APPROVED

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Waugh called the April meeting of the State Board of Education to order at 10:00 a.m., April 13, 2010 in the Board Room of the Kansas Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas. 4/13/10 a.m. session audio archive (00:02:11)

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Carolyn L. Wims-Campbell	Jana Shaver
Sally Cauble	Sue Storm
Walt Chappell	Janet Waugh
David Dennis	Ken Willard
Kathy Martin	

Mr. Bacon was absent due to a work conflict.

STATE BOARD MISSION STATEMENT, MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Waugh read the Mission Statement of the Board and then called for a moment of silence. The moment of silence was followed by the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance. (00:02:46)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Waugh noted that a contract to strengthen youth mentoring through community partnerships had been added to the Consent Agenda. Also added were the confirmation of the appointment of the Director of Fiscal Services and Operations and a contract for oversight of ARRA activities. All had been e- mailed earlier to Board members. She also requested, because Board Attorney Ferguson would not be in attendance at the Wednesday meeting, that his report be added after the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mrs. Wims-Campbell, that the agenda be approved as amended. (00:04:38) **MOTION** (00:05:49)

Dr. Chappell pulled item 12 j. and Mr. Willard asked to pull items 12 f., g. and h. from the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Martin and Mrs. Wims-Campbell accepted the additional amendments. The motion carried 8-1-0, with Waugh voting in opposition and Bacon absent.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mrs. Shaver, that the minutes of March meeting be approved as presented. Discussion followed about how much detail from Board member discussion should be included in the minutes. It was felt that board positions and concerns expressed prior to Board action were important in order to reflect the basis of decision-making. Most Board members agreed that the Board Secretary should include an overview of concerns expressed by members. The motion to approve the minutes carried 8-1, with Chappell voting in opposition. **MOTION** (00:7:59)

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Interim Commissioner DeBacker reviewed key areas of the *Blueprint for Reform* which outlines the proposed reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). It was decided to postpone questions and discussion until after the Open Forum. (00:23:32)

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

(00:31:03) Chairman Waugh declared the Citizen's Open Forum open at 10:30 a.m. Chris Cezar, Marion, representing the Marion County Special Education Cooperative, spoke against Peabody-Burns USD 398's request to withdraw from the Marion County Special Education Cooperative. Shari Wilson, Kansas City, representing the Kansas Association of Conservation and Environmental Education (KACEE), reported on KACEE activities and notified the Board of the Kansas Green Schools Conference July 30th. Craig Schulz, Topeka, of the Traig Gaming and Learning Center, announced a new learning center will be opening in Topeka for after-school activities. Julie Doyen, Riley, representing the QPA Advisory Council, encouraged the Board to not increase graduation requirements. Board member Dennis had several questions for Ms. Doyen and Chairman Waugh requested further information about membership of the Committee. John Richard Schrock, Emporia, discussed information he felt might be misleading in the Virtual Education Report the Board would be receiving information about on Wednesday. Chairman Waugh declared the Open Forum closed at 10:50 p.m.

BREAK The Board took a break at 10:50 and the meeting resumed at 10:56 a.m.
(00:51:00)

PRESENTATION BY KANSAS 2009 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

(00:57:26) Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis presented the 2009 Blue Ribbon Schools recipients. Winners are selected based on one of two criteria: schools having at least 40% of their students from disadvantaged backgrounds that have dramatically improved, or schools whose students achieve in the top 10% of their state on state tests. Principals from Oakley Elementary School (USD 274), Phillipsburg Elementary School (USD 325), Robinson Elementary School (USD 402) and Rock Creek Junior-Senior High School (USD 323) were present to share with the Board what they have found to be the most significant elements in raising student achievement. Broken Arrow Elementary School (USD 497) was also named a 2009 Blue Ribbon School, though a representative was unable to attend the Board meeting. After their presentations they answered questions from Board members. One of the issues raised in the discussion following their presentations, was that of merit pay and the evaluation of teachers based on student performance, as required in the Race to the Top grant. Rob Sattler, Principal of Oakley Elementary, stated his opposition to the idea, noting that, besides the fact there are many factors that impact student performance, it would destroy established collaborative relationships among his teachers.

BREAK The Board took a break at 11:44 and the meeting resumed at 11:48 a.m.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT (continued)

(01:49:01) After discussion of the reauthorization of ESEA began, Mrs. Cauble suggested that information from presentations on the agenda yet to be made and reports from Board members who had attended the NASBE legislative conference might assist the Board in its discussion. She suggested that it be postponed until after Board reports on Wednesday. The Board agreed.

LUNCH RECESS The Board recessed for lunch at 11:58 a.m. and returned at 1:30 p.m.

COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICS AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

4/13/10 p.m. session audio archive (00:03:10) Tom Foster, Director of Standards and Assessments, updated Board members on the Common Core Standards for English Language Arts and Mathematics. Matt Copeland and David Barnes, Department education consultants, reviewed information on the additions the Department felt were necessary to create high quality standards and a purposeful transition for Kansas educators and students. They noted that most of the comments and advice from Kansas had been integrated in succeeding drafts of the standards. Discussion and Board questions

followed. Board members expressed many concerns and reservations about the standards. In response to comments about the lack of user-friendliness of the standards, different terminology used, and the importance and cost of professional development to train the field to use them, Dr. Foster explained that the Department would be developing bridge documents to link the new standards to the existing standards and training would be a key element in their implementation. The Department would do everything it could to make the transition for the field as easy as possible.

Another area discussed dealt with how the new standards compared with the existing Kansas standards and whether the state would do better to revise those rather than adopt new ones. There were also several Board members who objected that the State Board was not given the opportunity to be included in the standards initiative from the outset. Some questioned why an independent grassroots undertaking begun by the National Governors' Association (NGA) and the Council of Chief State School Officers (CCSSO) was now being tied to the federal reauthorization of ESEA. The tie-in to the reauthorization could pose a stumbling block for several members regarding their stand on approval of the standards.

Other issues mentioned were the pace of the project and fear it was proceeding too fast for states to keep up with assess the quality of the content of the standards; whether the new standards addressed graduates' ability to find well-paying jobs; the possible development of common standards in other content areas; and the standards-related issue of development of new assessments and the state's longtime relationship with the Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation at The University of Kansas. As a follow-up, the list of Kansas standards review committee members who had been involved with the many drafts of the common core standards was requested.

The Board took a break from 3:05 to 3:11 p.m. **BREAK** (01:38:00)

REVIEWER COMMENTS FROM THE RACE TO THE TOP (RttT) GRANT APPLICATION

Dr. DeBacker discussed the reviews received from Kansas' Race To The Top Phase I Grant application. The comments and scores from the five reviewers for each area provided the basis for an analysis by staff regarding what could be done to improve the application for Phase II and the possible points that could be gained. (01:44:53)

Members of the Board expressed their thoughts on whether or not to reapply in Phase II and, if so, what modifications would need to be made to Kansas' application in order to be successful. Disappointment was expressed about the move toward competitive grants for federal funding of educational reform and how the lack of capacity in small states put them at a disadvantage to compete. Also of concern was the disadvantage posed by Kansas being a local-control state in terms of education. The impact on future funding success in the event the Department did not apply in Phase II was discussed.

Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mr. Willard, that the State Board recommend that the Kansas State Department of Education not apply in the second round for Race to the Top funds. After further brief discussion, the motion carried 9-0. **MOTION** (02:25:26)

PRESENTATION ON SCHOOL FUNDING PROPOSAL

At the March meeting it was requested that Senator Steve Abrams, former State Board of Education member, be invited to share information regarding his school funding proposal as contained in SB 549. One aspect of the proposal would create a Personal Student Scholarship (PPS) account that would follow a student throughout his or her K-12 education in the state. Expenditure of funds from the PPS account would be limited to paying for the instructional (02:32:07)

expenses of each student. Monies left over would carry forward to help pay for the cost of post-secondary education after graduation. Another aspect of the proposal would allow students to acquire part or all of the necessary graduation credits for math, science and language arts from within Career and Technical Education (CTE) classes. Senator Abrams answered Board member questions and asked for the Board's support of the development of a blue ribbon committee to study the proposal. The request was favorably received by several Board members.

BREAK The Board took a break from 4:56 to 5:03 p.m.
(03:29:10)

DISCUSSION ON THE 9 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION BOARD INITIATIVES
(03:35:40) The discussion of the 9 career and technical education Board initiatives was postponed until the May meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA
(03:37:06)
MOTION Mr. Willard indicated he had received the information he needed and the items he had pulled could be added back to the Consent Agenda. Dr. Chappell was not satisfied with the information he had received from staff and requested that it be voted on separately. Ms. Storm moved, with a second by Mrs. Shaver, that the State Board approve the Consent Agenda, with the exception of item j. The motion carried. In the Consent Agenda the State Board:

- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Confirmed the promotion of John Baranski to the position of Information Technology Operations Manager on the Information Technology team effective March 21, 2010, at an annual salary of $53,414.40.
- Approved school construction plans for USD 259, Wichita (2); USD 307, Ell-Saline (2); USD 233, Olathe (2); USD 210, Hugoton Public Schools; USD 441, Sabetha (2); USD 470, Arkansas City; USD 348, Baldwin City; USD 310, Fairfield; USD 260, Derby; and USD 347, Kinsley-Offerle.
- Approved requests for waivers for individuals to serve outside their area of endorsement in districts as follows: *Adaptive Special Education:* Cheryl Cole, USD 105; Michael Vernon, USD 308; Erica Cox, D0 602; Deborah Hockett and Nicholas Massmann, D0611; and Joshua Littlejohn, D0 613; and *English as a Second Language:* Laura Sengchan, USD 497.
- Approved grant awards for the FY 2011 Four-Year-Old At-Risk Program for 7,895 slots as follows: USD 101, Erie, 12; USD 102, Cimarron-Ensign, 25; USD 107, Rock Hills, 16; USD 110, Thunder Ridge, 5; USD 111, Doniphan West, 12; USD 200, Greeley County Schools, 8; USD 202, Turner-Kansas City, 163; USD 206, Remington, 17; USD 204, Bonner Springs/Edwardsville, 50; USD 209, Moscow Public Schools, 10; USD 210, Hugoton Elementary School, 60; USD 212, Northern Valley, 5; USD 214, Ulysses, 62; USD 215, Lakin Grade School, 13; USD 216, Deerfield, 18; USD 218, Elkhart Public Schools, 20; USD 220, Ashland-Englewood,10; USD 224, Clifton-Clyde, 14; USD 225, Fowler Elementary, 8; USD 226, Meade Schools, 12; USD 230, Spring Hill School District, 16; USD 231, Gardner-Edgerton, 18; USD 232, De Soto, 24; USD 233, Olathe District Schools, 60; USD 234, Fort Scott, 36; USD 235, Uniontown, 14; USD 240, Twin Valley, 24; USD 244, Burlington, 20; USD 246, Northeast,12; USD 247, Cherokee, 12; USD 248, Girard, 14; USD 249, Frontenac, 14; USD 250, Pittsburg,40; USD 252, South Lyon County, 19; USD 253, Emporia, 140; USD 254, Barber County North, 12; USD 255, South Barber, 6; USD 256, Marmaton Valley, 15; USD 257, Iola, 28; USD 258, Humboldt, 12; USD 259, Wichita Public Schools,1912; USD 260, Derby, 50; USD 261, Haysville, 150; USD 262, Valley Center, 36; USD 263, Mulvane, 30; USD 264, Clearwater, 7; USD 265, Goddard Public Schools, 60; USD 266, Maize, 18; USD 268, Cheney, 20; USD 269, Palco Elementary, 5; USD 271, Stockton, 8; USD 272, Waconda, 25; USD 273, Beloit Public Schools, 28; USD 282, West Elk, 12; USD 283, Elk Valley, 10; USD 286, Chautauqua Co Community, 12; USD 288,

Central Heights Public School, 10; USD 290, Ottawa School District, 36; USD 291, Grinnell, 3; USD 293, Quinter Public Schools, 6; USD 298, Lincoln, 13; USD 299, Sylvan, 5; USD 305, Salina School District, 60; USD 308, Hutchinson Public Schools, 56; USD 309, Nickerson-South Hutchinson, 16; USD 312, Haven Public Schools, 14; USD 313, Buhler, 60; USD 316, Golden Plains, 6; USD 321, Kaw Valley, 24; USD 326, Logan, 6; USD 328, Lorraine, 14; USD 332, Cunningham: W Kingdom Country, 12; USD 333, Concordia, 30; USD 338, Valley Falls, 12; USD 339, Jefferson County North, 10; USD 341, Oskaloosa, 30; USD 342, McLouth, 24; USD 343, Perry-Lecompton Schools, 13; USD 344, Pleasanton, 20; USD 345, Seaman, 40; USD 346, Jayhawk, 20; USD 347, Kinsley-Offerle-Lewis, 15; USD 348, Baldwin City, 50; USD 351, Macksville, 12; USD 353, Wellington School, 14; USD 354, Claflin, 7; USD 357, Belle Plaine, 30; USD 358, Oxford, 5; USD 359, Argonia Public Schools, 6; USD 360, Caldwell Public School, 8; USD 361, Anthony-Harper, 52; USD 362, Prairie View, 25; USD 363, Holcomb Schools, 24; USD 364, Marysville, 25; USD 366, Woodson Schools, 17; USD 367, Osawatomie, 24; USD 369, Burrton Schools, 12; USD 371, Montezuma Schools, 18; USD 372, Silver Lake, 16; USD 373, Newton Public Schools, 56; USD 374, Sublette, 22; USD 376, Sterling, 12; USD 377, Atchison Co Community Schools, 18; USD 380, Vermillion, 18; USD 382, Pratt, 20; USD 383, Manhattan-Ogden, 108; USD 384, Blue Valley Schools, 20; USD 385, Andover, 45; USD 386, Madison-Virgil, 8; USD 387, Altoona-Midway, 12; USD 389, Eureka, 30; USD 390, Hamilton, 6; USD 394, Rose Hill, 24; USD 396, Douglass, 10; USD 397, Centre, 9; USD 398, Peabody-Burns, 15; USD 399, Paradise, 12; USD 400, Smoky Valley, 24; USD 401, Chase-Raymond Schools, 8; USD 402, Augusta, 30; USD 404, Riverton, 14; USD 405, Lyons Park Elementary, 38; USD 406, Wathena, 18; USD 409, Atchison Public Schools, 40; USD 410, Hillsboro, 10; USD 413, Chanute, 34; USD 417, Morris County, 15; USD 418, McPherson, 34; USD 419, Canton-Galva, 10; USD 423, Moundridge, 10; USD 428, Great Bend, 30; USD 431, Hoisington, 40; USD 434, Santa Fe Trail, 24; USD 436, Caney Valley, 30; USD 437, Auburn-Washburn, 60; USD 440, Halstead/Bentley, 20; USD 442, Nemaha Valley, 18; USD 443, Dodge City Public School/Bright Beginnings Early Childhood Center, 149; USD 444, Little River, 10; USD 445, Coffeyville, 56; USD 446, Independence, 28; USD 447, Cherryvale, 24; USD 448, Inman, 18; USD 452, Stanton County, 30; USD 453, Leavenworth, 144; USD 454, Burlingame, 12; USD 457, Garden City Public School, 204; USD 459, Bucklin, 12; USD 461, Neodesha, 16; USD 463, Udall, 4; USD 465, Winfield, 35; USD 466, Scott County Schools, 30; USD 467, Wichita County Schools - Leoti, 30; USD 470, Arkansas City Schools, 115; USD 475, Geary County Schools, 48; USD 476, Copeland Schools, 12; USD 477, Ingalls, 13; USD 479, Crest, 10; USD 480, Liberal Public Schools, 170; USD 481, Rural Vista, 12; USD 482, Dighton, 12; USD 483, Plains-Kismet, 40; USD 484, Fredonia, 20; USD 487, Herington, 13; USD 488, Axtell, 23; USD 489, Hays, 40; USD 490, El Dorado Public Schools, 30; USD 493, Columbus, 30; USD 494, Syracuse Elementary, 20; USD 495, Ft. Larned, 30; USD 497, Lawrence Public School, 84; USD 498, Valley Heights, 7; USD 499, Galena, 26; USD 500, Kansas City Public Schools, 570; USD 501, Topeka Public Schools, 199; USD 502, Lewis, 10; USD 503, Parsons, 24; USD 504, Oswego, 12; USD 505, Chetopa-St. Paul, 12; USD 506, Labette County, 24; USD 507, Santana, 20; USD 508, Baxter Springs, 30; USD 509, South Haven, 6; USD 512, and Shawnee Mission, 120.

- Approved continuation grant awards to the twelve existing Pre-K Pilot Program sites: Sedgwick County, $714,986; Dodge City, $199,374; Topeka, $466,667; Douglas County, $369,644; Reno County, $524,162; Crawford County $221,675; Manhattan, $457,443; Geary County, $448,981; S. Central KS, $390,121; Shawnee Mission, $248,502; The Opportunity Place (Wichita), $345,663; and KCK, $612,782.
- Confirmed the appointment of Ethan Erickson to the position of Director of Fiscal Services and Operations effective April 18, 2010, at an annual salary of $92,000.00.

Contracts Approved:

The State Board authorized the *Commissioner of Education* to negotiate and :

- continue to contract with Dr. Richard Whelan and Ms. Diana Durkin for the purpose of investigating special education complaints, with the contract amounts not to exceed $50,000 each and with an hourly rate of $40 per hour plus expenses;

- enter into a four-year contract with The Study Group, Inc. to assist KSDE in coordination and oversight of the full scale implementation of the MTSS evaluation from July 2010 through June 2014, with the total cost of the contract not to exceed $85,000;
- enter into contract with Veryl Peter for the purpose of overseeing state and local school district compliance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) from April 19 to December 31, 2010, with a contract amount not to exceed $38,000.

ACT ON A CONTRACT TO STRENGTHEN YOUTH MENTORING THROUGH COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

(03:38:04) Mr. Dennis moved, with a second by Ms. Storm, that the State Board authorize the Commissioner to extend a contract with the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center for two additional years, through September, 2011, to facilitate the expansion of school-based mentoring programs to a total of 36 school districts across the state at a cost not to exceed $329,122. During the discussion, the Commissioner and Ron Nitcher, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations, as well as Mrs. Shaver and Chairman Waugh, provided additional information about the grant and the program it supports. The motion carried 9-0.

BOARD ATTORNEY'S REPORT

(03:46:42) The Board Attorney briefly reviewed his report. He indicated Eldon Shields, his law partner, would be filling in for him on Wednesday. He also handed out a notice of upcoming trainings to be held around the state on the Kansas Open Meetings Act (KOMA) and the Kansas Open Records Act (KORA). Mr. Willard moved that the State Board pay the attorney's bill for March. Mrs. Shaver seconded the motion which carried 9-0.

RECESS After handing out copies of a letter from USD 398 (Peabody-Burns) withdrawing its petition to terminate its participation in the Marion County Special Education Cooperative, which would have been acted on Wednesday morning, Chairman Waugh recessed the meeting at 5:19 p.m.

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Janet Waugh, Chairman Penny Plamann, Secretary

APPROVED

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 14, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

4/14/10 a.m. session audio archive (00:03:07)

Chairman Waugh called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, April 14, 2010, in the Board Room of the Kansas Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue, Topeka, Kansas.

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Carolyn L. Wims-Campbell	Jana Shaver
Sally Cauble	Sue Storm
Walt Chappell	Janet Waugh
David Dennis	Ken Willard
Kathy Martin	

Mr. Bacon was absent due to a work conflict.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

(00:03:44)

MOTION

Mrs. Shaver moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin that the Board approve the agenda as amended by the deletion of the petition from USD 398 (Peabody-Burns) to terminate its participation in the Marion County Special Education Cooperative. The motion carried.

BOARD MATTERS – BOARD REPORTS

(00:03:42)

Chairman's Report

NASBE Nomination

Mr. Dennis moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the State Board put Board member Cauble in nomination for the CY 2011 NASBE Central Area Directorship. The motion carried.

Unused Balance of Contract Payment to NASBE

Chairman Waugh asked what the Board wished to do with a balance of $6,675.27 from the Board's first payment to NASBE for the Commissioner's search contract. Three choices arose from the discussion: leave the funds with NASBE as part of the Kansas Professional Development Fund; leave the funds with NASBE for partial payment of 2011 dues; or ask to have the money returned. Maintaining the Board's connection with NASBE and using it for dues was mentioned by several members as being very important, as was having the money returned, though all three suggestions had some support. There was also interest in a better accounting of how NASBE had used the money, particularly in the areas of salary and travel costs.

MOTION

(00:18:16)

Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mrs. Shaver, that the State Board ask for a more detailed analysis of salaries, travel and indirect costs than was provided on the invoice and request that the balance of $6,675.27 be refunded. Discussion followed. The motion failed 5-4, with Dennis, Cauble, Wims-Campbell and Willard voting in opposition.

MOTION

(00:23:26)

Mr. Willard moved, with a second by Ms. Storm, that the State Board ask NASBE for an itemization of its contract charges for salaries, travel and indirect costs and that the Board forego a decision about the disposition of the balance from the first payment until the itemization is received. The motion carried 9-0.

KSSD/KNEA Contract Negotiating Team

(00:25:30)

Chairman Waugh appointed Mrs. Wims-Campbell and Ms. Storm to the KSSD/KNEA teacher contract negotiating team.

SMARTER ASSESSMENT CONSORTIUM

Commissioner DeBacker explained and answered questions about a request that the Department be allowed to sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the SMARTER Assessment Consortium. She explained that the Consortium is a group of several states that have joined together to work with one or more assessment contractors to prepare a proposal for federal funding for the development of a new generation common assessment system. Commissioner DeBacker explained that Kansas could sign the MOU in one of two ways – as a member state, or as a governing state. She explained that as a governing member Kansas would have an active role in policy decisions; may sign with only one consortia; and must be committed to using the assessment system or program developed. (00:25:53)

Mrs. Cauble moved, with a second by Mrs. Wims-Campbell, that Kansas sign the MOU with the SMARTER Consortium as a governing state. **MOTION** (00:31:35)

In the discussion that followed, Commissioner DeBacker provided further clarification regarding the level of commitment that would be required if Kansas signed on as a governing state. Reservation was expressed about having to accept an assessment system not yet developed and which may not measure up to what Kansas already has. Severing the long-standing relationship with the Center for Education Testing and Evaluation as KU was also a concern. On the other side of the debate was the desire for Kansas to be actively involved in the direction the proposal would take and the assessment design that would be proposed. The motion carried 6-3, with Dennis, Willard and Martin voting in opposition.

The Board took a break from 10:04 to 10:10 a.m. **BREAK** (01:06:29)

PRESENTATION ON THE KANSAS VIRTUAL EDUCATION REPORT

Director of Title Programs and Services, Julie Ford, briefly reviewed how staff had responded to the Board's questions last fall regarding virtual schools. She introduced Cherie Nicholson, KSDE staff member responsible for virtual and charter schools. Ms. Nicolson introduced Mike Mathes, Superintendent of USD 345, Seaman School District, and Chair of the Virtual Schools Advisory Council, and Gary Lewis, Principal of the Lawrence Virtual School, USD 497, who chaired the Council's virtual education study subcommittee. Mr. Lewis reviewed the report and, with Mr. Mathes and Ms. Nicholson, answered Board member questions. The Board discussed the dynamics of virtual education, including funding, enrollment, teacher training and accreditation. Mr. Dennis asked that the Virtual School Advisory Council be invited to report to the Board on a regular basis. Twice yearly was suggested. Mrs. Shaver asked for further information regarding Advisory Council members. Asked if the Virtual School Advisory Council would like the Board to take any action on the study committee's recommendations, Commissioner DeBacker indicated that not until after further study by the Council and staff. (01:13:10)

CONSOLIDATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN USD 441 AND USD 488

Mrs. Cauble moved, with a second by Ms. Storm, that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the Agreement for Consolidation submitted by USD 441 (Sabetha) and USD 488 (Axtell) which will allow an election to be held on the proposed consolidation. The motion carried. (02:29:22) **MOTION**

The Board took a break from 11:28 to 11:36 a.m. **BREAK** (02:30:47)

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Deputy Commissioner Dennis reviewed revenue estimates, education budget recommendations and the status of education legislation. He also answered questions. Legislative Coordinator Sue Storm reported on the status of the bill regarding campaign finance limits in state board races. She urged Board members to contact their own legislators, as well as Senate leadership. (02:39:18)

BOARD REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Other Board Member Reports
(03:37:57)

Mr. Dennis provided a printed report on the activities of the NASBE Common Ground study group of which he was a member. He also updated members on PROJECT Pass.

Mrs. Cauble reported on activities at the NASBE legislative conference and NASBE Governmental Affairs Committee meeting she had attended in Washington, D.C. She shared with the Board the message regarding the reauthorization of ESEA she, Mr. Willard and Mr. Dennis had discussed with the members of the Kansas Congressional Delegation while they were there. She discussed issues that may become a problem if ESEA is not reauthorized this year and made the following recommendations: that the Board direct staff to move ahead on implementing a growth model and provide information to the Board on what needs to be done to do that; and that the Board look at how it wants to handle AYP in Kansas through 2014. Mr. Willard added that they had also shared their strong reservations about adopting the common core standards if tied to Title I funds. Mr. Dennis discussed additional concerns they had shared with Kansas representatives such as the drastic sanctions to be imposed on schools that do not make AYP.
Concern about the impact of losing Title I funds if the Board chose not to adopt the common core standards was shared.

Mrs. Shaver reported on the Counselors Career Cluster Conference she and Mrs. Waugh had attended. Dr. Chappell reported on his involvement with the selection committee for Hispanic College Scholarship awards. He also reported on his attendance at the Kansas Association of Independent and Religious Schools (KAIRS) held in Topeka. Dr. Chappell had a follow up item regarding the recertification of teachers at non-accredited schools.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

(04:08:54)

Because of concerns many Board members had shared about the common core standards and common assessments and their possible tie to Title I funding, the Race to the Top grant and the reauthorization of ESEA, Commissioner DeBacker made the suggestion that the Board might want to draft a letter to the US Department of Education expressing its concerns about those issues.

After spending time discussing what should be included in the letter and the timing for sending it, it was the consensus of the Board that the Commissioner should prepare a letter to President Obama for the Chairman's signature detailing the Board's concerns regarding the reauthorization of ESEA, the Race to the Top competition and Common Core Standards. Specifically the letter would address concerns regarding the reauthorization of ESEA and how it appears there is a tie between the adoption of common core standards to any Title money; the fact that there is more money for competitive grants than for formula grants and the disadvantage that poses for states like Kansas; and the sanctions for failing schools and how in a rural state like Kansas they appear to be unreasonable and heavy handed with no flexibility. Also included would be the reasons Kansas chose not to pursue Race to the Top Phase II funding; and the tie of common core standards and assessments to anything else. Copies of the letter would be sent to Secretary of Education Duncan, the Kansas Congressional Delegation, Kansas legislative leadership and Kansas education committee members. The letter would be mailed as soon as it was written and approved by the Chairman. A copy would also be sent to Board members.

BOARD REPORTS (CONTINUED)

Requests for Future Agenda Items
(04:43:29)

Dr. Chappell requested that the Board discuss a policy to combat childhood obesity, using the bill that was introduced during the 2010 legislative session as a model. He also asked for information about the impact of the statute requiring school district plans to address bullying; and a refocus on financial literacy.

ACT ON BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL REQUESTS

Mrs. Cauble added a trip to Garden City for the NASBE PROJECT Pass visit May 4-6 and attendance at the Education Commission of the States (ECS)meeting in Portland, Oregon August 18-20. She indicated that her travel Portland would be reimbursed by ECS. Mrs. Shaver asked that mileage only be added to her request for attendance at the upcoming Governor's Scholars Awards on May 2nd. Salary and mileage for the Governor's Scholars Awards were requested by Mrs. Wims-Campbell, Mrs. Martin and Ms. Storm; Mr. Willard additionally added per diem for the event. Mrs. Wims-Campbell added salary to her request for the PTA convention on April 25th. Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mrs. Wims-Campbell, that Board member travel requests be approved as corrected. The motion carried 8-0. Mrs. Shaver was absent, having left the meeting just prior to the vote. (04:48:16)

Brief discussion followed about other issues, including the length of the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT (04:56:51)

There being no further business, Chairman Waugh declared the meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

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Janet Waugh, Chairman Penny Plamann, Secretary