

**KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**September 7, 2005**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Abrams called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m. on Wednesday, September 7, 2005, in the Board Room of the State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

Members present were:

Steve Abrams	Carol Rupe
John Bacon	Iris Van Meter
Sue Gamble	Bill Wagnon
Kathy Martin	Janet Waugh
Connie Morris	Ken Willard

Chairman Abrams introduced Mike Hill, Deputy Executive Director from NASBE. Dr. Abrams indicated the Board would meet in open session while it discussed a matrix and rubric for reviewing applicants developed by NASBE and then would go into executive session to consider candidates.

Mr. Hill thanked the Board for allowing NASBE to assist them with the search for a commissioner. He explained that NASBE's goal was to assist the Board in making its decision based on the objective criteria the Board had established. He went over the agenda for the day and then reviewed a tentative timeline for conducting the search.

Mr. Hill explained the matrix developed by NASBE, noting that points on the matrix would be earned based on the candidate's documented experience in specific areas. The areas included on the matrix were taken from the criteria included in the advertisement for the commissioner's position. Among the areas the candidates would be rated on were: 1) experience in policy development; 2) experience working with education boards; 3) experience working with education organizations; 4) experience implementing education legislation; and 5) demonstrated management of a large education organization. Scoring in each of the areas would be from 1 to 5, with five being the highest and one being the lowest.

Also included on the matrix was acknowledgment of the State Board's goals and plan for meeting those goals. The criteria would also be scored from 1 to 5. Additional points could be awarded to candidates for relevant business, civic or political/legislative experience, with that criteria scored from 1 to 3.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 8:15 a.m. Mr. Willard moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the Board go into executive session for one hour for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of nonelected personnel so the privacy, confidentiality and other rights of such personnel would not be violated, and that the open meeting of the Board resume in the Board Room at 9:15 a.m. The motion carried. At 9:15 a.m. the open meeting resumed.

At 9:15 a.m. the Board took a 10 minute break. The Board reconvened at 9:27 a.m. in open session.

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Chairman Abrams indicated that the Board had been discussing the rubric prepared by NASBE and asked if Board members had any comments.? Mrs. Morris said she appreciated NASBE?s efforts to develop the rubric, but she was disappointed because she didn?t feel it captured the Board?s request as precisely as she would have liked.

Mrs. Gamble indicated she did not have a problem with the matrix as presented and she hoped the Board would continue with it. She said she thought the matrix gave the Board a consistent basis from which to make a decision and she hoped the Board would not subvert the process and go in a different direction.

Mrs. Morris indicated she would like to change a few things on the matrix. She said she thought the last item, additional points for business, civic and political/legislative experience, was downplayed in the awarding of points. She said she thought education experience had been given five times the weight of any other experience and that was not what she had been hoping for. She moved that the scoring amounts on the last item on the matrix be changed to 25, 15 and 5 rather than 3, 2 and 1.? Mrs. Van Meter seconded the motion.

Mrs. Waugh disagreed with Mrs. Morris, stating she thought education experience was a top priority and should be the number one priority. She said other experience was important, but was not the top priority and so she was opposed to the motion.? Dr. Bill Wagon also said he would not support of the motion. He said he thought the ad the Board had adopted was reflected clearly in the matrix developed by NASBE. He said the weight given to educational experience was relevant to what the Board would be asking a commissioner to do. He added that each area was an important facet, and that the search was conducted based on that information and people had applied for the position based on those expectations. To insert belated changes would do a disservice to the professional judgment the Board paid NASBE to produce for the Board. Elevating relative experience outside of educational experience to be equal to all others would be misguided. He said the Board continues to act in the tradition that when the Board asks for advice and it is given, the Board rejects it out of hand. He stated his preference to rank applications based on the matrix NASBE had given the Board and to use it for the rest of the meeting. He expressed concern that the ranking proposed by the motion would undermine the process.

Mrs. Martin said she thought a higher ranking would equalize relevant experience with the other things on the matrix, but she didn?t think it should go as high as Mrs. Morris was suggesting. She suggested changing the ranking to match the other scoring on the matrix - to 1 through 5. She said she would make a motion to that effect. When asked if she would accept Mrs. Martin?s proposal as a friendly amendment to her motion, Mrs. Morris indicated she would not.

Mrs. Martin moved to amend the motion so that relevant business experience would be scored from 1 to 5. Dr. Wagon seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-1-1. Connie Morris voted ?no? and Iris Van Meter abstained.

Mr. Bacon moved that the first five items on the matrix be collapsed into one area called education experience, which would result in three criteria, education experience, Board goals, and relevant business/civic experience, with each given a value from 1 to 5. Mrs. Morris seconded the motion.

Sue Gamble said it appeared NASBE had used a process based on what the Board told them and had been completely objective in arriving at a ranking. She stated she thought it was important for the Board to go through





## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Abrams called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. on Tuesday, September 13, 2005, in the Board Room of the State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

## **ROLL CALL**

All members were present:

Steve Abrams	Carol Rupe
John Bacon	Iris Van Meter
Sue Gamble	Bill Wagnon
Kathy Martin	Janet Waugh
Connie Morris	Ken Willard

The Board stood for recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Abrams asked that items 14 p., afterschool program grants, and 14 q., a contract for assistive technology, be added to the consent agenda.? Interim Commissioner Dennis asked that 14 b., appointment of Human Resource Director, be pulled from the consent agenda.? Mrs. Martin asked for additional information on item 14 l., contracts with Reading 1<sup>st</sup> coordinators.? Mrs. Morris asked if some time on the agenda could be devoted to discussion of counting victims of Hurricane Katrina for state aid purposes if they enroll after the official count date of September 20<sup>th</sup>.? Dr. Abrams asked that it be included in the Interim Commissioner?s report.? There being no further changes, Mr. Willard moved that the agenda be approved as amended.? Mr. Bacon seconded the motion which carried 10-0.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Abrams asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting.? Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the minutes be approved as submitted.? The motion carried.

Chairman Abrams introduced Peggy Harris who was present with members of her education classes from Baker University.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF DATES FOR COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS**

After several dates were discussed, it was agreed that the Board would meet at 8:00 a.m. on September 19<sup>th</sup> to conduct interviews of commissioner of education candidates.? It was also agreed that the Board would possibly meet the evening of September 18<sup>th</sup>, if necessary.

## **INTERIM COMMISSIONER?S REPORT**

Interim Commissioner Dennis reported on several issues including some of the challenges that local school districts were facing.? He also reported that storm evacuees would be enrolled like all other students and the costs would be submitted to the federal government for reimbursement.? He added that if there was a problem with the official count date of September 20<sup>th</sup>, it was possible the legislature would amend the law to address it.

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## **LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

### **Report on Legislative Interim Committees**

Mr. Dennis reported that the legislature would hold off the study and resulting recommendations on any major issues until after it had received the results of the cost study being conducted by Legislative Post Audit.? He noted that the Legislative Education Planning Committee (LEPC) would be meeting six more days before the beginning of the 2006 session and issues to be discussed included the dedication of 65% of local school district resources to instruction and issues related to juvenile detention facilities.?

Mr. Dennis asked the Board if it had any issues it would like considered by the 2006 Legislature, noting that there was adequate time to work on a proposal before the beginning of the session.

### **State Board Legislative Recommendations**

Dr. Wagnon asked that the Board consider several items for its legislative agenda, including bringing campaign finance regulations for Board of Education races in line with those for the legislature; aligning ethics regulations regarding food and gifts for State Board members with those for legislators; and updating regulations or state law regarding how children with head lice are dealt with by the schools.? Mrs. Gamble mentioned the interest by the legislature to have 65% of local school district resources dedicated to instruction, and noted that there seemed to be a lack of understanding by legislators and others around the state regarding the issue.? She asked if there was a need for a broader definition of instructional resources.

## **CITIZENS? OPEN FORUM**

Chairman Abrams opened the Citizens? Open Forum at 10:29 a.m. Those addressing the Board were: Sandy Pickert, representing Abstinence Education, Inc. and Kansas Abstinence Network, Wichita; Margot Breckbill, representing Sedgwick County Adolescent Pregnancy Network, Wichita; Charles B. Jenney, Derby; Rick Howard, Wichita; Rev. Lisa Schwartz, Topeka; Thom Belote, representing Kansans for Responsible Sex Ed, Overland Park; Shari Wilson, representing KACEE, Kansas City; Joy Bourdess, Overland Park; John Staver, representing the American Association for the Advancement for Science, Manhattan; Linda Holloway, representing Concerned Women for America of Kansas, Prairie Village; Erik Ahlen, representing Planned Parenthood, Eudora; Seagayl Henderson, De Soto; and Pam MacDonald, representing Kansans for Responsible Sex Ed, Lawrence.? Chairman Abrams declared the Open Forum closed at 11:10 a.m.

The Board took a break from 11:11 to 11:16 a.m.

## **MODEL HEALTH STANDARDS**

Accompanying the draft of the model Health Standards in the materials sent to the Board prior to the meeting, was a chart that contained requests from Board members for changes in the standards and how the writing committee had handled those requests.? The chart also contained a paragraph the committee had recommended which explained opt-in and opt-in methods for obtaining parental approval for students to participate in human sexuality classes, as well as a proposed Appendix A which contained sample letters that districts could use for opt-in or opt-out methods.? In addition to the paragraph recommended by the committee, a paragraph requested by Mr. Bacon as an alternative to the committee?s recommendation was included.? It contained language which stated that ?The State Board mandates/directs the use of the ?opt-in? policy??? The paragraph also noted that, in addition to the sample opt-in letter in the appendix, a checklist on which teachers would be required to mark the specific topics to be covered in their human sexuality classes would be included with the letter.? Mr. Bacon said he had been asked for a possible checklist to be used, but hadn?t come up with anything he was satisfied with.? He mentioned that the checklist might be something that the schools could develop and offered the following additional paragraph to give direction to schools:

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In an effort to inform parents and continue to provide quality education experiences for Kansas students, the Kansas State Board of Education would suggest that such items as the types of sexual behavior discussed, lifestyles discussed, props used for demonstration, and whether or not the class will be mixed gender or if any portion of the class will be boys only or girls only be included in a disclosure checklist provided to parents at the time of enrollment as part of the Opt-in procedure.?

Several members spoke in favor of leaving the decision up to local districts about whether to use an opt-in or opt-out method. It was mentioned that where it was offered, only a few parents chose to opt-out for their children each year, so the necessity to mandate an opt-in method seemed to be addressing a problem that did not exist. Difficulty getting parents to return an opt-in form, particularly at the middle school level, was also seen as a problem and an administrative burden for teachers. They did see the benefit of including the additional paragraph suggested by Mr. Bacon regarding a checklist with the minor change of including the opt-out choice. Several other Board members spoke in favor of the opt-in policy as way of providing parents the opportunity to decide what is best for their children and to enhance communication between parents and schools. Also noted was the rise in sexually transmitted diseases and the need to change from an opt-out policy and try something new to address it .

Mrs. Rupe, with a second by Dr. Wagnon, moved that the paragraph suggested by the writing committee be adopted for the Health Standards. Mrs. Morris felt that the opt-in method, which would get parents involved, addressed an issue of life and death, so issues of local control should not be an issue. She added that teen pregnancies put a burden on all taxpayers, also negating local control arguments. She also felt it should be handled administratively at enrollment and should not be an additional burden put on teachers.?

Mrs. Martin stated she would like to amend the motion to include the additional paragraph offered by Mr. Bacon if the opt-out method was added. Mrs. Rupe and Dr. Wagnon accepted the amendment. Discussion about what curriculum would be offered to students if parents chose not to opt-in was discussed. Several members expressed concern about inappropriate props being used. Mrs. Morris suggested that other visual aids be added to the sentence about props used for demonstration in Mr. Bacon's paragraph if the motion passed. Her suggestion was not accepted. The motion was voted on and failed 5-5 with Dr. Abrams, Mrs. Morris, Mr. Bacon, Mr. Willard and Mrs. Van Meter voting no?.

Mrs. Morris moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the Board approve the suggested paragraph mandating/directing an opt-in policy, with the inclusion of Mr. Bacon's additional paragraph with other visual aids added to it. The motion failed 5-5, with Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Rupe, Mrs. Waugh, Mrs. Gamble and Dr. Wagnon voting no?.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:23 p.m. and returned at 1:30 p.m.

### **DISCUSSION WITH KASB ON TYING LOCAL DISTRICT BUDGETS TO ACHIEVEMENT**

To address a concern expressed about the staff development training available to local boards of education on the importance of closing the achievement gap and using the additional dollars made available by the Legislature to achieve that goal, Mr. John Koepke, Executive Director, of the Kansas Association of School Boards (KASB), had been invited to share with the Board the opportunities that local board members have to use their funds in an effective manner and the role that KASB plays in assisting them.

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Mr. Koepke reviewed the services provided to local boards, as well as the components of the Association's Long Range and Strategic Plan that focused on district accountability and the improvement in student performance. He also reviewed specific actions that had been included in KASB's 2005-2006 goals and objectives that focus on assisting boards of education in understanding practices which improve learning, and providing assistance to districts placed on improvement status under NCLB and QPA. In addition, he noted KASB was working to strengthen local boards by developing performance standards for them and their members and was offering Whole Board Training to districts, 56 of which had been held since July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Koepke offered the Board an overview of the programs and seminars offered by KASB and indicated that built into each one was improving student achievement. Mr. Koepke reported that in addition to having 297 districts as members of KASB, its membership also included service centers and community colleges.

The questions and discussion that followed included how local boards could be trained to hire and supervise good district leadership; disparities in the performance of schools and districts receiving the same funding; issues related to district consolidation; NCLB requirements for 100 percent proficiency; the KASB funding base and the services offered to districts to save them money such as fuel and natural gas purchasing, risk management, workers compensation, and legal services.

#### **UPDATE BY LEGISLATIVE POST AUDIT DIVISION ON COST-STUDY**

Leo Hafner, Assistant Legislative Post Auditor presented an overview of the education cost studies which are to be completed by the first day of the 2006 Legislative session. Mr. Hafner explained that two studies were being conducted: one based on inputs, or the cost to deliver the curriculum, related services and programs mandated by state statute, and another using an outcomes-based approach that will estimate how much it would cost school districts to meet the performance standards set by the State Board of Education. To help the Board understand the differences in the two studies, he reviewed the general methods used in each and how each was being undertaken. He reported that the Legislative Post Audit Division (LPAD) was conducting the inputs-based study, but had contracted with William Duncombe and John Yinger, economists from Syracuse University, experts in the field of school finance, to perform the outcomes-based study. He noted that the study hadn't been entirely turned over to Duncombe and Yinger and that LPAD staff was involved in determining the data to be used. Mr. Hafner explained that there were several approaches that could be taken with an outcomes-based study and gave a general explanation of each. He indicated that Duncombe and Yinger will be using a statistical cost function analysis for the Kansas study. Mr. Hafner and Cindy Lassen, LPAD staff member, answered questions from the Board. Mr. Hafner indicated he would be happy to return to present the results of the studies to the Board after they had been presented to the legislature.

The Board took a break from 3:24 to 3:31 p.m.

#### **UPDATE ON GIVING HIGH SCHOOL ASSESSMENTS AFTER THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN**

Deputy Commissioner Posny discussed the flexibility that school districts have in assessing high school students after they have had an opportunity to learn the content. She reported that feedback had been received from the field and outlined the guidelines for high school assessments which will take effect in the 2006-2007 school year. Basically, all high school assessments will be given on a yearly basis in order to give students the opportunity to learn the content before taking the assessment. Board members asked to be sent copies of the chart she used to illustrate the Kansas assessment schedule for 2005-2006 through 2009-2010 which incorporated the high school assessment schedule. They also asked for a copy of a fact sheet on the high school assessments which will be sent

to schools and asked to be included on the email list for future fact sheets generated by the Department.

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### **2005-2006 DISTRICT FORMULA ALLOCATIONS**

Judi Miller, Assistant Director, State and Federal Programs, reported on 2005-2006 allocations for Kansas school districts for the following programs: Title I Part A; Migrant Education Program; Title I Part D Neglected and Delinquent; Title II Part A Teacher Quality; Title II Part D Education Technology; Title III English Language Acquisition; Title IV Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities; and Title V Innovative Programs.? She indicated that in a comparison to 2004-2005, there was a decrease of \$4.3 million in the allocations awarded to Kansas for the 2005-2006 year for all eight programs listed and a \$12 million decrease since 2003-2004.? She noted that poverty was increasing in Kansas, but not as much as in other states.? Mrs. Miller reported that each program has specific eligibility criteria that districts must meet in order to qualify for the funds and that a specific funding formula is used for each program to determine each qualifying district?s allocation.? She reviewed the type of data used to calculate the allocations and reviewed key components of two of the programs to give the Board an idea of the differences in criteria.? Discussion followed about reasons for the decrease in federal funding and the cost of NCLB requirements.

### **INTRODUCTION OF 2005 SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Zo Ann Torrey, Director of Student Support Services, introduced Bert Moore, Chair of the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC).? Mr. Moore introduced the members of SEAC who were present: ? Ruth Santer, Pam Sumner, Danny Thornton, Andrea Urban, Shirley Armentrout, Shelly Bradford and Bob Maile, Chair-elect.? Because the annual report had been included in the materials mailed to the Board prior to the meeting, Mr. Moore did not give an oral report.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Mrs. Morris moved, with a second by Mrs. Rupe, that the Board approve the consent agenda as amended at the beginning of the meeting.? The motion carried 9-0, with Mr. Willard temporarily absent.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- ? Received the monthly personnel report.
- ? Confirmed the appointment of Sherry Webb to the position of Administrative Assistant in the State and Federal Programs team, effective August 29, 2005 at an annual salary of \$19,676.80.
- ? Approved school construction plans for USD 259, Wichita (2); USD 290, Ottawa; USD 450, Shawnee Heights; USD 232, DeSoto; USD 378, Riley County Schools; Faith Tabernacle Church, Junction City; USD 321, Kaw Valley Schools; USD 385, Andover; USD 505, Chetopa; USD 231, Garnder-Edgerton Schools (2); USD 258, Humboldt; and St. John's Military School, Salina.
- ? Accepted the recommendations of Interim Commissioner Dennis to renew a Visiting Scholar license ? valid for July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 for Richard Harrison who will continue to be employed as a behavior analyst for the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center; and a new Visiting Scholar license valid for July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006 for Mr. Daniel Botz who will be employed part-time to teach two advanced placement economics classes during the school year for Salina Public Schools USD 305.

? Accepted the recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee and granted approval in cases 2200, 2208, 2210-2214, 2216-2217, 2219-2224 and 2228; denied requests in cases 2190-2191, 2197, 2199 and 2201; and approved an all level physical education license in case 2192, but denied a request for a secondary history and government license; approved the addition of 5-8 math endorsement in case 2193, but denied a request for a 5-8 science endorsement; approved the addition of a 5-8 math endorsement in case 2194, but denied a request for a 5-8 science endorsement; approved an all level Spanish and an all level ESOL endorsement in case 2196, but denied the request for adding middle level English language arts and all level history and government endorsements; and approved a 5-8 science license in case 2198, but denied and early childhood EC-3 license.

? Accepted the surrender and revoked the professional license issued to Mr. Jeffrey D. Payne with endorsements in teaching and school administration as a consequence of his inappropriate conduct with students.

? Approved accredited status for USD 203 Piper Middle School; USD 204 Bonner Springs High School; USD 229 Blue Valley Northwest High School; USD 231 Edgerton Elementary, Nike Intermediate, and Gardner Edgerton High; USD 232 Riverview Elementary and Mill Valley High; USD 241 Sharon Springs Elementary and Wallace County High School; USD 259 Hyde Elementary Magnet, Truesdell Middle, and Southeast High School; USD 265 Challenger Intermediate School and Discovery Intermediate School; USD 287 Pomona Elementary, Williamsburg Elementary, Pomona High School, and Williamsburg High School; USD 311 Pretty Prairie Elementary and Pretty Prairie Middle; USD 333 Concordia Jr./Sr. High; USD 345 West Indianola Elementary; USD 348 Baldwin Elementary Primary and Baldwin Jr. High; USD 353 Eisenhower Elementary; USD 402 Ewalt Elementary; USD 404 Riverton Elementary; USD 418 Washington Elementary; USD 437 Washburn Rural Middle School; USD 446 Independence Middle; USD 450 Shawnee Heights High School; USD 457 Kenneth Henderson Middle School; USD 465 Country View Elementary, Irving Elementary, Lowell Elementary, South Vernon Elementary, Winfield Middle, and Winfield High School; USD 500 Arrowhead Middle, D D Eisenhower Middle, West Middle, F.L. Schlagle High School, Wyandotte High School; USD 501 Quinton Heights Elementary; USD 512 Shawnee Mission South High School; Z0026 St. Paul Lutheran Elementary [Leavenworth] and St Pauls Lutheran [Cheney]; Z0029 All Saints Cons Elementary, Bishop Miede High School, Holy Cross Catholic School, Holy Name School [8384], Holy Name Elementary [8554], Our Lady of Unity School, St Agnes Elementary School, St. Michael Elementary School, St. Pauls Elementary, Immaculata High School, St. Patricks Elementary, St. Thomas Aquinas High School; Z0030 Sacred Heart [Salina], Sacred Heart Elementary [Plainville], St. Andrews Elementary [Abilene], St. Joseph Elementary [Oakley], St. John Elementary [Beloit], St. John High School [Beloit], and Tipton High School; and Z0031 St. Francis of Assisi Elementary, St. Mary's Elementary [Pittsburg] and St. Mary's Colgan High School.

? Approved inservice plans for USD 329 Mill Valley; USD 399 Paradise; and USD 501 Topeka.

? Approved added clarification to the Board's 2005-2006 Strategic Goals.

? Approved Carl D. Perkins Leadership Planning Grants for the integration of academic and technical education in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 each for USD 229, Blue Valley; ESSDACK? 622; and USD 470/465.



**September 14, 2005**

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Abrams called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. on Wednesday, September 14, 2005, in the Board Room of the State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

## **ROLL CALL**

All members were present:

Steve Abrams	Carol Rupe
John Bacon	Iris Van Meter
Sue Gamble	Bill Wagnon
Kathy Martin	Janet Waugh
Connie Morris	Ken Willard

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Abrams asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. Willard moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion carried.

## **BOARD REPORTS**

### **Board Attorney's Report**

Mr. Biles reviewed and provided further information the four methods of conducting a cost study of education that were mentioned in the presentation by LPAD on Tuesday. Discussion followed. He also updated the Board on the concurring opinions filed by three Kansas Supreme Court Justices on the January 3<sup>rd</sup> Supreme Court opinion in the school finance case and the possible implications in future litigation. Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the Board pay Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for August as presented. The motion carried.

### **Policy Committee**

Mr. Willard moved that the recommended changes to State Board Policy 1006 - Boardmanship Expectations - be adopted. Mr. Bacon seconded the motion which carried on a vote of 8-2, with Mrs. Waugh and Mrs. Van Meter voting no.

### **Other Board Member Reports**

Mrs. Martin reported that she had attended a World Trade Center Jr. Ambassadors program in Wichita. Dr. Wagnon indicated he would be participating in a national education summit in Massachusetts that was being coordinated by the U.S. Department of Education. Mrs. Waugh announced that the Challenge Awards banquet would be held November 9<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Junction City High School. Mrs. Rupe reported on her attendance at the McRel Annual Policy Forum.

### **Future Agenda Items**

Mrs. Morris requested that the Board study the possibility of establishing a Kansas Entrepreneurial Magnet School. Information on the criteria used by Standard and Poore in determining highly resource-effective districts was requested by Mrs. Gamble. Dr. Wagnon asked for a study that would compare effective schools which use funds efficiently and those with similar demographics which are not performing as well.

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**Proposed Changes to NASBE By-Laws and Policy Positions**

Mr. Willard reviewed the three changes to the NASBE By-laws that would be considered at the annual meeting in October. Mrs. Waugh moved, with a second by Mr. Willard, that Mr. Bacon, as the Board's delegate at the NASBE annual meeting, be directed to vote in favor of the proposed by-law changes, but be given the latitude to act as he felt appropriate if other issues arose. The motion carried 9-0-1, with Mrs. Morris abstaining. Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mrs. Van Meter, that Mr. Bacon be directed to use his vote as he felt appropriate regarding the proposed changes to NASBE policy positions. The motion carried 8-1-1, with Dr. Wagnon voting no and Mrs. Morris abstaining.

The Board took a break from 10:10 to 10:17 a.m.

**AUDIO STREAMING OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS ON THE INTERNET**

In response to a request from Mr. Bacon, information had been developed about providing streaming audio over the internet of Board meetings. An in-house proposal, with associated costs, or the option to have it done without charge by KAN-Ed were offered. Interim Commissioner Dennis asked the Board if it wanted to proceed with it and, if so, which option it preferred. Hal Gardner, KAN-Ed representative from the Board of Regents was present to answer questions, as were Kathy Gosa, Director of KSDE Information Technology, and Mike McCormick on the Information Technology staff. Mr. Bacon expressed his concerns regarding quality and performance of the system offered through KAN-Ed. He wanted to ensure that there was enough bandwidth to handle all those who wanted to sign on each time, in addition to good audio quality throughout the broadcast. He also wanted the Board to be able to maintain control over initiating and terminating the broadcast. He felt the issues he raised could best be addressed by having the system set up in the Department with KSDE staff monitoring it, noting that the start-up and maintenance costs were reasonable. Other Board members questioned the financial and manpower costs associated with an in-house system, particularly since the KAN-Ed service was being offered for free. Mr. Gardner assured the Board that KAN-Ed was up to handling the broadcast and also assured Mr. Bacon that the Board would maintain control over it. Mr. McCormick and Mrs. Gosa discussed how the Department would handle the service Mr. Gardner was asked if he could get further information on how many simultaneous connections the KAN-Ed system could handle and continue the discussion later in the day. He said he could.

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

Kathy Toelkes, Director of Communications and Recognitions Programs, handed out copies of the Board Communications Committee recommendations that had been presented to the Board in May. Mrs. Toelkes stated that a Key Communicators Network (KCN) would need to be a regular two-way communication between individuals identified in the state as communicators of educational issues and the Board. If established, the KCN would also form the core of participants in community forums, though the forums would not be limited to those individuals. Mrs. Toelkes reviewed how the KCN would be formed. Several members spoke in favor of reestablishing a KCN, holding community forums and meeting periodically with editorial boards across the state, noting that each activity provided a venue for the Board to communicate what it was trying to accomplish, as well as getting input from constituents across the state.

Mrs. Morris spoke in favor of each Board member submitting names for the KCN, instead of having others making recommendations as well, as had been proposed. She also suggested that focus group meetings could be set up by advertising a meeting in the newspaper. In addition, she liked the idea of meeting with the editorial boards and having Board press conferences. Mrs. Toelkes explained how the meetings with editorial boards were



of a candidate for the position of Commissioner of Education.

**ROLL CALL**

Members present were:

Steve Abrams	Connie Morris	Bill Wagnon
John Bacon	Carol Rupe	Janet Waugh
Sue Gamble	Iris Van Meter	Ken Willard

Mrs. Martin arrived at 8:09 p.m.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mrs. Rupe moved, with a second by Dr. Wagnon, that the Board recess into Executive Session for a period of 90 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of nonelected personnel so the privacy, confidentiality and other rights of such personnel would not be violated, and that the open meeting of the Board resume in the Board room at 9:33 p.m.? The motion carried 9-0, with Mrs. Martin absent.?? At 9:30 p.m. the open meeting resumed.

**RECESS**

There being no further business, Chairman Abrams recessed the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

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Steve Abrams, Chairman?? Penny Plamann, Secretary

**KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

**September 19, 2005**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Abrams called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, September 19, 2005, in the Board Room of the State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue in Topeka, Kansas, in order to conduct interviews of candidates for the position of Commissioner of Education.

**ROLL CALL**

All members were present:

Steve Abrams	Carol Rupe
John Bacon	Iris Van Meter
Sue Gamble	Bill Wagnon
Kathy Martin	Janet Waugh
Connie Morris	Ken Willard

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

