

**KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES**

OCTOBER 11, 1999

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Holloway called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Monday, October 11, 1999 in the DeSoto High School Little Theater, 35000 West 91st Street, DeSoto, KS.

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Holloway asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. Rundell asked that item 8, action on proposed special education regulations, be changed to a discussion item. Dr. Wagnon asked that consent items 9 e., accreditation of schools, f., accreditation waiver requests, g., inservice education plans, h., minutes of the Quality Performance Accreditation Advisory Council, and n., a contract for a school district boundary line study, be pulled from the consent agenda for discussion. Mrs. Waugh asked that consent items 9 d., school construction plans, and 9 m., a contract to conduct a statewide Braille study, be pulled to allow her to receive further information prior to action. There being no further changes, Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Holloway asked if there were any changes to the minutes of the September meeting. Dr. Wagnon noted two typographical errors that needed to be corrected in the record of his report to board members on September 15, 1999. There being no further corrections or additions, Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion carried.

SALLIE MAE FIRST CLASS AWARD WINNER FOR 1998

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis introduced Elaine Nelson, Assistant Vice President for the Sallie Mae student loan office in Lawrence, Kansas. Ms. Nelson reviewed the history and purpose of the Sallie Mae First Class Teacher Award, reporting that \$1.2 million had been granted to 1,200 outstanding first-year teachers since the recognition program began 15 years ago. Ms. Nelson noted that over 90 percent of the recipients were still in education. Mr. Dennis introduced Mr. Howard Shuler, Superintendent of

the Auburn-Washburn school district, who introduced Gayle Good, Principal of Auburn Elementary School, and the individual who nominated Christine Ketron for the award. Ms. Good introduced Ms. Ketron, preschool and kindergarten teacher at Auburn Elementary, who reported on the factors that influenced her decision to become a teacher; factors contributing to an effective first year in the field; some of her expectations and experiences during her first year of teaching; advice for other first year teachers; opportunities given to her as a recipient of the award and some of her future goals in the education field. Ms. Ketron also shared recommendations she had to strengthen teacher training and the early teaching experience of new teachers. Those included more technology courses, QPA training, training at more than one grade level and more special education courses during college preparation; and more assistance in the early elementary grades and the availability of mentors for new teachers. Board questions followed.

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chairman Holloway opened the citizen's open forum at 10:30 a.m. Those who addressed the Board were: Margaret Thomas, Prairie Village; Doug Ruden, representing FLAT, Lawrence; Richard M. Childs, M.D., Shawnee Mission; Ken Bingman, Spring Hill; Danavir Swami, representing Rupanuga Vedic College and the International Society for Kirshna Consciousness, Kansas City; John Van Keppel, Mainstream Coalition, Leawood; and Celtie Johnson, representing National Center for Excellence in Science Education, Prairie Village. Chairman Holloway declared the open forum closed at 10:52 a.m.

ESTABLISHMENT OF PERFORMANCE LEVELS FOR NEW STATE ASSESSMENTS

Dr. Freden reviewed the three performance levels currently used on state assessments and the "standard of excellence" required by statute. She indicated that members of the external assessment advising committee recommended more performance levels rather than fewer to lessen the possibility of misclassification of students and to make it easier for students to move from one classification to another. She noted that the Board had before them two options developed by staff regarding the number of performance levels for their consideration. Mr. Hill moved that the Board adopt Option 2 performance levels, labels, and definitions to be used with the new state assessments. Mr. Rundell offered a second to the motion and the motion carried. The option adopted provided for five performance levels: Advanced, Proficient, Satisfactory, Basic and Unsatisfactory.

PROPOSED STATE SPECIAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS

Mr. Rod Bieker, Department General Counsel, was present to answer any questions Board members might have before approving submittal of the proposed state special education regulations to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for review. Mr. Bieker noted that the proposal before the Board was to approve the submittal of the proposed regulations to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for the necessary review before a public hearing could be

scheduled. Discussion of the reaction to the proposed regulations by special education directors followed and Mr. Rundell indicated that special education directors who had contacted him asked for more continuity with current practices than the proposed regulations would provide. Dr. Abrams indicated that use of words such as "significant" in the definitions section of the regulations were not precise enough to provide helpful guidance to those in the field. Mr. Bieker responded that the eligibility determination issue and the class-size/ caseload question would be addressed in public hearings and could be discussed further with the State Board. Dr. Abrams asked that these issues be put on a future agenda for Board discussion. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the proposal on the special education regulations be made an action item. The motion carried on a vote of 8-2, with Mr. Rundell and Mr. Hill voting "no." Dr. Abrams, with a second by Mrs. Brown, moved that the Board approve submittal of the proposed special education regulations to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for review. The motion carried on a vote of 8-2, with Mr. Rundell and Mr. Hill voting "no."

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Waugh indicated that she had received the information she needed and that consent items 9 d., school construction plans, and 9 m., a contract to conduct a statewide Braille study, could be returned to the consent agenda. Dr. Wagon indicated that in light of discussion recorded in the minutes of the Quality Performance Advisory Council meeting of June 21, 1999, and because of recent recommendations for conditional accreditation of several schools, he would like additional information about training being provided for QPA team chairs and visiting and site team members. Dr. Wagon expressed his concern for the consistent application of expectations. Dr. Steve Adams reviewed current efforts to strengthen the training effort, indicating that the Department was working with service centers to do the training in the area of the 10 competencies required for visiting teams. He noted that the Department would continue to train on QPA requirements. He also indicated there would be user friendly revisions to the accreditation template and the inclusion of a database of best practices.

Additional discussion dealt with barriers to broadening the pool of visiting team chairs. Dr. Wagon also asked if there would be a decline in waiver requests once the new educator licensure regulations were in place. Dr. Freden indicated that because of recruitment problems in some areas of the state, the number of waivers would not decline. At the close of the discussion, Dr. Wagon indicated that the items he pulled could be returned to the consent agenda. Mr. Hill moved approval of the consent agenda, with a second by Dr. Abrams. The motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Confirmed the appointment of Judi Miller to the position of Team Coordinator, Consolidated and Supplemental Programs, effective September 19, 1999, at a biweekly salary of \$2169.

- Confirmed the appointment of Kimberly Hodgson to an unclassified special projects Secretary I position, Services for Children with Deaf-Blindness, effective September 7, 1999, at a biweekly pay rate of \$644.80; Carol Puffer, as an unclassified special project Education Program Consultant, IDEA, State Program Improvement Grant, effective September 13, 1999, at a biweekly pay rate of \$1514.40; and Joyce Kemnitz, as an unclassified special project Education Program Consultant, Nutrition Education Demonstration Project, effective September 27, 1999, at a biweekly pay rate of \$1477.60.
- Approved school construction plans for USD 247 Cherokee; USD 431 Hoisington; USD 235 Uniontown; USD 470 Arkansas City; USD 512 Shawnee Mission; USD 259 Wichita; USD 426 Pike Valley; USD 465 Winfield; USD 458 Basehor-Linwood; USD 443 Dodge City; St. John's Military School, Saline County; USD 250 Pittsburg; USD 382 Pratt; USD 282 West Elk; USD 249 Frontenac; USD 401 Chase County Schools; Holy Family Elementary, Hays; and USD 320 Wamego.
- Approved Cycle I accredited status for Kansas City Catholic Diocese: Sacred Heart Elementary (Emporia), St. Gregory Elementary, St. Michael Elementary, Nativity Parish School, and Prince of Peace; Salina Catholic Diocese: Sacred Heart High (Salina), St. Xavier Elementary and St. Xavier High; Wichita Catholic Diocese: St. Mary Margaret Elementary; USD 458 Basehor-Linwood: Basehor Elementary, Basehor-Linwood High School, Linwood Elementary and Basehor-Linwood Middle School; USD 500 Kansas City: Central Middle School, Argentine Middle School, Sumner Academy of Arts and Science and Coronado Middle School; USD 253 Emporia: Butcher Children's School; USD 290 Ottawa: Ottawa Sr. High School; USD 381 Spearville: Spearville Elementary and Spearville Jr./Sr. High School; USD 477 Ingalls: Ingalls Elementary and Ingalls High School; USD 379 Clay Center: Wakefield Elementary and Wakefield High School; and USD 259 Wichita: Metro Boulevard Alternative High School; and Cycle II accredited status for USD 233 Olathe: Central Elementary.
- Approved requests for waiver of state QPA regulations from Turner Public Schools USD 202 to utilize the services of Greg Smith to teach Special Education; Blue Valley USD 229 to utilize the services of Nancy Driscoll to serve as the librarian and Becky Keith to serve as a Gifted Instructor, both at the elementary level; Gardner/Edgerton USD 231 to utilize the services of Ryan Schasteen to teach secondary Gifted Education, Penny Burchfield to teach elementary Gifted Education, and Melissa VanDyken to teach elementary Learning Disabilities; DeSoto USD 232 to utilize the services of Kim Spencer to teach Algebra Interactions II; Olathe USD 233 to utilize the services of Catherine Bettis, Marla Jones and Pamela Toombs as Library Media Specialists at the elementary level; Cedar Vale Public Schools USD 285 to utilize the services of Dina Cooper to serve as the school librarian; Fort Scott Middle School USD 234 to utilize the services of Joyce Davenport to teach Family and Consumer Science at the sixth grade level; Kinsley-Offerle USD 347 to utilize the services of Bobbie Jo Rohloff to teach high school Spanish; USD 353 Special Education Service Center to utilize the services of Priscilla J. Rinehart to teach Special Education at the elementary school level; Rose Hill Middle School USD 394 to continue to utilize the services of David Clark to teach middle school Science; Sabetha USD 441

to utilize the services of Carol Spangler to serve as the Library



Media Specialist at the high school level; Chapman High School USD 473 to utilize the services of Sherri Noel to teach World History at the high school level; Liberal USD 480 to utilize the services of Susan Loggins to teach Gifted Education at the elementary level; Shawnee Mission Public Schools USD 512 to utilize the services of Melanie Swift to serve as Library Media Specialist at Rhein Benninghoven Elementary school and Carrie Collett to teach Spanish K-6; Butler County School Board Council Special Education Cooperative USD 490 to utilize the services of Cathy Ann Lore to teach Special Education at the middle school level; Chautauqua and Elk County Special Education Cooperative to utilize the services of Jana Elise Edwards-Barger to teach Interrelated Resources at the middle school level; Cowley County Special Education Cooperative to continue to utilize the services of Carol Hovey and Bambi Murphy to teach Special Education; Flint Hills Special Education Cooperative to continue to utilize the services of Myrna Comstock to teach Learning Disabilities in Special Education at the elementary school level; Harvey County Special Education Cooperative to utilize the services of Dennis Wedel to teach Interrelated Special Education at the Eby Learning Center; Leavenworth County Special Education Cooperative to utilize the services of the Kelly Wilkinson and Judy A. Stephenson to teach Special Education at the high school level, Mariah A. Neff to teach Special Education at the elementary level, and Woodrow Sullivan to teach Special Education Learning Disabilities; Reno County Education Cooperative #610 to utilize the services of Denice Thompson and Mary Nuss to teach Learning Disabilities 9-12, Darin Cain to teach Behavior Disorders 9-12 and Alice Boyd to teach Behavior Disorders at the elementary level; St. Joseph's of Oakley to utilize the services of Gayle Bremenkamp to serve as the Library Media Specialist for the elementary school; Southeast Kansas Special Education Cooperative to utilize the services of Jamie Lee Edmondson to teach Special Education at the elementary level and John David Kemp to teach Special Education at the elementary and secondary levels; Tri-County Education Interlocal #607 to continue to utilize the services for Dorothy Sullivan to teach Special Education at the elementary level; and Coffeyville USD 445 to add one year to its Cycle II timeline for Edgewood Elementary, Longfellow Elementary, McKinley Middle School and Roosevelt Middle School in order to align the entire district in a K-12 plan, profile and staff development process.

- Approved local education inservice plans from Wakeeney USD 208; Ottawa USD 290; Ft. Larned USD 495; and South Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative #605.
- Received the minutes of the June 21, 1999 meeting of the Quality Performance Accreditation Advisory Council.
- Approved Special Education Regulation waiver requests from USD 253 Flint Hills Special Education Cooperative and USD 453 Leavenworth so that data can be collected on the effectiveness of assessment/identifications methods; and from USD 353 Wellington, in order to test the implementation of an innovative class size/caseload delivery model.
- Approved Visiting Scholar Certificates requests from: USD 259 Wichita to allow Nancy Squire to teach elementary art and to allow Tina Vice Murano to teach secondary art; Southeast Kansas Education Service Center for a renewal of a Visiting Scholar Certificate for Richard Harrison to allow him to serve as a behavioral analyst on the technical assistance team; and from USD 503 Parsons to allow Armando Johnson to teach secondary Spanish.
- Approved the recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee of the Teaching and School Administration Professional Standards Advisory Board as follows:

Wichita State University: "approved with stipulation" through December 31, 2002, for Special Education-Gifted (G, K-12).

Bethel College: "approved" status through December 31, 2004 for Mathematics (U, 7-12); Physical Education (U, K-12); Speech Communication (U, 7-12); Health (U, K-12); English (U, 7-12); Music (U, K-12); Art (U, K-9, 7-12, K-12); Foreign Language, German (U, 7-12); Foreign Language, Spanish (U, 7-12); Journalism (U, 7-12); Drama (U, 7-12); Elementary Education (U, K-9); Chemistry (U, 7-12); Physics (U, 7-12); Physical Science (U, 7-12); Biology (U, 7-12); Social Studies (U, 7-12); and General Science (U, 7-12).

- Approved FY 1999-2000 Educate America Act Years One-Six Local Reform grants in the amount of \$7,000 for Cimarron USD 102, Ulysses USD 214, Deerfield USD 216, Rolla USD 216, Minneola USD 219, Ashland USD 220, Meade USD 226, Palco USD 269, Plainville USD 270, Stockton USD 271, Wheatland USD 292, Nickerson- South Hutchinson USD 309, Eastern Heights USD 324-Agra, Logan USD 326, Valley Falls USD 338, Holcomb USD 363, Sublette USD 374, Spearville USD 381, LaCrosse USD 395, Otis Bison USD 403, Lyons USD 405, Victoria USD 432, Skyline Schools USD 438-Pratt, Sabetha USD 441, Marais des Cynes Valley USD 456-Melvern, Bucklin USD 459, Hesston USD 460, Scott City USD 466, Leoti USD 467, Lansing USD 469, Ingalls USD 477, Dighton USD 482, Kismet-Plains USD 483, Pawnee Heights USD 496-Rozel, Satanta USD 507, Ft. Hays Educational Development Center 633 and Prairie Hills Interlocal 635-Mullinville; and for Turner USD 202, \$15,404; Blue Valley USD 229-Overland Park, \$64,014; Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch USD 231, \$9,956; Newton USD 373, \$14,550; Manhattan USD 383, \$24,172; Garden City USD 457, \$30,560; Liberal USD 480, \$16,972; El Dorado USD 490, \$9,104; Lawrence USD 497 \$41,952; ESSDACK 622-Hutchinson, (three awards) \$12,660, \$16,928 and \$32,396; Ft. Hays Educational Development Service Center #633, \$24,112; and Preservice/Professional Development subgrants in the amount of \$24,775 for Leavenworth USD 453 and in the amount of \$25,000 for Burlington USD 244, Plainville USD 270, Wamego USD 320, Manhattan USD 383, Wathena USD 406, Elwood USD 486, McPherson USD 418, Lansing USD 469, Copeland USD 476, Liberal USD 480, Dighton USD 482, El Dorado USD 490, Shawnee Mission USD 512, North Central Kansas Educational Service Center 621, ESSDACK 622, SW Plains Regional Service Center 626 and Ft. Hays Educational Development Service Center.

Contracts Approved:

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

- Texas Tech University, Sowell Center for Research and Education of the Visually Impaired, to

conduct a study of Kansas students' Braille literacy, with the contract amount not to exceed \$47,280; and

- Augenblick and Myers. Inc. to conduct a comprehensive study on the organization of school districts, with the contract amount not to exceed \$212,400.

The Board recessed at 11:45 for lunch together at a local restaurant.

PRESENTATIONS ON ACTIVITIES IN THE DESOTO DISTRICT

Dr. Marilyn Layman, Superintendent of the DeSoto School District, introduced representatives of various school groups who made brief presentations on their organizations and activities.

The DeSoto Silver Cats

Mrs. Thelma Jones, Mrs. Boots Linden and Mrs. Doris Katherman, members of the DeSoto Silver Cats, reported on how the district had established the organization to get older members in the DeSoto community involved in school activities in the district. They described activities designed specifically for seniors that the schools had undertaken such as brunches, lunches, dinner theaters, and computer classes. They also discussed volunteer opportunities for seniors within the schools in the district.

Wildcat Work Force

Mr. Mark Peck, community service instructor, and Ms. Debbie Bottoms, school social worker, reported on the National Service Learning Leadership Award DeSoto High School had recently been awarded and on the activities of the service learning class offered at the high school. One of the students reported on the Habitat for Humanity project the school was undertaking with Shawnee Mission East High School.

Turning Point Alternative Education

Ms. Tara Wineinger, Director of Turning Point Alternative Education, reported on the alternative school for middle school and high school students in the DeSoto district located at the Countryside Learning Center. She noted that they offered project-based and computer-based curriculum tailored to allow students to progress at their own pace.

New Generations Discovery Center

Ms. Wineinger reported on the New Generations Discovery Center, also located at Countryside Learning Center, an educationally-based preschool for 3-5 year-olds, which operates in conjunction with Ottawa University and offers an enriched day care opportunity to community families during the school year.

Monticello Trails Middle School Ambassadors Program

Mr. Doug Sumner, Principal of Monticello Trails Middle School, reported on the Ambassadors Program which was implemented in response to the rapid growth in the school and the need to help new students become integrated satisfactorily into school activities.

Teaming & Theming -- DeSoto High School Integrated Curriculum

Ms. Kathy Ready and Ms. Karen Wall, instructors at DeSoto High School, reviewed the activities undertaken in their classes integrating Communication Arts, Social Studies and American History.

Wonderful World of OZ

Mr. Skip Palmer with the OZ Corporation reported on the progress made to date with plans to develop the Wonderful World of OZ theme park in DeSoto and the benefits it would bring to the community as well as the corporation's commitment to the community.

RECESS

There being no further business, Chairman Holloway recessed the meeting at 2:32 P.M.

Linda Holloway, Chairman Penny Plamann, Secretary

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 12, 1999

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Holloway called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. on Tuesday, October 12, 1999 in the DeSoto High School Little Theater, 35000 West 91st Street, DeSoto, KS.

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams Linda Holloway

John Bacon I'B. "Sonny" Rundell

Mary Douglass Brown Harold Voth

Val DeFever Bill Wagnon

Scott Hill Janet Waugh

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Holloway asked that the agenda be modified to allow for the lunch break at 12:00 p.m. in order to accommodate the school, with any unfinished business resuming at 1:00 p.m. at the DeSoto Administration Building where the public hearing was to be held at 1:30 p.m. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the agenda be approved as modified. The motion carried.

BOARD POLICY ISSUES

Action on Recommendations of the Board Policy Committee

Dr. Abrams, Chairman of the Board Policy Committee, asked if there were any questions about the revisions to Board policies presented at the September meeting and recommended for adoption. Questions concerning the proposed procedure for Board members to have items placed on the agenda included an inquiry of when Board goals are reviewed. Dr. Abrams responded that it was at least every two years, following the election cycle and the addition of new members to the Board. He further indicated that it was up to the Board to decide if there would be exceptions to Board policy. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that the policy revisions be adopted as recommended. The motion

carried.

Review of Additional Policy Committee Recommendations

Dr. Abrams reviewed policy revisions recommended for consideration and discussion by the Board. They included:

Addition to Policy of Guiding Principles -- It was recommended that Policy 1006, *Code of Ethics*, be changed to *Boardsmanship Expectations* and that the "*Guiding Principles for Working Relationship*" adopted in February, 1999 be added to the policy.

Guidelines for Discussing and Addressing Issue -- New guidelines include a process to be employed in having meaningful discussions about issues and the strategy to be followed in addressing an issue, including time devoted for the Board to develop a strategy for discussions and consideration of complex, difficult or controversial issues.

Rescission of Board Guidelines Relating to Postsecondary Matters ?a listing of guidelines recommended to be rescinded due to the transfer of postsecondary programs to the Board of Regents.

Board discussion regarding *Boardsmanship Expectations* included concern about the definition of ethical behavior and procedures to deal with unbusinesslike or unethical behavior by Board members. Also discussed was the weight of Board policy and guidelines on behavior and the conduct of business.

Dan Biles, Attorney for the Board, indicated that most policies are provided as expectations on how a board will conduct its business. He also indicated that one notion of what is ethical and unethical for elected officials is contained in statute. Mr. Biles asked the Board if they wanted to go beyond the statutory definition. When asked the process for dealing with a question of unbusinesslike or unethical behavior, Mr. Biles indicated that six votes in favor could bring the question before the Board. He also stated that the Board can decide if an action is inappropriate and vote to censure or admonish a member or members. Mrs. DeFever stated it was important to keep the term *ethical* in the policy and wanted the definition provided by the Committee. Mr. Rundell indicated he would provide a definition of ethical for the Board's consideration. Mrs. DeFever moved, with a second by Dr. Abrams, that the policy, *Boardsmanship Expectations*, be referred back to the Policy Committee for additional work. The motion carried on a vote of 9-1 with Dr. Wagon voting "no." Dr. Abrams invited anyone having any clarifications to submit to the Policy Committee, to do so.

Discussion followed regarding the *Guidelines for Discussing and Addressing Issues* and Dr. Abrams indicated that six votes would determine the methods chosen for addressing issues. In response to a question from Mrs. DeFever, Dr. Abrams indicated that the content of the guidelines was new in that it has been understood in the past, but not formalized.

Study Session on Appointment and Use of Board Committees

The Board discussed issues concerning the use of temporary Board committees. It appeared there may be conflict between Policy 1008 which states that "the Board may establish temporary committee to help carry out its responsibilities," and Policy 1009 which states that "the Chair and members of each committee shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Board...". During the discussion it was clarified that the "Board" mean action directed by a vote of six members. Additionally, members discussed how often temporary Board committees should be utilized, with Mr. Hill stating, that if any change to policy was to be made, it would be his preference to make use of temporary committee more often. Mrs. Waugh expressed her concern about work done in committees that could possibly prevent all members of the Board from having access to necessary information. With consensus of the Board, Chairman Holloway directed the Policy Committee to review Policies 1008 and 1009 for possible conflicts and bring suggestions back to the Board.

SCIENCE EDUCATION CURRICULUM STANDARDS

Commissioner Tompkins reviewed the options for the Board to consider in making its decision about how to move forward with the revisions of the necessary portions of the adopted science education curriculum standards because of the copyright issues surrounding text used from national science groups. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mr. Voth, that the Board direct the Commissioner of Education to have the rewrite of the copyrighted sections of the standards done and bring back the new wording to the Board to review. Mrs. Waugh, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, made a substitute motion, that the Board adopt the science writing committee's Draft 5 science standards document with the provision that local school boards would be allowed the latitude to make the decision to teach evolution and that evolution would not be included on the state assessment. Dr. Wagon stated he could not support the substitute motion because to eliminate evolution from the state assessment would still discourage and de-emphasize the teaching of those important foundational concepts. Mrs. Waugh expressed her concern about the cost of having the standards rewritten, and that it was not responsible to the taxpayers, especially in light of the potential one percent budget cut for the current year. Mrs. DeFever stated that staff shouldn't do the rewrite of the standards, the writing committee had indicated it wouldn't do the rewrite, and that the cost of having an outside contractor do the rewrite at a potential cost of \$500 per day was unacceptable. Mr. Biles, Board Attorney, indicated that the charges incurred to date by the copyright attorney were \$770. Mrs. Brown stated the schools in Kansas needed to have the best standards possible. On a vote by the Board on the substitute motion, the motion failed 3-7, with Dr. Abrams, Mr. Bacon, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Holloway, Mr. Voth and Dr. Wagon voting "no."

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In further discussion of the original motion, the issue of the cost of the copyright attorney was discussed.

Mr. Biles indicated that the most expensive work had already been done in the comparison of the standards to the copyrighted sources in question. Mr. Hill asked that the Commissioner have the rewriting done as economically as possible. The Chairman called the question and the original motion carried on a vote of 7-3, with Mrs. DeFever, Mr. Rundell and Mrs. Waugh voting "no."

The Board took a break at 10:00 a.m. and returned at 10:35 a.m.

TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

Technology Infrastructure Proposal

Deputy Commissioner Dennis introduced Greg Rasmussen, Department Information Resource Specialist, who reviewed Technology Assistance for Kansas Educators (TAKE). Mr. Rasmussen outlined the need for computer access and Internet connectivity for Kansas public schools, providing statistics on school and classroom Internet access in Kansas and surrounding states; Internet connectivity and the type of Internet access for Kansas school districts; the number of students per computer in districts within the state noting that the goal was to have one computer for each four students; state technology spending in Kansas and surrounding states; sample monthly costs for different types of Internet connections in Kansas districts, illustrating the broad range of costs and the need for equity; and the average monthly costs Kansas schools spend on Internet access charges. Mr. Rasmussen also reported on how Kansas schools had used the \$10 million in state technology aid available to them in FY 1999, with 53% used for the purchase of new computers and 18% used for local networks. Other expenditures, representing less than 10% each, were for computer upgrades, local networks, wide area networks, distance learning, instructional equipment, instructional software, with only two percent for staff development. Mr. Rasmussen indicated that \$3 million had been made available in technology literacy challenge grants for staff development and reported on the professional staff development workshops that had been conducted across the state by Department staff. Mr. Rasmussen stated that the only way to establish equitable access across the state was by the development of a technology backbone in partnership with other organizations.

Mr. Dennis introduced Mr. Rich Bendis of the Kansas Technology Enterprise Corporation (KTEC). Mr. Bendis reported on the collaboration being proposed between organizations and the private sector with existing information technology resources to build an integrated and comprehensive information and communication statewide technology network called KAN-ED. Mr. Bendis indicated the proposal was the work of two groups which had cooperated this summer in developing a plan to present to the legislature which would address statewide technology access needs. The groups were the Kansas Information Technology Action Committee (KITAC) which was formed by KTEC to develop a long-term state strategic plan to provide a virtual state infrastructure for business, government and academia; and the Kansas Education Technology Advisory Board (KETAB), the department's technology advisory board. KAN-ED would integrate several multipurpose networks, to connect each school district, library and education service center to the state backbone network, allowing interactive video, discounted long distance, access to telemedicine, library, educational and government services, and access to the Internet

and the information and commercial resources available on it. Mr. Doug Heacock of the University of Kansas reported on the state networks that would be involved and how KAN-ED would be managed. Mr. Sal Tayani, Team Leader of Computer Information and Computer Services, discussed the implementation plan and the budget. Funding required the first year would be \$17.5 million in one-time costs, with \$13 million in recurring costs. He also outlined the amount of funding to come for each source. Mr. Bendis indicated that a bill had been drafted for consideration by the interim legislative education committee for its consideration later in the month. Board discussion followed. Mr. Bacon asked for specific information about the average monthly costs for school district Internet connection in Nebraska.

Learning Task Force Report

Mr. Howard Shuler, Superintendent of Auburn-Washburn Schools, Dr. Dan Yunk, Superintendent of Manhattan Public Schools, and Dr. Marilyn Layman, Superintendent of DeSoto Public Schools, were present to report on the activities of the Distance Learning Task Force. The Task Force provided two options for Board consideration regarding on-line education, noting that there was Task Force consensus for option 1, the recommendation that Kansas adopt a "Statewide Virtual School Model" after a trip to visit a virtual high school in Florida. Because of funding concerns, the Task Force also provided a second option which would have the Department of Education establish guidelines and procedure for enrollment, the awarding of credit, monitoring of attendance, payment for on-line courses and determination of state aid; and the development of standards to ensure quality in coursework and to determine levels of mastery of on-line courses. It was noted that additional issues to be addressed were coordination with the Kansas State High School Activities Association and the North Central Association. Discussion followed and Dr. Tompkins indicated additional information would be on the agenda in November. Mr. Shuler noted that on-line courses were already being offered and it was important that the Board and the Department move quickly in order to ensure the quality of the offerings.

The Board recessed to the DeSoto High School Media Center for lunch at 12 noon. During their lunch break, they were entertained by the DeSoto High School Madrigal Singers directed by Maryetta Copeland. At the conclusion of lunch, the Board moved to the Board Room of the DeSoto District Administrative Offices, located at 8305 Peoria, DeSoto, Kansas, for a public hearing and the remainder of the meeting.

Chairman Holloway was unable to be present for the afternoon session and Vice Chairman Voth assumed the Chair in her absence. He called the meeting back to order at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Rundell was also unable to be present for the afternoon session.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Legislative Issues for the 2000 Session

Deputy Commissioner Dennis reported that a legislative proposal to increase the number of charter schools had been prepared as the Board had requested at its September meeting. Discussion followed about whether some of the current charter schools could have been created without the charter school law and the current lack of authority the Board had to establish any criteria for charter schools in the state. The possibility of having legislation introduced during the upcoming session to grant authority to the Board to develop and implement criteria was discussed. Mr. Dennis indicated he would develop options for the Board to consider at the November meeting. Dr. Wagon indicated, that after working unsuccessfully during the last session to try to get legislative interest in charter schools, he didn't think the Board should spend its time on the issue during the upcoming session.

State General Fund

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis handed out a state general fund profile and reviewed it for the Board. He indicated that FY 1999 ended with \$217 million more in expenditures than in receipts and that projections for FY 2000 were for expenditures to exceed receipts by \$247.4 million. The ending balance for FY 2000 was projected to be \$293.8 million, or 6.6 percent of expenditures, and below the 7.5 percent balance required by law. Mr. Dennis discussed the impact of a one percent FY 2000 budget reduction on schools and the Department, noting that it would take legislative action to implement it, but indicating that school districts had been cautioned to begin setting aside the one percent now. Mr. Dennis also reviewed the tax reductions enacted over the past six years and discussed their impact on revenues. Brief discussion followed.

PUBLIC HEARING

School Bus Transportation Regulations - K.A.R. 91-38-1 through 91-38-10, and revocation of former Department of Transportation regulations 36-13-20, and 36-13-30 through 36-13-39

Vice Chairman Voth opened the public hearing on proposed School Bus Transportation regulations at 1:35 P.M. Those appearing before the Board to present comments were: Dave Schultz, School Services and Leasing; Ed Raymond, Wichita Public Schools; Joe Fugarino, School Services and Leasing; Barbara Pringle, Kansas State Pupil Transportation Association; and Jeffrey A. Guston, Royal Valley School District, USD 337. Department of Education General Counsel Rod Bieker reviewed comments and suggestions received by the Department from the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules and Regulations. He also referred members to a letter left with each member by the Kansas Association of School Boards. Deputy Commissioner Dennis indicated that staff would prepare a response to the public comments and present it to the Board at the October meeting prior to Board action on the regulations. Vice Chairman Voth closed the hearing at 1:55 p.m.

BOARD REPORTS

Board Attorney

Mr. Biles reported on his recent activity on behalf of the Board. He noted that the special education appeal was reaching closure. He also gave a brief update on the school finance litigation. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for September be paid as presented. The motion carried.

Dr. Wagnon and Mr. Hill left the meeting for another engagement at 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner

Commissioner Tompkins reviewed his written report which contained issues regarding Braille literacy legislation enacted in 1991. Brief discussion followed. He also reported on his recent visits to the Kansas State School for Blind and Kansas State School for the Deaf, noting that the School for the Deaf's building fund was growing. Dr. Tompkins indicated that evaluation forms for himself, the Board Attorney, and Board secretary would be forwarded to Board members prior to the November Board meeting.

APPROVAL OF BOARD TRAVEL

Mrs. Waugh asked that the title of her travel of October 26th be corrected. The secretary noted that Mrs. Holloway had asked that a request for attendance at the Technology Conference be added for November 8th. Mrs. Waugh moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the travel requests be approved as amended.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Linda Holloway, Chairman Penny Plamann, Secretary