs. DeFever asked that attendance at an omnibus bill meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup> be added. Mr. Bacon requested that mileage be dropped from his requests for the Olathe area. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mr. Rundell, that the travel requests be approved as amended. The motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Dr. Wagnon, that the Board recess into Executive Session for a period of 15 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 2:45 p.m. The motion carried. The open meeting resumed at 2:40 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Chairman Holloway adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.

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Linda Holloway, Chairman

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Penny Plamann, Secretary