

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Abrams called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2006, in the Board Room of the State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

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

Dr. Wagnon was absent because he was attending meetings of the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future and the Education Commission of the States in Minnesota.

The Board stood for recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Abrams indicated he would like to add an executive session for discussion of non-elected personnel and to consult with the Board attorney, as item 9 a. immediately before the lunch break. Mrs. Gamble asked that item 17 a., the 2006 Personnel Turnover Report, be pulled from the Consent Agenda. Mrs. Morris asked that item 17 i., Migrant Family Literacy grants, be pulled from the Consent Agenda and voted on separately. Mr. Willard moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Willard moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the June minutes be approved. The motion carried 9-0, with Dr. Wagnon absent.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Corkins announced that copies of *Pocket Facts*, the brochures with Kansas education statistics, had been updated and some were available for each Board member, with additional copies being printed by the State Printer. He also updated the Board on the standard setting process which would take place at the end of the week on the new state assessments. He noted that recommendations on cut scores would be brought to the Board for action at the August meeting.

PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON SECLUSION ROOMS AND RESTRAINT FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Department General Counsel Rod Bieker reported that regulations regarding seclusion rooms and restraint for students with disabilities had been developed in response to a request from the Senate Education Committee. The Committee had requested that the State Board attempt to adopt appropriate standards in lieu of the legislature adopting laws regarding the issues. Representatives of educational organizations and schools and student advocacy groups worked together to develop the following proposed regulations: 91-40-75 which provides definitions used in the regulations; 91-40-76 which limits the use of seclusion rooms for children with disabilities, specifies various information that is to be recorded if such rooms are used, and provides for supervision while a child is in a seclusion room; 91-40-77 which provides the minimum size and characteristics for a seclusion room; 91-40-78 which limits the use of restraint on

children with disabilities to situations in which the child's behavior presents an imminent risk of harm to the child or to another person and requires that school employees who may apply restraint be provided training in an appropriate method and use of restraint, to avoid injury to students or others; and 91-40-79 which specifies the reports that are to be prepared and notifications that are to be given. In the discussion that followed, Mrs. Gamble asked whether waivers might be granted.

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chairman Abrams declared the Citizens' Open Forum open at 10:17 a.m. Those addressing the Board were: Dick Kelsey, Goodard; Jack Krebs, Lawrence, representing the Kansas Citizens for Science; Douglas Phenix, Topeka; Peg Dunlap, Topeka, representing Kansas NEA; and John Richard Schrock, Emporia. Chairman Abrams declared the open forum closed at 10:36 a.m.

PRESENTATION ON COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS

Mr. Keaton Kelso, Kansas Co-Director of Communities in Schools, Inc., provided the Board with an overview of the organization's national and state missions, pointing out that the organization served as a facilitator to establish local partnerships between community organizations and schools, in order meet locally-identified needs of children in the community. Mr. Kelso reviewed services that the state office of the organization provides to local program sites. He also shared statistics and handed out information on the scope of services and the range of organizations that provide them in Kansas schools affiliated with the organization. He provided data on the impact that Community in Schools has had on academics and school success nationwide and discussed current state organization data gathering activities. Discussion followed. Mrs. Rupe shared information about the program in Wichita. She noted how the program has assisted families in order to ease factors that lead to student failure. Mr. Kelso also discussed several ways local programs work with families to ensure student success. Mrs. Morris stated her objections to federal dollars going to undocumented adults through the program's activities and her desire that dollars only go to activities that directly benefit children in their school situation. In their discussion of her concerns, Mr. Kelso pointed out that the Communities in Schools organization helps communities set up the infrastructure for programs through independent non-profit organizations to fulfill needs identified by the local community and does not dictate to them what services they should offer. He offered to arrange a visit for Mrs. Morris with the program director and the district superintendent in Grant County where the program she was most concerned about is located so that she could discuss her concerns with them. He noted that ninety percent of the funding for that program was generated locally. She also asked how Communities in Schools accounted for the funds it receives and Mr. Kelso discussed how the organization was structured and its audit schedule.

The Board took a break from 11:10 to 11:17 a.m.

ASSESSMENT ACHIEVEMENT LEVELS AND INDICATORS USED TO MEASURE ACHIEVEMENT

Deputy Commissioner Tom Foster provided the Board with background information about how and why indicators within each content standard are selected for assessment. In order to assist the Board prior to its anticipated action establishing cut scores for the new assessments in August, he reviewed the complex process followed from the development and adoption of new curriculum standards to assessment development, administration, technical refinement and standard setting for achievement levels. He indicated what had been accomplished to date with the current assessments, and reviewed what remained, providing a brief timeline. He pointed out that key considerations from the field had been integrated into

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the Kansas assessment program when standards were revised to meet NCLB requirements. Primarily, he reported, the changes had addressed the need of classroom teachers to be able to use the state assessments as tools to inform their instruction to meet the specific learning needs of their students. In the discussion, further explanation was given about the development and piloting of test items and the use of formative assessments. Among other issues raised by Mrs. Gamble regarding formative assessments, was the problem of students suffering from test fatigue because of all the practice tests encouraged by districts leading up to the real assessments. Dr. Foster responded that the concept of formative testing would be a challenge for the department and the field in the coming year. He indicated that the Department would be working with the field to help them understand how to better use the formative assessment and to address any misunderstandings. He indicated that he hoped to develop a set of guidelines for teachers that would be available when the preliminary assessment results are sent to schools next month. Dr. Foster reported that the changes in the assessment reports that will go to the schools would include individual student performance data by indicator, which can be combined to be interpreted by subgroup, class, teacher, and school. The change would enable districts to focus their energies and resources where it is most needed. He noted that the school report card available online in November would have a different look, but would contain the same type of information. Dr. Foster also explained assistance that would be available to teachers to develop lesson plans related to the standards. He noted that the fall assessment conference would be one of the professional development opportunities available. He also explained how the online Kansas Instructional Resource Center could be used to develop lesson plans for specific assessment indicators.

The board took a break from 11:46 until 11:50.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mr. Willard, that the Board recess into Executive Session for a period of fifteen minutes for the purpose of consultation with the Board attorney to preserve the attorney-client privilege and to discuss personnel matters of nonelected personnel so that the privacy, confidentiality and other rights of such personnel would not be violated, and that the open meeting of the Board resume in Board Room at 12:05 p.m. The motion carried. The Board meeting resumed at 12:05 p.m. Mr. Willard moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the executive session be extended by five minutes. The motion carried. The open meeting resumed at 12:10 p.m.

The Board recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and returned at 1:30 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING ON AMENDED TEACHER LICENSURE REGULATIONS S.B.R. 91-1-201, 91-1-202 and 91-1-205

Chairman Abrams opened the public hearing on amendments to Teacher Licensure Regulations S.B.R. 91-1-201, 91-1-202 and 91-1-205 at 1:30 p.m. Mrs. Peg Dunlap, of Kansas NEA, Topeka, spoke in favor of the changes. With no one else wishing to comment, Chairman Abrams closed the public hearing at 1:31 p.m.

KANSAS PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT QUALIFYING SCORE

Mrs. Paulette Watson, Education Consultant with the Teacher Education and Licensure team, provided some background information on the Kansas Performance Assessment (KPA) required for a professional teaching license in Kansas. She reported she had been working with assessment since it was first implemented in 2003. Mrs. Watson noted that until the present time the assessment had been in a no-fault period without a cut score. She reported that she has been working with the KU Center for Educational

Testing and Evaluation (CETE) which has conducted several studies connected to the KPA and recently made a presentation to the Professional Standards Board (PSB) regarding its research and recommendation regarding a qualifying score. Mrs. Watson introduced Dr. John Poggio, Co-Director of CETE, who in turn introduced members of the team who had conducted the studies. Andrew Poggio reviewed the work that had been done which formed the basis for the PSB's recommended score of 88 out of a total of 113 points. In discussing the impact of establishing a cut score of 88, or the estimated percent of those taking the test who would pass, Mr. Poggio pointed out that the scores seen most certainly reflected underperformance on the KPA because of the no-fault nature of the assessment over the past three years. He pointed out that when the assessment will affect whether or not a teacher obtains a teaching license, he or she will probably be motivated to perform much better. In addition to using two different approaches to formulating a cut score, CETE also performed reliability and validity studies of the KPA results. In the discussion that followed, two issues were pursued: whether a computerized adaptive form of the assessment would be useful for the KPA; and whether there should be different cut scores for different grade levels. Dr. Gage, Director of TEAL, reported that an online form of the assessment would probably be available in the future. Mr. Poggio indicated that the question of different cut scores had been studied and it was decided that the single score across grades was valid and defensible.

PSB RECOMMENDATIONS ON REMOVING BARRIERS TO LICENSURE

TEAL staff was asked to have the Teaching and School Administration Professional Standards Advisory Board review all licensure regulations to determine if there were unnecessary barriers to obtaining a license in those regulations. The Standards Board spent the past year reviewing each regulation and developed thirteen recommendations about changing the regulations to reduce what they saw as barriers. Susan Helbert, Assistant Director of TEAL, pointed out that the recommendations were being presented as proposals and, if the Board desired to see any of them carried out, TEAL would pursue the process for amending the regulations to accommodate them. Reviewing the recommendations, Mrs. Helbert noted that the licensure regulations had been examined to determine if they were creating undue barriers to both in-state and out-of-state candidates who wished to teach in Kansas. She also answered questions. Mrs. Helbert indicated that several of the proposals would eliminate the necessity of having some cases, which are routinely approved, go through the Licensure Review Committee. During the discussion, she pointed out that the proposals had not been extensively reviewed by the field, but would be through the public hearing process if the Board chose to pursue amendments to the regulations. Dr. Abrams asked to have an estimate of the impact on the supply of educators, both qualitatively and quantitatively, of each of the proposed regulations. He was also interested in any effect they might have on the number of unlicensed personnel hired by districts. Mrs. Morris requested an estimate of the number of individuals who have been turned away from practice in Kansas by the barriers identified. She also asked that Mike Wasmer of the Kansas Coalition for Autism be contacted for an opinion regarding the recommendation for an Applied Behavior Analyst Certificate.

The Board took a break from 3:12 to 3:22 p.m.

RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING UNLICENSED PERSONNEL

Mrs. Beth Fultz, Education Consultant with TEAL, reported that the Professional Standards Board had met to address remedies for hiring unlicensed teachers by districts in Kansas. It made several recommendations for the Board to consider that could be imposed against districts who knowingly hire an unlicensed teacher or administrator. The item will be brought back for Board discussion at its August meeting. Prior to that time, it was requested that legal advice be obtained regarding the Board's authority and responsibility for dealing with the issue of unlicensed personnel, particularly pertaining to the remedies suggested.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION

Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mrs. Morris, that the State Board adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of the Professional Practices Commission and approve the recommendations of the Commission in cases 06-O-02 and 06-FC-03. Mrs. Waugh asked if the individual in case 06-O-02 was from her district. Kevin Ireland, Attorney for the Professional Practices Commission, indicated that he was and that the Board had acted on a prior request from him. Mr. Willard asked if there was a time in the future when someone such as in the case being discussed could be considered for reinstatement of his or her teaching license. Mr. Ireland provided some background on the case and explained at issue was the nature of the seriousness and context of the underlying conduct. The motion carried.

REPORT ON THE STEWART MCKINNEY-VENTO HOMELESS GRANT FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Mr. William Hagerman, Director of State and Federal Programs, after sharing information at the request of the Chair about the death of David Owen, a homeless advocate who had appeared before the board several times in the Open Forum, Mr. Hagerman reported that the federal McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grant program had been enacted to deal with the increasing incidences of homelessness among families with children and unaccompanied youth. He introduced Sue Steele, Coordinator of Homeless Programs for Wichita, USD 259, who outlined how the district addresses the issues related to education of its homeless students. She also shared that the program had improved truancy rates in homeless students and raised state assessment scores.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Deputy Commissioner Dennis talked about the short time districts would have to develop and file their budgets since a decision had not yet been issued by the Kansas Supreme Court in the school finance case. He indicated that interim committee assignments had not yet been made nor had topics for study been selected, though he hoped to have the information by the end of the month. Mr. Dennis also passed out copies of the Legislative Post Audit report on teacher development and retention and briefly discussed some of its findings, as well as teacher shortages currently being experienced by school districts.

FY 2008 Budget

Mr. Dennis reviewed the FY 2008 portion of the three-year school funding plan, equaling \$149 million, plus an additional \$25 million to fund KPERs, which had been adopted by the 2006 Legislature. He also passed out copies of the letter detailing the Governor's budget allocation for FY 2008. He noted that it basically reflected what was contained in current law. A minor modification was a reduction of \$300,000 for the Challenger Learning Center in Winfield. Mr. Dennis answered questions about revenue projections and indicated that it was believed the FY 2008 increase passed by the legislature could be met without raising taxes. He also noted that a projected deficit in the third year of the funding plan would be eliminated if the state economy continued at the current pace.

In the discussion of its recommendation for the FY 2008 budget, the Board could not reach a consensus on how to address it, pending a decision by the Kansas Supreme Court in the school finance lawsuit. Options discussed included funding for specific programs, such as all-day kindergarten, recommended by Mrs. Gamble; or determining a percent increase and reaching agreement as a board on where to recommend it be allocated, as proposed by Mr. Bacon. It was decided that the Board would revisit the budget in August and agree on a recommendation at that time. At the close of the discussion, Ron Nitcher, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations, pointed out that the recommended FY 2008 allocation was \$372,345 short of what would be needed to fund the second year of the data warehouse project.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mrs. Gamble indicated she had pulled item 17 a., the 2006 Personnel Turnover Report, because she was concerned about the turnover rate of 20.69%, which was double that of the previous year. She indicated she felt it was dangerous in an agency the size of the Department to lose that many experienced employees. Commissioner Corkins responded regarding unclassified personnel, that the Department was seeing the same turnover trend as the education community as a whole and pointed out that KSDE recruits from the same pool that districts do. The TEAL team had been consulted and reported that there was sizable turnover in district administrative personnel this year – about 17%. Mr. Corkins also pointed out that it was difficult to compare KSDE with other state agencies because it was the only agency that reports on unclassified personnel turnover. In comparing classified personnel to other agencies, Mr. Corkins said KSDE's turnover rate was very low compared to other state government, noting that Mrs. Watney, Director of Human Resources, had reported that any rate below 10% is very good. Mrs. Waugh left at 4:25 p.m. during the discussion of the personnel turnover report.

Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mrs. Morris, that the Board approve the consent agenda with item 17 i., Migrant Family Literacy Grants for 2006-07, voted on separately. The motion carried 8-0, with Mrs. Waugh and Dr. Wagnon absent.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- Received the Personnel Turnover Report for FY 2006.
- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Confirmed the appointment of Kelly Chanay to the position of School Food Service Consultant in the Child Nutrition and Wellness team, effective June 1, 2006 at an annual salary of \$42,432; Joshua Aspinwall to the position of Application Developer II in the Information Technology team, effective June 5, 2006 at an annual salary of \$44,096; and Beverly Smith to the position of Senior Administrative Assistant in the School Improvement and Accreditation team, effective June 19, 2006 at an annual salary of \$22,318.40.
- Approved school construction plans for USD 204, Bonner Springs (2); USD 207, Ft. Leavenworth; USD 214, Ulysses; USD 244, Burlington; USD 246, Northeast; USD 313, Buhler; USD 363, Holcomb; USD 385, Andover; USD 503, Parsons; Church of the Ascension, Overland Park; and Atchison Catholic Elementary School, Atchison.
- Approved the Modification of the Agreement for the Learning Cooperative of North Central Kansas (Concordia).
- Accepted the recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee cases 2260, 2266, 2273, 2275, 2278, 2281-2282, 2287, 2291-2292, and 2295-2300.
- Accepted the recommendations of the Commissioner to renew Visiting Scholar licenses valid July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007 for David Eichler and Richard Harrison who will continue to be employed as behavior analysts for the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center; and Mervat Ibrahim to teach in the Arabic language and culture program, grades 9-12, at the Shawnee Mission Center for International Studies, USD 512.

- Approved 21st Century Community Learning Centers grants for 2006-2007 for USD 101, Erie, Galesburg, Thayer Public Schools, \$99,901; USD 234, Fort Scott \$98,454.10; USD 257 Iola, \$99,997; USD 497, Lawrence Public Schools, \$99,964.00; USD 500 KCK, Kidzone/In-the-Zone Program, \$100,000; and USD 500 KCK, School Linked Services Community Learning Center, \$98,416.50.
- Approved Kansas Afterschool Enhancement Continuation grants for the 2006-2007 school year for *Community-Based/Faith-Based Organizations*: Valley Heights Area Community Education & Action Council, \$25,000; Extension Education Foundation, Inc. (Wichita), \$14,737; School Linked Services, Inc. (KCK), \$25,000; Cherry Street Youth Center (Chanute), \$24,820, Boys & Girls Club of Manhattan, \$17,850; The Greater Wichita YMCA, \$25,000; Catholic Charities (KCK) \$25,000; Inter-Faith Ministries (Wichita), \$25,000; Boys & Girls Club of Coffeyville, \$18,108; and Boys & Girls Club of Hutchinson, \$20,000; *Local Education Agencies*: Nickerson-South Hutchinson, USD 309. \$25,000; Wichita Public Schools, USD 259, \$25,000; Geary County, USD 475, \$12,324; Liberal, USD 480, \$25,000; Chanute Public Schools, USD 413, \$18,764; Bonner Springs Elementary, USD 204, \$17,200; Tescott Grade & Junior High School, USD 240, \$19,743; and Newton Public Schools, USD 373, \$11,454.
- Approved grants under the federally-funded State Improvement Grant for Special Education program to The University of Kansas, \$34,500; Kansas State University, \$27,000; Wichita State University, \$34,500; Washburn University, \$26,635; Emporia State University, \$15,000; Fort Hays State University, \$26,941; Pittsburg State University, \$27,000; Southwestern College, \$12,000; St. Marys College, \$7,500; Haskell Indian Nation, \$7,500; Baker University, \$7,500; Ottawa University, \$7,500; Newman University, \$7,500; and Associated Colleges of Central Kansas, \$15,000.
- Approved State Improvement Grant LEA Phase II Implementation subgrants for USD 486 Elwood and USD 480 Liberal, with \$47,000 to each entity
- Approved the Kansas Health Science Education Curricular Standards.
- Approved a request from USD 232, DeSoto, granting it authority to hold an election on the question of issuing bonds in excess of the district's general bond debt limitation.

Contracts Approved

The State Board authorized the *Superintendent of the Kansas State School for the Deaf* to

- negotiate and enter into a contract with Schmome, Inc., PA, Ronald L. Lybarger, Ph.D. for KSSD student psychological evaluations for the 2006-07 school year in the amount of \$30,000; and
- to receive payment from Center School District, Kansas City, Missouri, for out-of-state tuition for the 2006-07 school year, in the amount of \$24,500 (two students @ \$12,250 per student);

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

- negotiate and continue a contract with the Kansas Department of Health & Environment for the continued support of an interagency information/resource service for persons with disabilities to provide toll-free telephone access to information on health, social service and education services and resources available from public supported programs and special grant projects, with the contract amount not to exceed \$25,000;

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- negotiate and continue a contract with the Life Span Institute at Parsons, University of Kansas, Center for Research on Learning, as part of the federally-funded State Improvement Grant (SIG) for Special Education, to continue to organize and conduct meetings of the ECHO Consortium comprised of Kansas early childhood university faculty members and other agencies with the contract amount not to exceed \$14,000.

MIGRANT FAMILY LITERACY GRANTS FOR 2006-07

Mrs. Morris stated she was voting against funding the Migrant Family Literacy grants on principle because all the migration going on was not good for students and she didn't believe in having special funds set aside to endorse it. She stated she would rather see the money put into special education. Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mr. Willard, that the State Board approve the Migrant Family Literacy program grants for USD 209, Moscow Public Schools, 80,000; USD 214, Ulysses Public Schools, \$86,658; USD 216, Deerfield Public Schools, \$80,000; USD 250, Pittsburg Public Schools, \$57,326; USD 253, Emporia Public Schools, \$60,000; USD 443, Dodge City Public Schools, \$200,000; USD 457, Garden City Public Schools, \$100,000; USD 470, Arkansas City Public Schools, \$45,000; USD 494 Syracuse Public School, \$76,374; Interlocal 613 SKACD-NOEP, \$170,000; and Johnson County Community College, \$175,000. The motion carried 6-2, with Mrs. Morris and Mrs. Van Meter voting "no".

RECESS

There being no further business, Chairman Abrams recessed the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Steve Abrams, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Abrams called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2006, in the Board Room of the State Board of Education Building, 120 SE 10th Avenue in Topeka, Kansas.

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams	Mrs. Rupe (by phone)
John Bacon	Iris Van Meter
Sue Gamble	Janet Waugh
Kathy Martin	Ken Willard
Connie Morris	

Dr. Wagnon was out of state.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Abrams asked that the agenda be amended to change item 6, an update on the student engagement project to an action item. Mrs. Gamble what asked the anticipated action might be. Chairman Abrams indicated that a letter of endorsement from the Board to accompany a grant application for the Kansas Career Pipeline had been requested. Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried 7-2, with Mrs. Gamble and Mrs. Waugh voting “no”, Mrs. Rupe voting by phone, and Dr. Wagnon absent.

BOARD REPORTS

Chairman

Confirmation of Appointment of Directors

Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mr. Willard, that that the State Board confirm the appointments of Sarah Thomas to the position of Director of Improvement and Support in the School Innovations Division, effective July 30, 2006 at an annual salary of \$71,500; and Jeannette Nobo to the position of Director of Professional Learning Communities of the School Innovations Division, effective July 30, 2006 at an annual salary of \$83,945. Mrs. Martin indicated she would like to meet the new directors. The motion carried 8-1, with Mrs. Gamble voting “no”. Explaining her vote, Mrs. Gamble asked that the minutes reflect the explanation for her vote. She stated that she objected to the development of the new division and expansion of the employee pool, which she felt would not be fiscally responsible after the first year. Chairman Abrams asked that it be reflected in the minutes that it had been stated by Commissioner Corkins numerous times, the new division would be accomplished within the existing Department of Education budget and was not about expanding the budget of the Department.

Video Streaming of Board Meetings

Chairman Abrams indicated that Kan-Ed was in the process of implementing technology so the Board could video stream its meetings through Marratech.. He reported that bandwidth problems had been addressed and higher quality video would be available. Chairman Abrams suggested the Board discuss the possibility at a meeting in the near future. Mr. Bacon asked if the Board could see a sample of what the public would see, before making a decision.

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Cut Score for the Kansas Performance Assessment for Licensure

Mrs. Martin moved that Board accept the recommendation of the Professional Standards Board and set the cut score for the Kansas Performance Assessment at 88. Mrs. Morris seconded the motion. Mrs. Martin indicated she had attended the meeting of the Professional Standards Board when it had received an indepth report from CETE on the methodology used in the development of the recommended cut score. She added that she had complete confidence in the method used, noting that it would give fewer false negatives. She also pointed out that the score would continue to be monitored to see that it continues to adequately reflect the development of teachers and their progress in the three years after they get their initial license. The motion carried unanimously.

Brochure on the Kansas Science Standards

Chairman Abrams passed out a draft of a brochure which had been requested by Board members to address questions the public might have on the science standards. He noted that it was primarily composed of quotes from the standards and contained no editorial comments. Chairman Abrams indicated that these were the only copies and if the Board agreed, additional copies could be made for Board members to use. Mrs. Gamble stated her objection to the lack of opportunity for the Board to review the brochure prior to the meeting. She also objected to what she believed to be inaccurate material in the standards being repeated in a brochure which would be going out to the public under the Board's authority. She particularly noted "*Additional Specificity 3.3.1.a*" which read, "*Biological evolution postulates an unguided natural process that has no discernable direction or goal*". Mr. Bacon disagreed that the material was inaccurate and referred to a letter that the Board had received during its discussion of the standards before they were adopted that was signed by 37 science laureates supporting the statement. Mrs. Gamble indicated that she believed what had been included in the letter Mr. Bacon referred to had been misinterpreted.

Mrs. Morris said she would like more time to examine the brochure, but she was glad to have something that was factual without editorializing which also briefly summarized the changes that she would be able to give to those who might ask about the standards. The fact that the brochure came from the Department of Education would validate the truthfulness of it. In response to a question from Mrs. Waugh, George Griffith, Department staff responsible for what had been included from the standards in the brochure, explained that the material chosen was based on the questions that he receives in his capacity as the science education consultant. Mrs. Waugh shared her objections about the brochure and added that it should state somewhere that the standards were a controversial issue that had been adopted by the Board on a 6-4 vote.

Mr. Willard, noting that the brochure was composed solely of quotes from the standards, moved that the Board approve the brochure. Mrs. Van Meter seconded the motion. In the discussion that followed, Mrs. Gamble asked Mr. Griffith several questions about the brochure, including whether he felt it was an accurate reflection of good science. He replied that he believed it was an accurate statement of the standards and answered the questions that people had been asking. Mrs. Martin indicated that Mr. Griffith should be proud of the work that he had done and she felt the brochure would answer peoples' questions. The motion carried on a vote of 6-2-1, with Mrs. Gamble and Mrs. Waugh voting "no", and Mrs. Rupe, who had not been able to view the brochure because she was on the phone, abstaining. Mrs. Waugh asked about plans for distribution of the brochure. Commissioner Corkins indicated it would be available upon request.

Legislative Coordinator

Mr. Willard reminded members of the NASBE convention in October in Louisville, Kentucky. He also reminded them that state boards would be donating items representative of their states for a silent auction. He reported that Mrs. Gamble had volunteered to do a cross stitch picture of a windmill to donate and that he had agreed to have it framed. A picture of it was shared with the Board. He also invited others to make donations if they wished.

Board Attorney's Report

Mr. Biles discussed the school finance case and indicated he would get word to the board as quickly as possible after a decision was handed down by the Kansas Supreme Court. Following up on an inquiry about an incident at KSSD, he said no further activity had taken place regarding it since it had been reported on in May. Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the Board pay Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for June as presented. The motion carried.

Policy Committee

Mr. Willard reported that the Policy Committee had been appointed as the Task Force required, pursuant to H.B. 2576, to assess the feasibility of requiring all Kansas school districts to adopt district policies mandating that all schools conduct a check of the internet site maintained by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) concerning registered sex offenders prior to permitting any unescorted, noninstructional personnel on school grounds while students are present. The Policy Committee felt that, under the existing language, it would not be reasonably feasible to impose such a requirement upon school districts and that the proposed mandated policy was far too broad to be implemented. An example given was that an internet site check of every spectator at every athletic event held on school grounds would be required. The Committee's initial recommendation was for the Legislature to reconsider the matter and possibly adopt provisions requiring KBI internet site checks of all unclassified employees and requiring evidence of KBI internet site checks of all employees of vendors. Additionally, schools should assure that students, while engaged in school activities, are provided appropriate supervision by school personnel, so they are safe from known, as well as unknown, predators. In the discussion that followed, concerns were raised about the difficulty of doing internet checks in the case of a mechanical emergency at a school. Also mentioned was the additional level of bureaucracy such a requirement would add, as well as creating the impression that schools are unsafe. The question was also raised about whether bus drivers employed by a contractor should be included. Mr. Willard pointed out that the Policy Committee's intent was not to develop policy on the matter, but rather to simply communicate to the legislature the Task Force's belief that requirement would be unfeasible and to request that the legislature revisit the issue. After further discussion, the Policy Committee was asked to revisit the issue.

Other Board Member Reports

Mrs. Waugh asked what direction the Board was going on recommendations to deal with unlicensed personnel in the classroom. Chairman Abrams indicated that staff was to bring back information on what impact there might be on the number of unlicensed personnel from the Professional Standards Board's recommendations on barriers to practice, as well as what authority the Board had to take punitive action, such as imposing fines.

Mrs. Gamble asked if there would be a report about the letter from the U.S. Department of Education (USDE) regarding Kansas assessment program deficiencies. Mr. Corkins said it would be premature to give a report on it; that the issues were being reviewed by staff; and a conference call with USDE was

scheduled for the following week when the information required to satisfy its requirements would be discussed. Dr. Foster provided some additional information about a timeline that was being developed to address some of the issues. There was discussion about the possibility of the Department losing funds as a result of possible USDE action, but it was felt that would be averted with the information the Department would be able to provide.

Mrs. Rupe reported on her participation with the NASBE Financial Literacy Commission. She indicated a report would be out soon. She also reported on her attendance at a day of classes at the Future Teachers Academy at Emporia State University. She felt that the program did a good job of explaining what teaching is all about and stated she would like to encourage high school students interested in teaching to attend the academy at ESU. It was noted that there were other universities that had similar programs and it was agreed that students could benefit from attending.

Future Agenda Items

Mr. Willard brought up the idea of a quarterly newsletter to inform the public about Board activities in which each member could also share a message. Chairman Abrams directed the Communications Committee to meet to study the suggestion.

Deputy Commissioner Englebrick introduced newly appointed Director of Professional Learning Communities, Jeanette Nobo.

ADOPTION OF AMENDED TEACHER LICENSURE REGULATIONS

Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the Board approve the amendments to Teacher Licensure Regulations S.B.R. 91-1-201, 91-1-202 and 91-1-205. The motion carried 9-0 on a roll call vote as follows:

Steve Abrams	“yes”	Carol Rupe	“yes”
John Bacon	“yes”	Iris Van Meter	“yes”
Sue Gamble	“yes”	Bill Wagnon	(absent)
Kathy Martin	“yes”	Janet Waugh	“yes”
Connie Morris	“yes”	Ken Willard	“yes”

UPDATE ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Englebrick provided an update on activities related to the development of the request for proposals for assessment instruments and the status and timeline for the application process for schools which might be interested in seeking a student engagement grant. He answered questions about what he thought the impact the current budget uncertainty might have on applicants; how it would be ensured that grant recipients would be representative of the state’s geography and school demographics; and what guidance the Department would provide to districts in choosing the type of research-based engagement programs that would be eligible for grant participation. Mrs. Gamble also expressed interest in how the student engagement program would be integrated into other ongoing Department activities.

The Board took a break from 10:12 to 10:20 a.m.

UPDATE ON STUDENT ENGAGEMENT PROJECT (continued)

Bill Hagerman introduced Andy Solter, of the Kansas Career Pipeline (KPC). Mr. Solter briefly described KPC, which is a newly formed alliance comprised of business and industry people, representatives of secondary and post-secondary education, workforce development people, and chamber of commerce people, which is seeking a \$750,000 - \$1.5 million Department of Labor grant to serve high school juniors, seniors and those entering community colleges and trade schools in the counties served by the Workforce Alliance of South Central Kansas. The mission of KPC is to help participants find their interests and provide them with a seamless program of career discovery, career investigation and placement that is aligned with the needs of the Kansas business community and the personal interests of the participants. Eventually, the goal will be to expand the program to new districts and locations around the state. The KPC will be offered online through Kan-Ed and Learning Stations. Mr. Solter indicated the KPC would like the Board to sign a letter of endorsement to accompany its grant application. Mrs. Gamble and Mrs. Waugh raised objections about the Board endorsing a grant application for a regional program, concerned that it would establish a precedent for otherd seeking endorsements. Mrs. Gamble was also concerned about KPC creating conflicts with Department of Education programs. Mrs. Rupe indicated that Mr. Solter had been asked by her to address the Board and, though she would not like to set a precedent for routinely endorsing all grants applications, she felt that what the KPC was proposing was completely in line with the Board's goals. Mr. Bacon suggested that the Board avoid a direct endorsement of the grant and instead provide a letter to accompany the grant that would state that the KPC proposal fit in with the goals of the State Board. Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Martin and Mr. Willard spoke in favor of supporting the program. Mr. Willard added that the project was the kind of systemic change needed for public education. After further discussion, Mrs. Martin moved, with a second by Mrs. Morris, that the Chairman draft a letter in support of the concept of the Kansas Career Pipeline as a program for student engagement. Mrs. Gamble was afraid if the proposed letter was included with the grant application it would be viewed as an endorsement of it. The motion carried 7-2, with Mrs. Gamble and Mrs. Waugh voting "no".

UPDATE ON THE KANSAS LABORATORY FOR EDUCATION LEADERSHIP (WALLACE GRANT)

Howard Shuler provided a brief history regarding the Wallace Foundation Grant for the Kansas Laboratory For Education Leadership (KLEL) and the four school districts in Kansas involved in the project. He gave an overview of the first years' activities and discussed the renewal process for year two. Mr. Larry Wheelles updated the Board on Kal-Tech activities. He reported that lessons learned over the past five years through Kal-Tech activities are being integrated into KLEL activities. Mr Shuler answered questions about what has been learned from KLEL and the anticipated impact of the program.

The Board took a break from 11:24 to 11:34 a.m.

PRESENTATION ON THE EAGLE ACADEMIES OF TEXAS

Deputy Commissioner Englebrick introduced Dr. Rex Fuller, the State Director for the Eagle Project. He shared his background in education, including his association with Dr. Donald Howard, since 1970 with A.C.E., Accelerated Christian Education, a program for private schools that grew to 10,000 schools in a 100 countries worldwide. Dr. Fuller introduced Dr. Howard who shared his history with educational reform, including his experiences with A.C.E. and the establishment of 15 Eagle Academy Charter Schools in Texas in 1996, which focused on at-risk students. His described his approach which used technology to deliver a diagnostic individualized instruction plan and gave a demonstration of the reading program.

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Dr. Howard indicated that his reason for coming before the Board was to propose that 5-10 part-time model Eagle Project school centers be set up across the state, in Kansas City, Topeka, Wichita, Garden City and Liberal, with fifty students enrolled in each. He proposed that the centers be under contract with local districts as charter schools. The centers would address areas in reading and math that a student needed help with and the rest of the school day would be spent in other classes in the local high school. The Eagle Project could be used to focus on at-risk students through drop-out recovery, special education, and the juvenile justice system. He also offered to use his contacts to assist the Department with establishing a statewide charter school association to assist charter schools. Concerned how the learning centers proposed would be accredited and if they would offer academically sound curriculum, Dr. Howard was asked how the curriculum was aligned with state standards. He indicated that because students had diagnostically individualized instruction plans it was not possible to align the curriculum. He was also asked if any advance placement courses were offered. Dr. Howard responded that the key to success was diagnosis and prescription and the project had two years of college level curriculum available. Asked about the cost of set up, he indicated it would be about half the cost of other programs. Dr. Howard invited Board members to a demonstration of the project which was set up in a travel trailer parked outside the Education Building.

BOARD TRAVEL

Mrs. Morris moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the Board travel requests be approved as presented. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Abrams recessed the meeting at 12:32 p.m.

Steve Abrams, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary