

**KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MEETING MINUTES**

May 10, 2005

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Abrams called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. on Tuesday, May 10, 2005, 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

Iris Van Meter

John Bacon

Bill Wagnon

Sue Gamble

Ken Willard

Carol Rupe

Mrs. Martin arrived shortly after the meeting started. Mrs. Morris was attending a hearing at the U.S. District Court on a lawsuit regarding instate tuition for illegal aliens. Mrs. Waugh was recuperating from surgery and was not able to be present.

The Board stood for recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Abrams asked for agreement from Board members to cancel the Wednesday morning meeting. He reported that several members had called him about canceling the meeting so they could attend the oral arguments before the Kansas Supreme Court in the school finance case. If the Board agreed, he requested that several items from the Wednesday agenda be added at the end of the day's agenda. He proposed that Board Reports, the Proposed Framework for Developing an RFP on Pilot Projects for Academic and Vocational Integration, and Board Travel be added as items 15, 16, and 17, prior to the Executive Session. The white papers on Parent Involvement and Community Involvement, and the Model Standards for Physical Education and Health would be postponed until the June meeting. Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mr. Willard, that the amended agenda be approved as proposed by Chairman Abrams. The motion carried 8-0, with Mrs. Morris and Mrs. Waugh absent.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Tompkins reported that the first meeting of the Secondary/Postsecondary Transition Council was held on May 3rd. The council was established to explore how to improve matriculation from high school to postsecondary education. He reviewed membership of the Council which includes representatives from public high schools, secondary and postsecondary vocational and technical programs, public and private universities, Kansas Workforce Training and Education Services, community colleges and a liaison from the Governor's office. Assistant Commissioner Posny indicated that information about the Council will be posted on the KSDE website under the Learning Services Division. Membership of the group, meeting dates and the charge to the council will be included. It was also reported that the timeline which had been developed to implement Board

goals has been reviewed with KSDE leadership.? Kathy Toelkes, Director of Communications and Recognition Programs reported that Board brochures in batches of 100 were available for members to pick up.

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Dr. Wagnon remarked that the type of information contained in the monthly Commissioner?s report was essential to understanding progress on the Board?s goals.? Referring to Dr. Tompkins written reports, Dr. Wagnon asked that the review of State Board regulations be undertaken by a group with broad representation, rather than solely by the Department General Counsel.? He also asked that they be reviewed with a focus on performance rather than compliance, within the framework of the Board?s seven core principles of system redesign.? Dr. Wagnon indicated that it was important that teacher qualifications be maintained in any program developed to achieve the Board?s goals for academic and vocational integration.? He also requested that staff bring models of how teachers can better work together to achieve the program goals. ?Regarding the Board?s goal to develop visionary leaders, Dr. Wagnon asked that one result of the survey of principals across the state regarding their professional development needs should be to provide a vehicle for developing a method for sharing best practices across the state.? Dr. Wagnon also reported that the Board Communications Committee had had its first meeting immediately before the Board meeting and was working on a Board communication plan.

QUALITY PERFORMANCE ACCREDITATION MANUAL

Dr. Posny discussed the new Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) Manual that had been developed to give the field guidance on QPA compliance in a clear, concise way with usable information.? She reported that it was a joint resource containing information from School Improvement and Accreditation and Special Education.? Dr. Posny indicated that assistance was given on development of the manual from the QPA pilot schools and it represented guidance from the field for the field. The manual was based on the Board?s QPA Quality Criteria and Performance Criteria and integrated requirements of NCLB.? In workshops across the state, the manual had been well-received and was found to be easy to use.? She reported that a common question raised at the meetings concerned the differences in a highly qualified and fully certified teacher.? Dr. Wagnon asked that references in the manual to social studies be changed to history/ government.? Asked by Mrs. Gamble what participation at the workshops had been and if the Shawnee Mission district had participated, Dr. Posny reported that she thought there had been representation from every district in the state, but that she would get a list of participants for Board members.? Mr. Bacon asked if Carnegie units and credits referred to in different places in the manual were the same.? Dr. Posny indicated they were the same and it would be clarified in the glossary.? Mrs. Martin said the manual would be very helpful in letting teachers know what is expected.

CITIZENS? OPEN FORUM

Chairman Abrams declared the Citizens' Open Forum open at 10:22 a.m.? Those addressing the Board were: John Richard Schrock, Emporia; Robyn Studebaker, Thayer; Kirk Fast, Ozawkie; Kim Juenemann, Superintendent of Chetopa, representing USD 505; Kevin Mitchelson, representing St. Paul school patrons, Pittsburg; ?David O? Bryan, representing St. Paul students and USD 101, St. Paul; Shari Wilson, representing KACEE, Kansas City; and John L. Burch, Lawrence.?? Chairman Abrams declared the open forum closed at 10:49 a.m.

The Board took a break from 10:49 until 11:00 a.m.

2004 NATIONAL FINALISTS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

Cindy Angle, Wilbur Middle School, Wichita, recipient of the finalist award in elementary science, and Kimberly Thomas, McLean Science and Technology Magnet, Wichita, recipient of the finalist award in elementary mathematics, shared with the Board some of the things they had incorporated into their practice to ensure that all students meet high academic standards. They also addressed some of the

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challenges and concerns. At the conclusion of their presentations they answered questions from Board members. Two of the issues discussed were the fact that state tests do not always reflect the gains achieved by students that enter the classroom far behind their peers in proficiency; and the need to do more than concentrate on the lower achieving students in order to meet performance goals at the cost of helping higher achieving students to do all they are capable of doing. The teachers were presented with certificates of recognition and had their pictures taken with Chairman Abrams and Commissioner Tompkins.

Mrs. Morris arrived at 11:35 a.m.

CERTIFICATION/LICENSURE FEE FOR FY 2005-06

Dr. Martha Gage, Director of Teacher Education and Licensure, reported that the fee for a Kansas teaching license had remained at \$24 since 1986. She indicated that the 2005 legislature had given the Board the authority to set the fee and after consulting with unit heads at teacher preparation institutions and the Kansas NEA, and looking at the fees charged by other states, staff was requesting that the fee for 2005-2006 be set at \$36. Mr. Bacon asked how much the increase would bring in. Deputy Commissioner Dennis reported that it would amount to approximately \$265,000 per year, which would be adequate to support activities for the next four to five years, at which time staff would consider whether another increase would be necessary. Mrs. Rupe moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the State Board approve a 2005-2006 Teacher Licensure fee of \$36. The motion carried 9-0.

The Board recessed for lunch at 11:45 a.m. and returned at 1:30 p.m.

2004-2005 LICENSED PERSONNEL REPORT

Mrs. Beth Fultz, Teacher Certification and Licensure, reviewed the Licensed Personnel Report that reflected data for licensed personnel working in accredited Kansas schools during the 2004-2005 school year. Demographic data was disaggregated by gender, entrance code, race, teaching code, age group, and years of experience. She reported that 73.4 percent of reported licensed personnel were female and 26.6 percent were male, noting that the number of males in the profession was decreasing every year. How to draw more males into teaching is an issue that will be studied by the Blue Ribbon Task Force on Recruitment and Retention. Mrs. Fultz pointed out that 96 percent of Kansas teachers were white, while only 75 percent of students were. Only 1.8 percent of licensed personnel were black, she noted. Returning teachers made up 90 percent of reported licensed personnel; new teachers represented 3.9 percent. Mrs. Fultz reported that 82 percent of reported licensed personnel taught general education; 11.4 percent taught special education; and 5.4 percent were administrators. Mrs. Rupe asked what the percent of special education teachers would be if schools had all that they needed. Mrs. Fultz indicated it would be the same percentage, but that current numbers didn't mean that all those in that assignment were necessarily qualified. Reporting on the age of the teaching force, Mrs. Fultz reported that 51.4 percent were over 45; 37 percent were over 50. She added that those over 50 were increasing by about 1 percent per year. Mrs. Gamble asked how many over 50 were returnees to the profession. Mrs. Fultz indicated that the Department was just beginning to gather that data. It was reported that the number of teachers with over thirty years of experience was increasing and those with one to four years of experience were

decreasing.? Mrs. Fultz reported that Kansas schools are currently producing enough new teachers each year and that 80 percent of them are hired.? The caveat is that not enough are produced in the right disciplines, with an overabundance of elementary school teachers.? Employment of new teachers hit a low in 2003-2004,

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but is rebounding for 2004-2005.? Mrs. Fultz reviewed a five year retention pattern for new teachers, reporting a 67 percent retention rate from 2001 to 2005.? Exit reasons that were reported included the individual leaving the profession; reduction in force decisions made by school districts; teachers moving out of the state; and terminations by the district.? A study of the impact on retention made by providing a new teacher with a mentor in the first year showed that the retention rate for the four years 2001-2002 through 2004-2005 was 76.5 percent compared to 66.8% for those beginning teachers without a mentor.? Mrs. Fultz reviewed average salary data which indicated that salaries reached their peaked for teachers with 20 to 29 years of experience.? She suggested that those with more experience, yet lower salaries, were perhaps not working fulltime.? Mrs. Fultz reported that 95.3 percent of reported licensed personnel were fully qualified for their assignment; 2.4 percent are provisionally qualified; 1.5 percent are unqualified; and .8 percent are uncertified.? She also reported that 94.1 percent of teachers in the core content areas met the NCLB highly qualified teacher goal.?? For high socio-economic status (SES) districts, the number of highly qualified teachers represented 95.5 percent.? Low SES districts had a lower percentage, 92.1 percent, of highly qualified teachers. ?Commissioner Tompkins pointed out that nationwide Kansas had one of the highest rates of highly qualified teachers in low SES schools.? Mrs. Fultz reviewed statistics on the number of teachers with a restricted teaching license and the transition to teaching program.? Lastly, information on certified personnel waivers was reviewed.? Mrs. Fultz pointed out that .7 percent of certified personnel during the 2004-1005 year were on waivers and that 92 percent of all waivers issued were for special education.? She indicated that 36.7 percent of those granted waivers for special education in 2001 were still teaching in that assignment in 2004-2005.

DEVELOPMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD LICENSE

Dr. Gage reported that only three Kansas universities institutions had approved programs for the Birth to 3rd grade (B-3) unified license.? She added that many schools have decided not to offer a program because they do not have the staff or the means to hire additional staff.? She also reported that only two other states have a unified Birth to 3rd grade license and that those two states also offer other options.? Kansas is the only state, she reported, that has only the one license to cover early childhood from birth to grade 3, creating difficulties for out-of-state applicants. Dr. Gage asked that the Board give approval to the Professional Standards Board to investigate the development of an additional, narrower license that would provide a second option for applicants.? Mrs. Rupe reported that she was aware of the problem that many universities had in putting together an early childhood program that would take prospective teachers less that five years in order to meet current requirements.? Mrs. Martin added that current Kansas requirements were doing a disservice to experienced special education teachers from out of state who don?t have the B-3 education.? Mrs. Morris was interested in what additional costs there might be for the Department to administer the additional license.? Dr. Gage indicated that it would not require any additional administrative costs because of the way the program approval process is structured.? Mrs. Morris moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the Board grant staff permission to investigate the possibility of developing an additional early childhood license.? The motion carried.

AGREEMENT TO TRANSFER TERRITORY FROM USD 101, ERIE-ST. PAUL; TO USD 505, CHETOPA

Mr. Rod Bieker, Department of Education General Counsel, reported that the Boards of Education of USD 101, Erie-St. Paul, and USD 505, Chetopa, had entered into an agreement to transfer territory located in USD 101 to USD 505. He noted that in the past the State Board has generally approved transfers that are agreed to by local boards of education. However, in the case of the USD 101/USD 505 transfer, the Board was being asked to deal with a situation it had not been presented with before - the first land transfer that would involve noncontiguous areas. He noted that this would not be in violation of state law and explained

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the legislative background behind the 1999 change in the land transfer law. He pointed out two issues of concern. The first was the distance between the area in USD 101 that would be transferred and USD 505. The territory in USD 101, which contains the St. Paul school, to be transferred to USD 505, is more than 20 miles from the boundary of USD 505 and Chetopa is more than 40 miles from St. Paul. Mr. Bieker reviewed for the Board that the transfer issue had arisen because of a decision by the USD 101 school board to consolidate the high schools in St. Paul and Thayer with the Erie High School. He pointed out that the school building in St. Paul would not close because of that decision, but would be operated as a K-8 building.

The second issue of concern was the fact that there had been a disputed school board election in the Erie-St. Paul district with the outcome of one of the seats pending in court. There was a question about whether the decision in that election would make a difference in the USD 101's decision to move the high schools from St. Paul and Thayer to Erie.

Mr. Bieker suggested that the State Board had three options, all legally justifiable. One would be to wait for the outcome of the election contest and see what impact it might have on the local board's decision. The second option would be to take action to approve the transfer; the third, to deny the request. Under these circumstances, Mr. Bieker said, it would seem logical and prudent for the State Board to monitor this situation and consider action at a later State Board meeting.

In the discussion that followed, Mrs. Rupe brought up the point that Board members had heard a great deal from interested parties, but had heard nothing about the advantages for student learning that might be enhanced for students in a larger, combined high school, with 350 students. Mrs. Martin asked what implications the transfer might have on the decision to close the Thayer High School. USD 101 Superintendent Randy Corns, who was present in the audience, reported that the decision had been difficult for the district and all the communities involved, but that it appeared the transfer was the best option available at the current time for the communities of Erie and St. Paul. The local board's decision to close the high school at St. Paul, which is only seven miles from Erie, had caused problems within families and between friends and affected local businesses. He indicated that approval of the transfer could be the start of a healing process between the two communities. He added that Chetopa had considered the transfer a viable option for the USD 505 district. The State Board members discussed the implications of approving a territory transfer between non-contiguous districts and questioned the precedent that might be established. The fate over the next five years of the Chetopa school district, a landlocked district that was losing enrollment, was brought up by Mrs. Gamble, and the effect it might have on the St. Paul school if Chetopa had to make closure decisions.

Dr. Abrams asked about a survey that had been conducted in the affected area. Mr. David O'Bryan, a board member from the St. Paul area, reported that of the 373 forms sent out, 23 responded "no" or "undecided/ don't care", with the remainder in favor of the transfer. He stated that given the turmoil over the years between Erie

and St. Paul, he viewed the transfer decision as the best option for St. Paul.? Mrs. Van Meter, who is from Thayer, reported that her family and relatives had attended the Thayer school for years and that she didn't know what the best solution in the current situation should be, but perhaps, in light of the difficulties between the two towns over the past 30 years, it might be best to let St. Paul join the Chetopa district.? Mr. Willard stated, that without a State Board master plan in place for district reorganization, if two districts are in agreement, he would be inclined to proceed with approval of their decision.? He added that he would be hard-pressed to go on record opposing what two local board have decided to do.? Mrs. Martin stated that she was in favor of allowing decisions such as the transfer left up to local boards of education.

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Mrs. Van Meter moved, with a second by Mr. Willard, that the State Board approve the agreement to transfer the territory from USD 101 to USD 505, effective July 1, 2005.? The motion carried 8-1, with Mrs. Gamble voting ? no?.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Review of Changes in School District Finance

Deputy Commissioner Dennis reviewed changes in school district finance made during the 2005 legislative session which would give \$141.028 million in additional state funding for schools for FY 2006. In April, Mr. Dennis had reported on a conference committee proposal that would have provided \$145.2 million in additional state funding.? The differences in the two proposals were: 1) the elimination of \$20 million to fund a Skills for Success grant program for reading and mathematics for grades K-3; 2) the addition of \$7.356 million for increased military enrollment (which would allow an additional count day in February for schools impacted by troop transfers to military installations in the state);? 3) \$804,000 to fund an additional 400 additional students in the four-year-old at-risk program;? and 4) \$7.668 million for miscellaneous adjustments based on revised enrollment and assessed valuation estimates.? In addition, the legislature provided \$1 million for resumption of the mentor teacher program, \$1million for professional development, and \$375,000 for after school programs.? Mr. Dennis pointed out that half of the after school funding was required to be spent on non-school district programs, such as Boys and Girls Club programs.? Another provision passed by the legislature would require that the Chief Justice of the Kansas Supreme Court notify the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals, who would appoint a panel of three current or former district judges to hear any suit brought by a plaintiff alleging a violation of the Education Article of the Kansas Constitution.

Discussion included what the Board must do to address a legislative provision for a hardship consideration that would be determined by the State Board of Education regarding out-of-state students.? Mr. Dennis recommended that the Board wait until a situation arose, rather than trying to anticipate what requests might come up.? The Board also discussed what might happen if the Supreme Court found that the legislative plan did not adequately address the requirements of its preliminary order in the school finance case.? Mr. Dennis pointed out that the school finance plan contained a severability clause so that any parts ruled unconstitutional could be deleted without invalidating other sections of the act.?? Mr. Dennis also mentioned that a special session of the legislature might be an option.? Mr. Biles added that the Court could also prohibit any funding going to schools until the issue is settled satisfactorily.? Mr. Dennis reviewed the Department's plans, explaining that no budget workshops had been scheduled, but that workshop materials were being prepared and the Department would be ready to respond within a week of a decision by the Court.

FY 2006 Budgets for KSSB and KSSD

Mr. Dennis handed out memos from Bill Daugherty, Kansas State School from the Blind (KSSB), and Bob Maile, Kansas State School for the Deaf (KSSD), which summarized the legislative appropriations for the two schools.? In addition to providing funding to maintain current programs, the legislature provided KSSB with \$325,122 to cover employee cost of living increases, the 27th paycheck due in June of 2007, funding for KPERS/Death and Disability contributions, and an increase in teacher salaries to provide equity with USD 233, Olathe.? KSSD also received a funding increase for the same items that were funded at KSSB.? In addition, KSSD received funding for a vehicle replacement and other operating funds were increased by \$25,000 to help compensate for previous cutbacks.? Mr. Maile also reported that KSSD's State Institutions Building Fund request was fully funded, allowing it to continue with a dormitory renovation project.? Also included was \$108,000 for upgrades to the emergency alert system.

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Education Legislation

Mr. Dennis reported he would be sending the Board a short summary of education bills by the next Board meeting, perhaps in a Friday letter.? He predicted revenue problems for FY 2007 because of programmed increases for education, KPERS, and SRS, among others.? Mr. Dennis also discussed SB 138, which would provide up to \$125,000 per congressional district for tax credits to companies that employed math and science teachers in the summer in poor and underserved districts.? He indicated the Board would be asked to provide a definition of underserved districts to give guidance to the Department of Revenue.

The Board took a break at 3:38 and returned at 3:45 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Dr. Wagnon, that the Board approve the consent agenda as presented.? The motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- ? Received the monthly personnel report.
- ? Approved school construction plans for USD 512, Shawnee Mission Public Schools; St. Mary's Colgan Schools, Pittsburg (2); USD 259, Wichita; USD 380, Vermillion; USD 479, Crest School District; USD 409, Atchison Public Schools; USD 465, Winfield; USD 243, Lebo ?Waverly; USD 290, Ottawa; USD 252, Southern Lyon County; USD 233, Olathe; USD 366, Woodson; USD 266, Maize; and USD 383, Manhattan.
- ? Accepted the recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee in cases 2169, 2172-2180; and 2182.
- ? Reappointed Peggy Davis and Rick Henry to their first three-year term and Cindy Garwick and Terry Boyd to their second three-year term on the Professional Standards Board to run from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008.
- ? Reappointed Eileen Hackley to her second three-year term on the Professional Practices Commission to run from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008.
- ? Appointed John Hope, Jr., who was completing an unfulfilled term, ?to his first three-year term on the

Licensure Review Committee to run from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2008.

? Received FY 2005 third quarter reports from the Kansas State School for the Deaf and the Kansas State School of the Blind.

? Approved accredited status for USD 234 Eugene Ware Elementary; USD 261 Ruth Clark Elementary, Rex Elementary, Freeman Elementary, Nelson Elementary, and Oatville Elementary; USD 265 Clark Davidson Elementary; USD 305 Sunset Elementary; USD 312 Yoder Charter Elementary; USD 333 Concordia Elementary and Concordia Middle; USD 345 Pleasant Hill Elementary; USD 366 Yates Center Elementary; USD 395 LaCrosse Elementary; USD 415 Hiawatha Elementary and Hiawatha Middle; USD 417 Council Grove Elementary, Prairie Heights Elementary, and Prairie Heights Middle; USD 463 Udall Middle and Udall High; USD 498 Valley Heights Elementary; USD 512 Brookridge Elementary; Z0026 Holy Cross Lutheran [1866] and Trinity Lutheran [5798].

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? Approved the waiver of K.A.R. 91-31-24 for Heller and North Lawn Elementary Schools, USD 461, Neodesha, to allow them to conclude their Cycle 3 of state accreditation by June, 2005.

? Approved grant awards for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) funded K-STARS technical assistance projects for special education for the following: Early childhood - University of KS Center on Developmental Disabilities (KUCDD) at Parsons: University of KS Center for Research - \$375,000; Instructional Resources for the Blind: Kansas State School for the Blind - \$150,000; Instructional Capacity-building: Northeast Kansas Education Service Center - \$462,000; Student Behavior Support: Southeast Kansas Education Service Center - \$97,000; Field Based Consultant Network Facilitation: Beach Center on Disability; University of Kansas Center on Research - \$143,000; Integrated Data Management: Northeast Kansas Education Service Center - \$435,810; Support for Program Outcomes and Teachers: Lawrence USD 297 - \$86,500;? and Southeast Kansas Education Service Center - \$267,500.

? Approved the continuing Carl D. Perkins Leadership Grant with Kansas State University in the amount of \$70,604.00.

Contracts Approved

? Authorized the Commissioner of Education to enter into a contract with the University of Kansas Center for Research to provide the evaluation process and the deliverables to the Kansas State Department of Education for the Laboratory of Education Leaders (KLEL), Wallace Foundation Grant for the 2005-2006 school term with the contract not to exceed \$35,000.

? Authorized the KSSB Superintendent to renew a contract with Accessible Arts, Inc. for arts-related services for students attending KSSB in exchange for KSSB facility use; and statewide outreach services in the Arts (drama, movement, dance, visual arts, and music) for Kansas individuals with disabilities in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

BOARD REPORTS

Board Chairman

Chairman Abrams reported on his unsuccessful attempts to schedule a meeting between the State Board of Education and the Board of Regents.? He indicated that Reggie Robinson, President of the Board of Regents had recently written him and inquired what issues the Board would like to discuss.? Dr. Abrams had responded that the Board wanted to explore Carnegie units versus competencies and transition issues.

2006 NASBE Officers

Chairman Abrams mentioned the letter Board members had received regarding election of 2006 NASBE Officers. After a brief discussion Mrs. Morris moved, with a second by Mrs. Van Meter, that the Kansas State Board of Education cast their vote for Brad Bryant, President-elect; Bob Lazard, Secretary-Treasurer; and Ken Willard, Central Area Director. The motion carried 8-0-1, with Mr. Willard abstaining.

Board Study Session

Chairman Abrams reported that he had reviewed the list of study session topics and recommended that during its June 24th study session, the Board look at the definition of a suitable education; early childhood issues and early childhood education, including faith-based initiatives; and the leadership shortage and teacher tenure. Mrs. Gamble reported that she would be unable to attend the study session because of a meeting in Washington for which she had earlier received approval to attend. After discussing alternate dates, the Board agreed to hold the study session on Thursday, June 16th, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., in conjunction with the June Board meeting.

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Ethics Issues

Chairman Abrams directed the Policy Committee, in collaboration with Dan Biles and Rod Bieker, to develop a policy regarding the receipt of gifts.

Science Hearings

Chairman Abrams gave a brief report on the recent Board Subcommittee Science hearings. He noted that a much more thorough summary would be submitted at the June meeting and that transcripts of the hearings should be available by then.

Legislative Coordinator

Mr. Willard reported that he had met with Deputy Commissioner Dennis and Communications Director Toelkes about the possibility of meetings between the Board and the Legislative Education Planning Committee, perhaps in August and November in conjunction with scheduled Board meetings. He asked for Board consensus, which he received, to contact leadership to schedule the meetings and develop agendas.

Board Attorney's Report

Mr. Biles reported that he had spent time researching ethics rules and had spoken to several state agencies regarding their policies. He indicated he would continue to follow up on the issue prior to work on it with the Policy Committee. Mr. Biles reviewed the agenda for the oral arguments before the Kansas Supreme Court in the school finance case on Wednesday, May 12th. He also reported that he had been working on some personnel matters for KSSD. Dr. Wagon moved, with a second by Mrs. Van Meter, that the Board pay Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for April as presented. The motion carried.

Other Board Member Reports

Dr. Wagon reported he would be attending a meeting in Salem, Massachusetts where Doug Reeves would be speaking about leadership and school reform. Mrs. Morris gave a report on her attendance at a national magnet school conference in Florida. She handed out a written summary to Board members. She also placed on file in the Board office materials she had received at the conference.

