

## **KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**January 11, 2000**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Holloway called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 11, 2000, in the Board Room of the 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 Harold Voth

Mary Douglass Brown Bill Wagnon

Val DeFever Janet Waugh

Scott Hill

Mr. Rundell was absent and would not be attending either day of the meeting.

#### **TRANSFER OF THE CHAIR**

In accordance with the election for Chairman and Vice Chairman held in January, 1999, Mrs. Holloway stepped down as Chairman of the Board and assumed the position of Vice Chairman. Mr. Harold Voth assumed the Chair. He presented Mrs. Holloway with a plaque commemorating her tenure as Chairman.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Voth asked for approval of the agenda. Mrs. Holloway asked that item d., concerning a public

hearing date for proposed Professional Practices Commission Regulations, and n., concerning Reading Excellence grant awards, be pulled from the consent agenda. There being no further changes, Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Chairman Voth asked for approval of the minutes of the December, 1999 meeting. Dr. Wagnon asked for clarification of a section of the minutes concerning the boundary line study. The Board secretary reviewed the discussion for Dr. Wagnon. Mr. Hill asked that his request for assistance during the 2000 legislative session be amended to include all Board members. Mrs. Holloway asked that Steve Adams be included as facilitator, along with the listing of Board subcommittee members, in the minutes regarding rephrased science standards. Mrs. Brown moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion carried.

## **2000 YEARLONG AGENDA AND MEETING SCHEDULE**

Board members discussed the proposed yearlong agenda and meeting schedule for 2000. Mrs. Holloway asked about the public hearing in April in Doniphan County, noting that information regarding the item on the consent agenda which would set a public hearing for the Professional Practices Commission regulations in Topeka. Dr. Wagnon reported he had proposed that the Board meet in Doniphan County in April and had discussed with staff whether that would create any problems with the scheduling of public hearings on the proposed educator licensure redesign regulations or the proposed Professional Practices Committee regulations and had been assured it would not. Mrs. Holloway indicated the location noted on the consent agenda item would need to be changed to reflect where the hearing was to be held. Mr. Hill asked Board members their opinion regarding the monthly legislative conference calls during the legislative session. It was the consensus of the Board to continue the calls during the 2000 session, though Dr. Abrams indicated his hope the quality of the telephone service could be improved.

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Mr. Hill moved that the November and December meetings be moved to the first Tuesday and Wednesday of the month. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. Dr. Wagnon stated that the first Tuesday in November would be election night for five of the Board members. The motion failed on a vote of 3-6. Those voting against were Brown, DeFever, Voth, Wagnon, Waugh and Bacon. Dr. Wagnon moved,

with a second by Mrs. Holloway, that the yearlong agenda and meeting schedule for 2000 be approved with the addition of the location of the April meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

## **STATE BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Dr. Abrams, Chairman of the Board Policy Committee, reviewed the Committee's recommendations and answered questions. He noted these recommendations would be brought back to the Board for approval in February. Dr. Abrams indicated that Policy 1006, Boardsmanship Expectations, incorporated those behaviors agreed upon at the Board retreat held in February, 1999. Mrs. Holloway and Mr. Hill indicated that it would be advantageous if the policies included direction on how Board members who had not voted for Board policy should deal with that policy. Discussion followed with Dr. Abrams asking if it was the desire of the Board for the Policy Committee to again address Policy 1006 with that issue in mind. Mr. Rod Bieker, Department General Counsel, indicated that the issue was already covered in Policy 1002, regarding governance style. Mr. Hill asked what sanctions were available to the Board if a member did not follow the Board policy regarding boardsmanship expectations. Several options were discussed, including action by the public in Board members elections; the Chairman's authority to control who has the floor if a member's behavior is not in accordance with adopted guidelines; and censure by the full Board that could include limitations on travel and the removal of the member from committee participation. Other items addressed in the Policy Committee's recommendations included: guidelines for discussing and addressing issues; removal from state board guidelines of items addressing postsecondary issues; and the recommendation that policies dealing with committee principles and appointments to committees and commissions remain unchanged.

## **CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM**

Chairman Voth declared the Citizen's Open Forum open at 10:30 a.m. Appearing to speak before the Board were Dave Raffel, Shawnee, representing Save Our Schools; Thair Wittmer, representing Kansas Citizens for Science, Lawrence; Jack Krebs, Lawrence, Steven Case, Lawrence; and Adrian Melott, Lawrence, representing Kansas Citizens for Science. Chairman Voth declared the open forum closed at 10:52 a.m. and called for a break until 11:00 a.m.

## **RECOGNITION OF THE KANSAS TEACHER OF YEAR 2000 TEAM**

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis introduced Mrs. Susan Rippe, science teacher and department chair at Wichita Northwest High School, chosen as Kansas Teacher of Year 2000. Mrs. Rippe lead off presentations by members of the Kansas Teacher of Year 2000 Team, which included, besides herself, seven Regional Teachers Of The Year in Kansas. They were Mrs. Julie Bervert, language arts teacher at Seaman High School, USD 245, Topeka; Mrs. Nancy Jo Bradley, fifth grade teacher at Amanda Arnold Elementary School, USD 383, Manhattan; Mrs. Crystal Cross, teacher of senior English at Great Bend High School, USD 428; Mrs. Tammy Lalicker, third grade teacher at Edith Scheuerman Elementary School, Garden City USD 457; Mrs. Beverly McWilliams, vocal music teacher at Towanda Elementary School, Circle USD 375; Mrs. Gayle Newman, reading specialist at Indian Valley Elementary School,

Blue Valley USD 229, and Mrs. Karen Diane Wall, history teacher at DeSoto High School, DeSoto USD

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232. Each shared insights gained from their classroom and teaching experience that have helped them become effective teachers. At the conclusion of their presentations they answered questions from Board members. Chairman Voth and Commissioner Tompkins presented each with a certificate of appreciation and a brief time was allowed for photographs.

Chairman Voth recessed the meeting at 12:10 p.m. for lunch. The meeting reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

## **PROGRESS REPORT FROM THE COMMISSION ON TEACHING AND AMERICA'S FUTURE ON TEACHER RECRUITMENT**

Mr. Ken Bungert, Team Leader, Certification and Teacher Education, introduced Dr. Tes Mehring, Dean of the Teachers College at Emporia State University, and Mr. Gene Neely, President of Kansas NEA, both members of the Kansas Commission on Teaching and America's Future (KCTAF). Dr. Mehring reported that KCTAF had relied primarily on data from the Kansas Department of Education Certification database of currently valid licenses and endorsements and information from national and state reports prepared in the past few years. She noted that the final document would also contain data from the Certified Personnel database newly in use by the Department, but not yet complete with information from all school districts. Dr. Mehring reported the factors involved in the prediction of a teacher shortage by 2006 and Mr. Neely compared those to projections for Kansas. They also reported that based on the formula used to determine a teacher shortage, Kansas has an oversupply of teachers. They concluded, though, that shortages do and will continue to exist in specific disciplines and geographic areas and in the number of minority teachers, but now was not the time to lower the standards for certification or admission to teacher education programs. Board questions followed.

## **STUDY SESSION ON TEACHER PREPARATION**

Mr. Bungert introduced Dr. Martha Gage of the Certification and Teacher Education Team, who provided an overview of the commonalties found in all teacher education programs in Kansas. She also discussed the role of the Department in ensuring that program standards developed by the Department were met. She introduced a panel composed of deans or chairs of teacher education programs in Kansas institutions. Each panel member spoke briefly about major changes in his or her program. Panel members were Dr. Tes Mehring of Emporia State University, Dr. Jim Burns, of MidAmerica Nazarene

University, Dr. Earle Knowlton of the University of Kansas, Dr. Bill Neuenswander of Baker University, Dr. Steve Scott of Pittsburg State University, and Dr. Jon Engelhardt of Wichita State University. The Board then had the opportunity to ask questions of the panelists. Issues discussed included the kind of training provided to deal with the inclusion of more special education students in the regular classroom; the balance between content and method in teacher preparation; how often those responsible for developing teacher education programs and instructing at the college level go into P-12 classrooms in order to keep abreast of changing needs in local schools; and how the teaching schools viewed the Board's development of performance measures to evaluate beginning teachers. Also discussed was how to address the problem of teachers under the age of 34 leaving the profession.

## **LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

### **Kansas Department of Education**

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis provided a comparison of the Governor's proposed FY 2000 budget reduction and the Legislative budget committees' recommendations. In most areas the budget committees concurred with the Governor's recommendations, with the exception of his recommendation to reduce the base state aid per pupil funding to \$3,757. The committees' recommendations would restore the reduction and fund the formula at \$3,770 for FY 2000. Mr. Dennis also provided an analysis of the

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Governor's FY 2001 budget recommendations. He reported that the Governor recommended increasing base state aid per pupil in 2001 by \$50 over the amount appropriated in fiscal year 2000. Mr. Dennis pointed out that the \$50 increase was calculated using a fiscal year 2000 increase of \$37 instead of the \$50 legislative budget committees recommended.. Mr. Dennis reported that other cuts recommended by the Governor to the State Board of Education's request for fiscal year 2001 included: supplemental general state aid - \$280,000; inservice education - \$2,400,000; juvenile detention facilities - \$114,837; special education - \$14,869,885; and parent education - \$250,000. Programs for which funding was completely eliminated in the Governor's recommendations include discretionary grants for the Heritage Center, Ag in the Classroom, Environmental Education and the Kansas Teacher of the Year program. No general fund support was recommended for Communities in Schools, Education Excellence grants or structured mentoring grants. The Governor also recommended a reduction in state operations of \$812,074. Included in that amount was a reduction in employer contributions to KPERs, an increase in shrinkage from 3 percent to 5 percent, an elimination of funds for technology, Kansas history materials

and the Governor's-At-Risk Academy. Also included would be a \$120,000 reduction in state assessment funds and a 3 percent reduction in overall operating expense. Included for funding by the Governor was

\$4.5 million for one-time costs in establishing a statewide technology infrastructure, but the \$13 million required to make the system operational was not included in his recommendation. Board questions and discussion followed, including a discussion of special education funding. Mr. Dennis noted that the Governor's budget recommendations for education represented over 95% of the total state general fund increase for FY 2001. Dr. Wagnon asked that the Board be notified of the legislative budget appeal dates as soon as the information was received by the Department. Mr. Dennis handed put copies of the Governor's legislative message, a schedule of legislative committee meetings, listings of legislative committee membership, and a summary of carryover and pre-filed bills.

## **DISCUSSION OF BOARD AUTHORITY ON BOND ISSUES AND CRITERIA**

Mr. Rod Bieker, Department of Education General Counsel, briefly reviewed the statutory history of the Board's responsibility and authority to grant school districts permission to hold elections over their bond debt limit. Dr. Wagnon expressed his concern about the amount of bonded indebtedness carried by the state general fund as a result of bond issues passed by local districts. He also noted that there was substantial difference in the way local districts are able to meet their capital improvement needs, and suggested that the guidelines followed by the Department and the Board be reviewed and updated to address the priorities for school improvement the Board has developed. Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the Board direct staff to develop a set of guidelines to assist in Board review of requests to hold bond elections in the keeping with the model of school improvement and Quality Performance Accreditation the Board has developed. Brief discussion followed about taking away from districts the opportunity to have a public vote on a bond issue. The motion carried on a vote of 6-3, with Mrs. Brown, Mrs. Holloway and Mr. Hill voting "no".

Mr. Dennis reviewed information in the agenda materials which included guidelines currently used by the Department and required supplemental material; a sample bond application; the formula for computing school district bond principal and interest obligation state aid payments; and statistics related to school bond issues which have exceeded the 14 percent bond debt limit. During the discussion that followed, Mr. Dennis noted that, based on the formula in use, the amount of state general fund bonded indebtedness would be much higher for poorer school districts than for wealthier districts – many of which had no impact on state general fund obligations – because the formula had been developed to provide assistance to districts with a lower assessed valuation per pupil.

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## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Holloway indicated she had received the information she need regarding Reading Excellence grants and the item could be returned to the consent agenda. She also noted that her concern regarding the public hearing on proposed regulations for the Professional Practices Commission had to do with the location of the hearing and had been answered during discussion of the yearlong agenda and meeting schedule. She asked that Troy be added as the location for that hearing. Mrs. Waugh said she would appreciate hearing how the Reading Excellence grants had been awarded. Dr. Freden explained the process and how the grantees were determined. Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Mr. Hill, that the consent agenda be approved with the Troy, Kansas as the location of the Professional Practices Commission public hearing being added. The motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

Received the monthly personnel report.

Confirmed the appointment of Debra Hewitt to an unclassified special projects Secretary I position under Local Consolidated Plan, effective December 2, 1999, at a biweekly pay rate of \$644.80.

Approved school construction plans for USD 229 Blue Valley (2 projects); USD 305 Salina; USD 512 Shawnee Mission (5 projects); USD 443 Dodge City; USD 383 Manhattan; USD 368 Paola; USD 428 Great Bend; USD 282 West Elk; USD 385 Andover (2 projects); USD 202 Turner-Kansas City; USD 500 Kansas City; USD 458 Basehor-Linwood; USD 203 Piper-Kansas City; USD 337 Royal Valley;

Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Bucyrus; World of Life Church, Wichita; USD 439 Sedgwick Public Schools; USD 309 Nickerson; USD 350 St. John-Hudson; USD 239 North Ottawa County; USD 501 Topeka; USD 327 Ellsworth; Butler County Community College; and USD 298 Lincoln.

Set a public hearing date of April 11, 2000 at 1:45 p.m. on proposed professional practices regulations numbered 91-22-1a through 91-22-26 and revocation of 91-1-61.

Approved Cycle I accredited status for Wichita Catholic Diocese: St. Mary Parish Catholic Elementary (Derby); USD 232 DeSoto: Lexington Trails Middle School and Starside Elementary; USD 252 Southern Lyon County: Olpe Elementary K-8 and Olpe High School; USD 491 Eudora: Eudora Middle School; USD 416 Louisburg: Louisburg Middle School; and USD 265 Goddard: Goddard Middle School.

Approved requests for waiver of state QPA regulations for the 1999-2000 school year from districts to utilize the services of individuals to teach courses as follows: USD 259 Wichita - Wade Walker to teach secondary Interrelated Special Education; USD 316 Golden Plains - Gwen Schultz to teach middle school computer studies; USD 437 - Carol Linhos to serve as Director of Special Service K-12; USD 453 - Kimberly Hancock to teach Early Childhood Education; USD 456 - Shelly Criqui as a substitute teacher for a 30-day assignment; USD 480 - Cary Loggins to teach secondary Gifted Education; USD 497 - Daniel Parker to teach elementary Interrelated Special Education; Barton County Cooperative of Special Services - DeAnna C to teach Early Childhood Special Education; East Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative - Louis Onofrio to teach middle school Gifted Education; Kansas State Department of Corrections - K.O. Fuller to teach secondary Interrelated Special Education; Marion County Special Education Cooperative - Nanette Lowry to teach elementary Interrelated Special Education and Doug Vogel to teach secondary Interrelated Special Education; Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center #602 - Jodi Fields and Teresa Reves to teach elementary Interrelated Special Education and Pamela Miller to teach secondary Interrelated Special Education; and Prairie Hills Interlocal #635 - Jeanne Christensen and Les Christensen to teach secondary Interrelated Special Education.

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Approved inservice education plans from Kinsley-Offerle USD 347, Andover USD 385, Lyons USD 405 and Midway USD 433.

Approved the recommendations of the Certification Review Committee in cases 1770, 1794—1796, 1799-1803, and 1805-1806.

Accepted the recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee for MidAmerica Nazarene College:

*"approved"* status through December 31, 2004 for Business Education (U, 7-12); Elementary Education (U, K-9); English (U, 7-12); Foreign Language, Spanish (U, 7-12); Health (U, K-12); Mathematics (U, 7-12); General Mathematics (U, 7-12) Music (U, K-12); Social Studies (U, 7-12); Speech Communication (U, 7-12); and Computer Studies (U, 7-12);

*"approved with stipulation"* status through December 31, 2000 for General Science (U, 7-12); General Science with Chemistry; Biology (U, 7-12); and Chemistry (U, 7-12); and

*"not approved"* status for Health (U, K-12).

Approved a request from the Learning Cooperative of North Central Kansas to waive the college requirement for a person employed as a parent educator in the Parents as Teachers program.

Approved request from USD 259 for a waiver of special education regulations for class-size/caseload for Levy Special Education Center and Sowers Special Day School for the 1999-2000 school year.

Approved Reading Excellence grants for USD 500, Kansas City Public Schools, in the amount of \$3,285,409; USD 313, Buhler Public Schools, in the amount of \$460,665; and USD 259, Wichita Public Schools, in the amount of \$2,691,417.

Approved FY 2000 Commercial Driver Training School Licenses from January 11, 2000 through December 31, 2000 for: CFU Drive Driving School, Frontenac, KS, and Safety First Driving School, Liberal, KS.

Approved Carl Perkins Statewide Leadership grants for Guidance and Counseling Task Force, School of

Applied Studies, Washburn University, in the amount of \$8,100; Governor's Workforce Summit, Topeka Community Foundation (for Department of Human Resources), in the amount of \$5,000; Professional Development for Trade and Industrial Education, Pittsburg State University, in the amount of \$11,213; and Professional Development for Agriculture, Kansas State University, in the amount of \$11,244.

Issued an order for Flinthills USD 492, granting them authority to hold an election on the question of the district's general bond debt limitation.

Approved the FY 2000 Summer Food Service Program State Plan

***Contracts Approved:***

The Commissioner of Education was authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with:

McConnell, Thomas and Associates to develop and implement a trainer of trainers package regarding the understanding and use of state curriculum standards, extended curriculum standards, and the state assessment specifically for students with disabilities, with the contract amount not to exceed \$60,000; and

Research Training Associates, Inc., to provide evaluation services for the Kansas Educate America Act program, with the contract amount not to exceed \$30,000.

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**RECESS**

There being no further business, Chairman Voth recessed the meeting at 5:45 p.m.

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Harold Voth, Chairman Penny Plamann, Secretary

**KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Voth called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 12, 2000, in the Board Room of the 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 Harold Voth

Mary Douglass Brown Bill Wagnon

Val DeFever Janet Waugh

Mr. Rundell was not present. Mr. Hill arrived at 10:15 a.m.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chairman Voth asked for approval of the agenda. Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the agenda be approved. The motion carried.

## **1998-1999 KSDE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT**

Assistant Commissioner Sharon Freden made a presentation on the 1998-1999 KSDE Accountability Report and staff recommendations based on trends seen in the study of assessment data contained within it. Several recommendations were offered to improve reading. In addition to initiatives already undertaken in keeping with the Board's goal to improve reading achievement, staff recommended that because of the importance of early literacy on future school success, that the Parents as Teachers program through the age of three and the four-year-old at-risk program be fully funded; that an extended day program be provided for kindergarten and an extended year program for first, second and third grade students. Staff also recommended a staff development effort be initiated to assist all primary teachers in teaching reading and that standards for teacher preparation include up-to-date knowledge and practice in helping all children learn to read. Staff also recommended that middle and high schools offer reading instruction as part of the curriculum and that ongoing assistance be provided to students in need. To assist schools with improving mathematics scores, staff recommended that the Department recommend curriculum models to help school with aligning their mathematics curriculum with state standards. Dr. Freden indicated that once the Kansas University study on 10<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics assessment results is completed, staff will be in a better position to make additional recommendations. Staff recommended that the development of a set of graduation standards and an accompanying review of the state's graduations requirements would be valuable to assist faculty to prepare students for college entrance or entrance into the workforce. Regarding staff development, the recommendation was that a task force of teachers, administrators and school board members be formed to develop recommendations for the State Board on staff development. Dr. Freden also reported that staff recommended that monitoring for the development of a trend on the drop in the graduation rate should be carried out over the next few years. Lastly, Dr. Freden noted that because it would be crucial to advocating additional policy in coming years, it was important to have an ongoing review of school violence data and current initiatives to curb it. Dr. Freden also noted the importance of having well-qualified teachers available in the state and mentioned the studies being conducted possible recommendations arising from them.

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Board questions included the status of the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade reading diagnostic assessment given in the Fall of 1999. Dr. Tompkins indicated the report on the assessment would be forwarded to Board members as soon as it was available. The Board also discussed ways to address reading problems for students in later grades, the writing assessment, and graduation requirements. When asked what steps should be taken with the recommendations, Commissioner Tompkins stated the Board should consider strategies to address the recommendations during the development of the budget. Regarding the assessment data contained in the report, Mrs. Holloway asked that definitions of subscales for each assessment be included.

## **PRESENTATION ON QPA CHAIR AND TEAM TRAINING**

Dr. Steve Adams, Team Leader, School Improvement and Accreditation, presented an overview of the revised QPA chair and team training that will begin to be used this Spring. He noted that concern regarding the consistency of training and QPA information coming from the Department had been the inducement for revising the training. Dr. Adams reported that content standards had been developed for the training; the training has been expanded to include visiting chairs, visiting team members, and building/steering team members; and that more emphasis would be included to clarify the roles and responsibilities for each of the target groups. Dr. Adams indicated that service centers will develop the common language and training to transmit the information on the competencies required by all onsite visit participants. Dr. Gayle Stuber, School Improvement and Accreditation, reviewed the agenda, post-training evaluation, and the 2000 schedule for the training. Besides providing a brief explanation of the two days of training to be provided, she noted that participants would also have hands-on experience analyzing school improvement plans. The Board discussed the challenges to getting people to participate on visiting teams. Dr. Adams indicated that half as many were interested in participating as the number of schools to assess. Suggestions for incentives to team participants and chairs, in particular, included providing inservice points if part of their inservice plan, or providing a stipend for visiting chairs.

## COMMUNICATION ARTS STANDARDS

### Standards For Listening, Viewing And Speaking

Dr. Freden presented to the Board the writing team for the Listening, Viewing and Speaking Standards, noting that when the Standards for Communication Arts were adopted, it was agreed that standards for listening, viewing and speaking would be developed and that a suggested list of readings would be included for the reading standards. Elaine Bernstorf, Associate Professor of Music Education at Wichita State University, and Nancy Rost Goulden, Associate Professor and Director of Public Speaking at Kansas State University, described the process the writing committee had used to develop the new standards and answered Board questions. They indicated that in order to bring in all the components of communication skills, the committee had expanded the areas covered to include media production (technology) and information retrieval (research). They reported the committee had based its work on the Kansas Standards for Communications Arts (1996) and had made revisions to those standards to bring them into alignment with current Kansas and national standards. They also noted the committee recognized the importance of making the new standards document a useful and usable tool for every school, and to include it with examples and illustrations at each grade level assessed. Benchmarks were developed to build skills over time to provide a continuum for growth. Committee members Wendy Seger, first grade teacher in the USD 450 district, Martin Hays, high school English teacher in the USD 375 district, Lea Shephard, speech, drama and media teacher in the USD 446 district, illustrated how the standards could be used in the classroom and discussed the integration of the standards into content areas. Dennis Boepple, Superintendent of the Canton-Galva District, discussed how the benchmarks could be used to provide guidance to teachers in most subject areas. Mrs. Brown asked how the state could get schools to use the document. Some ideas proposed included coordination of the effort by the Department, initiatives by universities, and use of the Kansas Speaking Association.

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### LINKS – Examples to Accompany the Kansas Curricular Standards for Reading and Writing

Sheryl Plattner and Glennie Buckley, members of the reading and writing sub-committee who developed the *Literacy Instruction NOW Knowledge for Teachers Implementing State Standards* (LINKS) document, which contains examples to accompany the communication arts standards, presented the revised and corrected document for Board approval. Dr. Wagnon asked if the document would satisfy the deficiencies noted in the Fordham Foundation's review of the Kansas reading and writing standards. They indicated their belief that it would. Mrs. Brown passed out a copy a critique of the 1998 state

communication arts standards prepared by Dr. Sandra Stotsky, Philosophy of Education Research Center, Harvard Graduate School of Education, and indicated the Board should determine what should be done to amend the standards in order to address the problems stated by Dr. Stotsky. Mrs. Waugh moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the Board approve the proposed examples to accompany the communication arts standards. The motion carried on a vote of 7-0, with Mrs. Brown and Dr. Abrams abstaining.

The Board took a short break from 10:54 a.m. to 11:05 a.m.

### **PRESENTATION BY NATIONAL HEALTH EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR**

Dr. Darrel Lang, Consolidated and Supplemental Programs, introduced Joan Stear, from Andover Middle School, who had recently been recognized as National Health Educator of the Year. Mrs. Stear reported on the comprehensive health education program at Andover Middle School, which includes nutrition, wellness education, sex education, first aid and CPR. Mrs. Stear reported that it was very important to get community support for health education and noted that the composition of the health curriculum committee in Andover included parents and community members, as well as educators. Mrs. Stear brought an invitation from her 250 middle school to the Board for a carnival for special needs students on January 27<sup>th</sup>. In response to a request from Mrs. Brown, she explained the popular training table nutrition program that had been begun at the school at the request of students. Asked how this type of health education could be promoted to get other educators involved, Mrs. Stear suggested that a health education component be added to teacher education and the Board mandate wellness education as part of a Kansas-endorsed health curriculum. Dr. Abrams suggested that when graduation requirements are considered the Board might investigate how wellness education could be added.

### **PRESENTATION ON HEALTH AND THE IMPACT ON ACADEMICS**

Dr. Lang presented statistics from the 1997 Youth Behavior Risk Survey that compared Kansas students to students nationwide regarding a variety of activities, from school violence, smoking and drinking, to drug use, sexual intercourse and level of involvement in physical education. Dr. Lang reported on a Coordinated Approach to School Health (CSH) and the benefits to the student and to the school. Components of CSH include: a safe, proper functioning school environment that has minimal distractions and in which students feel safe and supported; health education that promotes health-related knowledge and skills from kindergarten through high school; nutritious school meals, healthy choices in school vending machines, and healthy snack policies in school; encouragement of students and staff to be physically active; health services that provide preventive care, including the involvement of health

departments for immunization campaigns, and nurses to work with students with chronic health problems; counseling, psychological and mental health services that work to influence positive behaviors, provide counseling and make referrals to professionals for students and their families, and counseling support groups for parents and students; staff wellness programs that provide simple health screenings and promote stress reduction, healthy habits and physical fitness, and parent/community partnerships to promote a closer working relationship between parents and schools and develop community coalitions to help address the health needs of students. Dr. Lang indicated that the benefits of CSH include reduced school absenteeism, fewer classroom behavior problems, improved student performance, new levels of cooperation among parents, teachers and organizations, a more positive spirit among educators and

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students, integration of health awareness by students, and young people more prepared to become productive members of society. Dr. Lang noted that the Department is providing health and wellness workshops for school districts and health educators. He reported that 150 schools are currently using the Kansas Health Foundation's, "Physical Dimensions", a premiere health education program recognized nationwide. Dr. Lang also reported that the Department provided six workshops a year, "Health is Academic", for local school board members. Dr. Lang stated, that as one of the NASBE Healthy Children objectives, he hoped to report to the Board quarterly on what was being done in the state regarding health education.

## BOARD REPORTS

### **Board Attorney**

Mr. Biles reported on his recent activity on behalf of the Board. He reported that there had been no activity regarding the school finance litigation and that a ruling from the court on motions filed were overdue. He did note that a recent United States Supreme Court ruling could prove relevant to the case and he would analyze it with that in mind. Mr. Biles also reported that the Joshua W. case was close to resolution. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for December be paid as presented. The motion carried.

### **Legislative Coordinator**

Mr. Hill noted that it would be a tight year for state general fund moneys. He indicated that it was important for the Board to communicate with the legislature during the session, but in light of the fact that education had received the major share of the Governor's budget increase, it was most important that Board members try to concentrate on keeping what was in the recommendation.

## **Commissioner**

Commissioner Tompkins reviewed his written report and indicated that the Department had not had any Y2K problems. He reported on distribution of the proposed educator licensure regulations to schools and higher education institutions in Kansas. Commissioner Tompkins also reported on several teacher supply and demand studies that were being undertaken by different organizations. He indicated the Department would be using a compilation of the reports for guidance on policy initiatives to maintain teacher quality. The Commissioner noted the inclusion with his report of an update to the Boards goals calendar. He also asked for board representatives to attend the American Association of School Administrators annual meeting in March and the National School Boards Association annual meeting in April.

## **Board Member Reports**

Mrs. Holloway reported on a meeting with Gayle Newman, member of the Kansas Teacher of the Year 2000 Team, and that Ms. Newman had some good ideas about streamlining the reporting required by the Department. Mrs. Holloway also reported she had received an invitation to a reading conference to be held February 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, sponsored by the Dyslexia Association. Mrs. DeFever asked if everyone had received a copy of Representatives Tanner's and Glasscock's education plan. Members indicated they had.

## **APPROVAL OF BOARD TRAVEL**

Chairman Voth asked to add travel for an agenda planning meeting in Topeka on 1/20 and attendance at the USA convention 1/27. Mrs. Waugh asked to add reimbursement for expenses for the NSBA annual meeting in April. Mrs. Brown, Dr. Abrams, Chairman Voth, and Mrs. DeFever asked to add attendance at the Andover Middle School carnival for special needs students on 1/27 to their requests. Dr. Abrams asked to add attendance at the evolution debate at McPherson College on 1/25. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mr. Hill, that the travel requests be approved as amended. The motion carried.

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## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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Harold Voth, Chairman Penny Plamann, Secretary