

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Pre-Meeting Activities
October 13, 2008

Board members and staff participated in an afternoon tour Coffeyville which included a visit to the Age to Age Kindergarten at Windsor Place, a retirement facility, and to see students involved in Career Cluster programs at Coffeyville High School. That was followed by an historical tour of Independence. In the evening Mrs. Shaver hosted Board members and staff for dinner at her home.

Pre-Meeting Activities
October 14, 2008

As part of the activities planned by the host district, several State Board members and staff toured the Cessna Aircraft facility in Independence.

MEETING MINUTES
October 14, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wagnon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, October 14, 2008, in the Board Room of the USD 446 Riley Resource Center at 1201 North 10th Street in Independence, Kansas.

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams	Carol Rupe
Sally Cauble	Jana Shaver
Sue Gamble	Bill Wagnon
Kathy Martin	Janet Waugh

Mr. Bacon was unable to attend. Mr. Willard was attending a NASBE Board of Directors meeting prior to the beginning of the NASBE annual meeting.

All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Wagnon indicated that members had been provided a revised copy of Consent Agenda item 13 i., Title I School Improvement Grants. He asked for any other changes to the agenda. There being none, Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the agenda be approved as revised. The motion carried 8-0, with Mr. Bacon and Mr. Willard absent.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Wagnon asked for approval of the September minutes. Mrs. Rupe moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the minutes be approved as submitted. The motion carried.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Posny asked for recommendations from Board members for individuals to serve on the reading and mathematics standards writing committee. Mrs. Gamble recommended Diane Selzer, Olathe, for the mathematics committee and Mrs. Martin indicated she also had a name to forward to Dr. Posny. Among other issues Dr. Posny brought up, she reported that the Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) had applied to the National Governors' Association (NGA) to be one of five states to receive a

grant to form a Policy Academy for the coordination of Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs within the state. The grant would be used to coordinate with nationally known experts in the development of CTE programs, with the funds to be would used to pay for meetings and travel expenses. States receiving grants will be announced October 24, 2008, she reported.

The Commissioner asked that the Board reconsider its decision to hold a two-day meeting in November. She mentioned the high cost of overtime that would have to be paid to staff because Tuesday, November 11th was a state holiday. She suggested that the Board consider a one-day meeting on Wednesday, November 12th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The meeting would run no later than 4:00 p.m. because of the of the Challenge Awards banquet that evening in Junction City. Mrs. Gamble so moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin. The motion carried 8-0.

PRESENTATION ON DYSLEXIA

Jeanine Phillips, founding director of FUNdamental Learning Center, Wichita, gave a presentation on dyslexia, sharing information about current research into causes and ways of helping students with the disability. She shared her own experience with the reading disability as well as that of her son. During her presentation she reported that Kansas NAEP scores and national placement for reading showed the lack of action by the state to help students with reading disorders. Mrs. Shaver questioned her information. Ms. Phillips reported that she had met with the Kansas Board of Regents (KBOR) about the lack of pre-service training in teaching reading and addressing the needs of students with dyslexia. She indicated that KBOR had pointed her to the Kansas Board of Education's teacher education standards. At the close of the discussion, Chairman Wagnon asked Ms. Phillips what she would like to see the Board do. She replied that she wanted Kansas classrooms to have highly qualified teachers to address the needs across the three tiers of MTSS.

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

No one was present desiring to address the Board.

The Board took a break from 10:57 until 11:07 a.m.

PRESENTATION BY HOST DISTRICT USD 446, INDEPENDENCE

USD 446 Superintendent Chuck Schmidt and Curriculum Director Jannette Luthi introduced several teachers who highlighted a variety of programs which have contributed to increased student motivation, resulting in higher assessment scores throughout the district. One of the programs included was the after school program which serves an average of 180 students a day and provides extended learning opportunities for students grades 1-5. Student mentors Kyle Taylor, Conner Frizel & Zach Stacey, all 6th graders, assisted Mandy Smith with the presentation. The Sunform Alphabet program, a research-based instructional program designed to produce successful readers and writers was also highlighted. The program is used in all USD 446 kindergarten classes. Kindergarten and first grade students Caleb Hayes, Caitlynn Brown, Kaiden King and Anthony LeDrono assisted kindergarten teacher Lisa Mitchell with the presentation. Lastly, Independence High School Principal Mitch Shaw introduced teachers Tim Knoles and Al Speicher who discussed the career & technical education program, a business-education alliance in Independence and surrounding communities. Curriculum courses have been developed to support the school/business partnerships.

At 12:45 p.m. Board members had lunch with district staff, to the accompaniment of the High School string orchestra. The meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m.

PANEL ON TEACHER PREPARATION

Dr. Steven Scott, Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs, Pittsburg State University; Mr. Brad King, Dean of the Division of Health & Exercise Science & former Director of Teacher Education, Mid-America Nazarene University; and Dr. Ken Weaver, Interim Dean of The Teachers College, Emporia State University; shared information with the Board regarding the teacher preparation programs at their various institutions of higher education. The discussion centered on the current research and best practices that are being taught to education majors as part of the preparation programs. Additionally, the panel addressed how preparation programs have changed to meet the needs of students in the 21st century.

The Board took a break from 3:00 to 3:04 p.m.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the Kansas State Board of Education adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of the Professional Practices Commission and approve the recommendations of the Commission in cases 08-O-08, 08-FC-09, 08-O-10, 08-FC-11, 08-FC-12, 08-BR-13, 08-FC-14, and 08-FC-15. The motion carried.

KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS TEACHER PREPARATION SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Diane Lindemann, Director of Student Financial Assistance for the Kansas Board of Regents, reviewed the Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship Program and answer questions.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Teacher Vacancy Report

Deputy Commissioner Dennis reviewed a report on the teacher vacancies survey conducted by his office. The survey covered school years 2000-2001 through 2008-2009. He noted that vacancies had dropped this year, with 85 unified school districts and approximately 228.9 teacher vacancies as of August 1, 2008 compared to 315.5 at the beginning of the 2007-08 school year. Some of the reduction in vacancies could be attributed to the State Board's changes to rules and regulations and the hiring of retirees.

Discussion of the State Board's 2009 Legislative Package

Mr. Dennis noted the information included in the Board materials addressed legislative proposals suggested by Board members, including an amendment to the law that would raise the contribution limit from political committees or persons to state board candidates for each primary and general election; moving the location of Board of Education positions on the ballot; and three options for multi-year legislative funding for schools based on the CPI-U. He also handed out options for making health insurance available to more school district employees and reviewed results of a survey of districts on health insurance.

Dr. Wagon asked that a request for a legislative study of year-round school be added to the Board's legislative package.

Mr. Dennis also handed out the September and October agendas for the Legislative Educational Planning Committee, the 2010 Commission and the Special Education Funding Task Force and reported on recent meetings of the groups.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Cauble moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the consent agenda be approved as presented. The motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Confirmed the appointments of Xuewen Sheng to the position of Senior Education Research Analyst on the Research and Evaluation team effective September 15, 2008, at an annual salary of \$53,414.40; Tenisha Tevis to the position of Senior Education Research Analyst on the Research and Evaluation team effective September 15, 2008, at an annual salary of \$53,414.40; and James Bless to the position of Application Developer III on the Information Technology team effective October 20, 2008, at an annual salary of \$50,918.40.
- Approved school construction plans for USD 345, Seaman; USD 266, Maize; USD 437, Auburn-Washburn; USD 491, Eudora; USD 373, Newton; USD 234, Ft. Scott; and USD 290, Ottawa.
- Approved the vocational education service agreement between USD 233, Olathe, and USD 232, Blue Valley.
- Approved requests for waivers for individuals to serve outside their area of endorsement in districts as follows: *Adaptive Special Education*: Andrew Pinnell and Cynthia Geis, USD 305; Cheryl McPherson, Neil McKay-Jones, Erich Singer, and Susan Brummett, USD 501; Meagan Etheridge, D0605; Rebecca Carter, Andrea Chambray, and Jessica Billings, D0636; and Sarah Maxton, D0637; *Drama/Theatre*: Laurie Stallbaumer, USD 451; *Early Childhood Special Education*: Susan Ottman, USD 437; *Earth Space Science*: Conan McCormack, USD 512; *Interrelated*: Kandy Kendall, D0605; and *Math*: Michelle Blaske, USD 512.
- Approved in-service education plans for Spring Hill USD 230, Emporia USD 253, Haysville USD 261, Palco USD 269, Jefferson County North USD 339, Macksville USD 351, Andover USD 385, LaCrosse USD 395, Tonganoxie USD 464, Axtell USD 488, El Dorado USD 490, Lawrence USD 497, Attica USD 511, and Smoky Hill/Central Kansas Education Service Center #629.
- Received the list of districts' 2008-2009 allocations for No Child Left Behind Programs, Title I Basic Programs, Title I-C Migrant Education Program, Title II-A Teacher Quality, Title II-D Education Technology, Title III English Language Acquisition, and Title IV Safe and Drug Free Schools.
- Approved the recommendation for funding a \$100,000 Title I School Improvement Grant for 2008-2009 for USD 430, South Brown County.
- Issued an order authorizing USD 364, Marysville, to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds in excess of the district's general bond debt limitation.

Contracts Approved

Authorized the Commissioner of Education to negotiate and enter into contracts with:

- Educational Testing Services (ETS) to provide the Pathwise Framework Induction mentoring program that provides novice teachers with the tools and supports needed to be successful in their profession, with a contract period of one year and in an amount not exceeding \$33,890.50;
- Bob Winkler to (1) redesign the Assessment Examiner's manuals for the Reading, Mathematics, Science, History-Government, and Writing Assessments, and (2) compose 40 proctor scripts necessary for the read-aloud accommodation, in an amount not to exceed \$30,000; and
- The University of Kansas, Center for Research, Inc. to provide consulting services to coordinate and support activities of the Kansas Research Consortium, with a contract period for one year and in an amount not exceed \$13,800.

RECESS

There being no further business, Chairman Wagnon recessed the meeting at 4:20 p.m. Board members attended a Tri-County Legislative reception and dinner in the evening.

Bill Wagnon, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary

**KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES**

October 15, 2008

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Wagnon called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 15, 2008, in the Board Room of the USD 446 Riley Resource Center at 1201 North 10th Street in Independence, Kansas

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams	Carol Rupe
Sally Cauble	Jana Shaver
Sue Gamble	Bill Wagnon
Kathy Martin	Janet Waugh

Mr. Bacon and Mr. Willard were absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. Gamble that the agenda be approved as presented. The motion carried 8-0.

Because he needed to leave early, Dr. Abrams asked for permission to submit his request for a future agenda item. He asked for an update on the Career Pipeline program at the November meeting and a discussion about how the Board could collaborate with its efforts. Mrs. Gamble asked for information about how to access the Kuder Interest test online.

BOARD REPORTS

Board Chairman

Chairman Wagnon reported on a P-20 Council planning meeting with the President of the Kansas Board of Regents. He noted the need to begin work to align k-12 with postsecondary expectations. He also reported on a U.S. Army and Public Education conference, *Building Strong Futures Together*, that he had attended at the request of NASBE. He reported that the Army has an array of education programs and mentioned armed forces charter high schools and engaging high school students through Jr. ROTC. He felt guidance counselors should be knowledgeable about the opportunities for postsecondary education for students after participation in Jr. ROTC.

Legislative Coordinator

Mrs. Gamble reported that legislators need to be educated about the reasons for the growth in student achievement and hopes Board members will focus on what has been done, is being done and why it needs to go further.

Board Attorney's Report

Mr. Biles provided additional information regarding the activities reported in his monthly report. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. Gamble, that the Board pay Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for September as presented. The motion carried.

Dr. Abrams left at 9:35 a.m.

Other Board Member Reports

Mrs. Rupe reported on a Career Pipeline Advisory Council meeting she had recently attended where the owner of the company that provides the Kuder Interest test made a presentation. Included in his presentation was how South Carolina had very successfully used career pathway planning in order to improve its graduation rate. Mrs. Cauble reported that she had attended a recent meeting of the Interstate Migrant Education Council. She indicated she had been very impressed with the meeting and provided copies to Board members of a report of the meeting she had prepared.

Mrs. Shaver extended her thanks to staff of USD 446 for all their efforts to make the Board meeting run smoothly and for their hospitality while the Board was in Independence. She specifically mentioned Superintendent Chuck Schmidt, Business Manager Fred Meyer, Curriculum Director Jannette Luthi, Food Service Director Coulene Speers, Director of Technology Bob Tincher and Assistant Director Barbara Eubanks. Mrs. Shaver wanted Board members to know that because of time constraints the district had not been able to cover all it wanted to in its presentation and that a copy of the teacher recruitment video they had intended to show had been provided to Board members with other district information handed out.

Mrs. Martin asked for information on federal Title V funds for abstinence-only sex education programs.

Communication Committee Report

Mrs. Martin handed out a print copy of the first on-line Kansas Board newsletter that was produced in collaboration with NASBE.

Requests for Future Agenda Items

Other than Dr. Abrams request for an update on the Career Pipeline, there were no requests for future agenda items. In light of Mrs. Rupe's report on the Career Pipeline meeting she had attended, Mrs. Gamble asked for an internal review of the school counselor standards to ensure they are up to date with current policy on academics and CTE.

PRESENTATION OF THE STATE REPORT CARD FOR 2008-2009

Commissioner Posny and Deputy Commissioner Dr. DeBacker presented the 2008 State Report Card. Results of the 2008 Kansas Statewide Assessments showed strong performance in reading, mathematics, science, and history/government for all students. When compared with results from 2000 through 2007, the reading and mathematics scores reflected a continuing upward trend. The achievement gaps among various groups of Kansas students in both reading and mathematics are gradually closing, they reported. Participation rates on all assessments in Kansas were above ninety-nine percent, indicating that the stakeholders in Kansas take the assessments very seriously and ensure that all students are counted. As a part of this report, the final list of schools making AYP was presented to the Board.

Dr. DeBacker reported on the Kansas Standard of Excellence, indicating that the list of grades/schools achieving it in reading, mathematics, science, and history/government was being released and would be posted on the Department website as would the 2008 Report Card.

During the discussion of the presentation, Mrs. Gamble asked several questions. Feeling that the achievements of urban schools were not being recognized, she asked if information was available regarding school size and location with corresponding achievement data. She also asked if the same type of information was available for schools meeting the Standard of Excellence. Mrs. Gamble was also interested in how many schools were in the bottom proficiency category in 2002. She also asked if it

would be helpful if the assessment scores for reading and math were reported for the 11th grade in order to get a look at the final proficiency data on students before they left high school. Lastly, Mrs. Gamble asked if information could be developed on the statistical significance of the rise in assessment scores.

Mrs. Cauble asked if it would be possible for the performance targets to be included on the chart of annual student achievement. Dr. Wagon asked that the scope and sequence of math standards be tightened up in the next review of the standards.

The Board took a break from 11:22 until 11:30 a.m.

OTHER BUSINESS

Referencing comments about Kansas NAEP performance made the previous day by Mrs. Phillips in her presentation on dyslexia, Mrs. Waugh asked Dr. Posny to continue her efforts to clarify Kansas proficiency levels with NAEP.

The Commissioner was asked to draft a letter of recognition for schools and teachers across the state, applauding them for all their hard work and effort in educating all Kansas students, as evidenced in the state assessment results.

UPDATE ON THE DYSLEXIA RESOLUTION

Colleen Riley, Director of Special Education Services at KSDE, was asked to delay until the November meeting her report on the status of the dyslexia resolution.

BOARD TRAVEL

Mrs. Shaver asked to add the October 29th Council of Superintendents meeting in Parsons to her travel. Mrs. Martin asked to add Read for the Record in Milford on October 22nd. Mrs. Gamble moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the travel requests be approved as amended. The motion carried 7-0, with Dr. Abrams absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Wagon adjourned the meeting at 11:38 p.m.

Bill Wagon, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary