

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

March 13, 2007

Chairman Wagnon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 13, 2007, 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	Jana Shaver
Sally Cauble	Bill Wagnon
Sue Gamble	Ken Willard
Kathy Martin	Janet Waugh

The Board stood for recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chairman Wagnon asked for approval of the agenda. Mrs. Waugh asked that item 16, the Health Education Standards, be pulled and referred back to the standards writing committee for review. She added that she didn't believe the standards sent to the Board were the ones originally recommended by the committee. Mrs. Martin asked about the writing committee, stating her understanding that it had been disbanded. Mrs. Waugh felt that staff would be able to contact some of the members of the committee for the review. Mrs. Gamble moved, with a second by Mrs. Rupe, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried 9-1, with Dr. Abrams voting "no".

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

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

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Dennis updated the Board on recent team and division activities.

RECOGNITION OF SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

The Board recognized Dr. Brenda Dietrich, the 2007 Kansas Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Dietrich, superintendent of Auburn-Washburn USD 437, was also one of four finalists for the National Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Dietrich gave a presentation outlining the initiatives undertaken by her district to improve student performance, including preschool programs; all-day kindergarten; an outdoor environmental science lab; and the REACH program, which allows for a smoother transition to high school for at-risk students. At the conclusion of her presentation she was presented with a certificate of recognition by Chairman Wagnon and photographs were taken.

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chairman Wagnon opened the Citizens' Open Forum at 10:52 a.m. Addressing the Board were Sandy Pickert, representing Abstinence Education, Inc., Wichita; Tom Krebs, Kansas Association of School Boards, Topeka; Richard Soash, representing the Kansas Association of School Librarians, Wichita; Betty Horton, representing the Kansas Association of Public Charter Schools, Topeka; Kirk Fast, Ozawkie; and Sandy Lassiter, Topeka. Chairman Wagnon declared the open forum closed at 11:20 a.m.

BOARD REPORTS

Chairman

Recommendations to Kansas State High School Activities Association for Board of Director Members

Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. Martin, that the State Board forward the names of Gerald Henderson, Dwight Nichols and Greg Herbert to Kansas State High School Activities Association (KSHSAA) for consideration for nomination to at-large positions on the KSHSAA Board of Directors for terms from July 2007 through June 2009. The motion carried.

Increase in the NASBE Professional Development Fund

Mrs. Gamble moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve a \$5,000 increase in its NASBE Professional Development Fund. The motion was seconded by Mr. Willard and passed on a unanimous vote.

Legislative Coordinator

Mrs. Gamble gave a brief report on legislative activity, noting that she had recently testified on the Board's ethics bill.

Board Attorney

Mr. Biles reviewed items in his written report. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. Shaver, that the State Board accept Mr. Biles' report and authorize payment of his fees for services and expenses for February as presented. The motion carried.

Other Board Member Reports

Mrs. Martin handed out copies of a publication she had ordered for each board member on public charter schools. Reporting as a member of the Board Communications Committee, Mrs. Martin reported that she had sent a summary of the February meeting to all newspapers in the state. She also reported on future plans for distribution of board meeting summaries. There was brief discussion about staff preparation of the summary, as well as copies being sent to all Board members.

Mr. Willard reported that NASBE had not received any nominations for Central Area Director for the 2008-2009 term. He, as a member of the Board of Directors, had been contacted about it. He communicated to NASBE that Dr. Abrams was interested in serving and Dr. Abrams had been contacted. He had provided NASBE with the information required to accompany his nomination. Mr. Willard officially moved that Dr. Abrams be nominated by Kansas to serve in the position. Mrs. Gamble indicated she had not realized the position was open and that she was also interested in serving. Dr. Abrams withdrew his name from consideration. Discussion about procedure followed and it was agreed to postpone further discussion of the matter until after lunch when NASBE could be contacted to clarify whether any more nominations could be received since the date had past for receiving them.

Chairman Wagnon reported on the session for superintendents he had attended at the Kaufmann Foundation. He indicated that forty superintendents from each state, Kansas and Missouri, were participating in the three-year professional development opportunity. Dr. Wagnon also reported on his attendance at an Education Summit sponsored by the Learning 1st Alliance from which he had just returned. He said that several issues of merit were discussed and he felt it would be appropriate for the Board to invite the Kansas president, Sandee Crowther, to provide information about activities being undertaken.

Requests for Future Agenda Items

Dr. Wagnon's suggestion that Sandee Crowther be invited to address the board was the only future agenda item mentioned.

GUIDELINES FOR SECLUSION ROOMS AND RESTRAINT

Following discussion after the public hearing in February, the State Board had directed staff to convert the proposed seclusion and restraint regulations for students with disabilities to guidelines, with provision for the monitoring of these activities and reporting to the State Board. KSDE General Counsel Rod Bieker reported that as requested, the proposed regulations had been rephrased as guidelines. He also reported to the Board that a task force, comprised of various stakeholders, has been working to develop measures to supplement these provisions. If the Board adopts the proposed Policy Guidelines, staff of the Department will continue to work with the task force to develop appropriate administrative policies and procedures to implement them and provide technical assistance, training and other support to local school officials. In the discussion that followed, Board members asked that the staff continue to monitor parental complaints. Mrs. Gamble moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the guidelines for seclusion and restraint for students with disabilities be approved as presented. The motion carried by a 7-2-1 vote, with Mr. Willard and Mr. Bacon voting "no", and Mrs. Martin abstaining,

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and resumed at 1:30 p.m.

PRESENTATION ON THE KANSAS PARENT INFORMATION RESOURCE CENTER

Dr. Nancy Kraft, Director of the Kansas Parent Information Resource Center (KPIRC), Lecompton, shared with the Board how the Center is working with Kansas schools to promote parental involvement and provide resources for educators and families on how children can be successful in school. KPIRC receives funding from the U.S. Office of Education under Title V and is the official provider of technical assistance to ensure parental involvement policies and practices are in place in schools and school districts throughout the state.

UPDATE ON THE WRITING ASSESSMENT

Deputy Commissioner Tom Foster reviewed the work of the committee developing accountability targets for the Kansas Writing Assessment. The writing assessment was last given in 2004 and accreditation targets have not been set under the new QPA regulations. He reported that an attempt has been made by the committee to create an accountability system for writing that differs substantially from the current format of reading and mathematics with annual targets that increase every year. The committee's draft features a stable accountability target based on statistical data from student writing assessments in Kansas, a challenging standard for student achievement, technical assurances for large scale assessments, an index to reward significant growth in student achievement, and other components that will maintain quality in writing programs while encouraging growth in student achievement.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

FY 2007 and FY 2008 Budget

Deputy Commissioner Dennis handed out copies of a chart comparing the Governor's current resources budget recommendation to the recommendations of the Senate committee and the House sub-committee. Mr. Dennis also reviewed the status of bills of interest.

PRESENTATION ON KANSAS CAREER INITIATIVES

The Board received an update by Linda Oborny, Assistant Director, State and Federal Programs, on the status of the Kansas Career Pipeline (KCP). An overview of changes within the federal Carl D. Perkins Career and Technical Education legislation was also presented. Mrs. Oborny was asked to provide Board members with information about which technical education programs grant certification upon completion.

14th ANNUAL KSDE CONFERENCE

Lynn Bechtel, Coordinator of the KSDE annual conference extended an invitation to Board members to attend. The conference is to be in Wichita April 24-27, 2007.

CHARTER SCHOOLS

The Board received information on the twenty-one charter school petitions approved by local districts that the Department had received. Mr. Larry Englebrick, Deputy Commissioner, Division of School Innovations gave a PowerPoint presentation and reviewed the process that had been followed. He indicated that a review of the petition instrument and the scoring rubric would be undertaken and any suggested revisions would be brought to the Board by July 1st. He pointed out that the current charter schools grant allows for ten petitions to be funded for the 2007-08 school year. The twenty-one petitions received were reviewed by a committee and scored according to the new rubric. The maximum score was 188, and a charter school had to receive a minimum score of 144 points for it to be recommended to the State Board. He briefly reviewed the charter school petitions that were being recommended for funding. In addition to the ten new charters provided for under the grant, three charter schools previously approved by the Board but not funded were also recommended. Mr. Englebrick answered questions about the funding formula and the grant requirement that urban low income schools be served by the grant. Staff also was asked to provide additional information about the schools being recommended prior to charter school approval by the Board in April. The information requested included the estimated number of students to be served by each.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. Rupe, that the State 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 260, Derby; USD 261, Haysville; USD 315, Colby Public Schools; USD 382, Pratt; USD 404, Riverton; USD 490, El Dorado; and USD 512, Shawnee Mission Schools (2).
- Approved the amendment to the Leavenworth County Special Education Cooperative.
- Approved the Modification of the Agreement for the Learning Cooperative of North Central Kansas (Concordia).
- Received second quarter reports from the Kansas State School for the Deaf and the Kansas State School for the Blind.
- Set a public hearing on the proposed amendments to teacher licensure regulations S.B.R. 91-1-201, 91-1-202, 91-1-203, 91-1-204 and 91-1-209, and new regulation 91-1-234 for Tuesday, June 12, 2007, at 1:30 p.m., or as soon as possible thereafter, in the Board Room of the State Education Building, 120 S.E. Tenth Avenue, Topeka.

- Accepted the recommendations of the Licensure Review Committee in cases 2341, 2355, 2363, 2367, 2369, 2371, 2373, 2374, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383 and 2384
- Approved requests for waivers for individuals to serve outside their area of endorsement in districts as follows: *Adaptive Special Education* Beth Millikan , USD 229, Blue Valley; Heather O'Neal and Mark Barnaby, USD 305, Salina; Melissa Griffith Wiggins, Benjamin Sutherland, Dustin Malone, Edgar Jones, Audrey Fryar, David Flick, Wanda Fielder, Gary Benefield and Kay Gordon, USD 500, Kansas City; *English Language Arts*: Cheryl Poage, USD 385, Andover; *Functional-Extension of number of days*: Cassandra Ramsey, USD 453, Leavenworth; *Gifted*: Robert Evans, USD 202, Turner-Kansas City; Dorothy Harding, USD 368, Paola; Denise Van Degrift, USD 407, Russell County; Victoria Reed, USD 475, Geary County Schools; and Emily Happer, D0608, Northeast KS Education Service Center; *Health*: Brandon Terry, USD 402, Augusta; *Interrelated*: Seth Schwieterman, USD 229, Blue Valley; Laura Stroth, USD 233, Olathe; William Collins, USD 259, Wichita; Michelle Irvine, USD 475, Geary County Schools; Chad Erway, USD 495, Ft Larned; Shawn Neill, USD 497, Lawrence; Donna Campbell and Amy Johnson, D0603, ANW Special Education Cooperative; Laura Meireis, Vonda Bowen, Mark Arnold, Regina Kysar, Jacob Virtue and Jesse Drew, D0611, High Plains Educational Cooperative; Dannah Baker, D0613, Southwest Kansas Area Cooperative; and Robert Mickelson, D0620, Three Lakes Educational Cooperative; *Math-Extension of number of days*: Michael Reichenberger, USD 267, Renwick; and *Substitute – Contracted*: Kathy Dix, USD 271, Stockton.
- Accepted the recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee for "Program Approval" for ACCK, Ft Hays State University, Ottawa University, and the University of Kansas.
- Issued FY 2007 licenses, valid from March 13, through December 31, 2007, to commercial driver training schools, Alef's Riders Edge, Wichita, KS, and Safety First Driving, Olathe, KS.

Contracts Authorized:

Authorize the Superintendent of the Kansas State School for Deaf to enter into a contract with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment and receive payment in the amount of \$50,000 for the development and implementation of a hearing aid loan bank.

BOARD TRAVEL

Mrs. Gamble asked to add salary, per diem and mileage for April 25-27 to attend the KSDE conference. Mrs. Shaver also requested that it be added to her request. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that Board travel requests be approved as amended. The motion carried.

NASBE CENTRAL REGION DIRECTOR

Dr. Wagnon reported that he had received information from NASBE that each state could only nominate one individual for each open NASBE position. Mr. Willard, with a second by Mr. Bacon, nominated Dr. Abrams to be the Kansas nominee for the open position of Central Region Director. Mrs. Gamble, with a second by Chairman Wagnon, nominated herself for the position. A vote on the nominations failed to give a majority to either nominee. Dr. Abrams suggested that because of the lack of a majority that there be no further action and that the Board not forward a nominee. Chairman Wagnon so ruled.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Wagnon adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Bill Wagnon, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary

**KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES**

**Meetings at the Special Schools
March 14, 2007**

**KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
*Annual Visit***

State Board members Bacon, Cauble, Gamble, Martin, Rupe, Shaver, Wagnon and Waugh met with Kansas State School for the Deaf staff at 9:00 a.m. in the IEP Room of the Parks-Pilger Building for the Board's annual visit. Superintendent Robert Maile welcomed Board members. Dr. Maile said that rather than reviewing the 2nd quarterly report which Board members had received in written form, several presentations had been planned. The Board saw student presentations and heard about outreach activities. They also had a presentation from a deaf adult's perspective about navigating education and life. They were given a demonstration of the new video conferencing technology that had been installed at the school. After a tour of the renovated dormitory, the Board ate lunch with staff. They departed for the Kansas State School for the Blind at 12:15 p.m.

**KANSAS STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND
*Annual Visit and Accessible Arts, Inc. Awards***

The Board reconvened at 1:15 p.m. at the Kansas School for the Blind. Board members received the 2nd quarterly report, highlighting several campus-based and statewide outreach initiatives and activities. They also had the privilege to see students and faculty perform two numbers from the spring show, "Andy", scheduled for later in the week. At the conclusion of the KSSB presentations, the Board and KSSB staff were joined by Accessible Arts, Inc., its board, honorees, and guests for the annual awards ceremony at which Chairman Wagnon participated in presenting the awards. The ceremony was followed by a reception to which Board members were invited.

Gaby Lucas received the Distinguished Service award for her work with *The Jellybean Conspiracy*. Gaby Lucas is the resident choreographer for BEST Network and *The Jellybean Conspiracy*.

Two Wichita educators were co-named as Educator of the Year. Nancy Rose works with children who have severe behavior disorders at the Greiffenstein Special Day School, and Susan McHugh works in east Wichita with early childhood and adolescents who have moderate to severe mental retardation. As adaptive music educators in the Wichita public schools, Rose and McHugh have served students with all types of disabilities from ages 3-21. They have also mentored many student teachers.

Activities concluded at 3:20 p.m.

Bill Wagnon, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary