

KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

MEETING MINUTES

April 11, 2000

PREMEETING ACTIVITIES

Board members, Abrams, DeFever, Voth, Wagnon and Waugh, were taken on a bus tour of the five school districts in Doniphan County on Monday afternoon, April 10, 2000. They also attended a reception and dinner hosted by the area districts at the Community Center in Wathena. Later in the evening, Board members had the opportunity to attend meetings of the local boards of education.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Voth called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. on Tuesday, April 11, 2000, at **Troy High School, USD 429, 319 S. Park, Troy, Kansas.**

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams

Harold Voth

John Bacon

Bill Wagnon

Mary Douglass Brown

Janet Waugh

Val DeFever

Mrs. Holloway was delayed because of a personal emergency, Mr. Rundell would not be present at the meeting because of a serious illness in his family, and Mr. Hill had not yet arrived.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Voth asked to add an executive session at the end of the day's agenda. There being no additional changes, Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Dr. Wagnon, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Chairman Voth asked for approval of the minutes of the March, 2000 meeting. Dr. Wagnon asked that the minutes for March 15, 2000, be amended to reflect that he and Mrs. DeFever were not present at the meeting because they were attending a legislative hearing. Dr. Wagnon moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that the minutes be approved as amended. The motion carried.

DONIPHAN COUNTY PRESENTATION

Dr. Wagnon made brief remarks about Doniphan County located in the northeast corner of his Board district, and introduced the individuals who would be making presentations concerning the county. He also introduced Mr. Marty Stessman, Troy High School Principal, and thanked him for the hospitality extended by all in allowing the Board to meet at the school.

Doug Huxman, Superintendent of the USD 429, Troy, discussed some of the unique problems experienced by districts in the county, primarily because of declining enrollment. He introduced Janice Walker, Doniphan County Director of Economic Development. Ms. Walker described the process the county had undergone over the last 10 years to develop a strategic plan to address business and industry growth and increase assessed valuations and the goals established to accomplish the vision reflected in the plan, including tax incentives for neighborhood revitalization and new businesses.

CITIZENS' OPEN FORUM

Chairman Voth declared the Citizen's Open Forum open at 10:30 a.m. Addressing the Board were David Raffel, Lawrence; Mary Kay Culp, representing the Kansas Catholic Conference, Lenexa; and Rodger E. Horton, Winfield. Chairman Voth declared the open forum closed at 10:47 a.m. and called for a break until 11:00 a.m.

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DONIPHAN COUNTY PRESENTATION (continued)

Pat Blocker, Chairperson of the Doniphan County Chamber of Commerce, reviewed Chamber programs, activities and accomplishments. Arlene Robinson, Chairman of the Doniphan County Commission, reported on the county involvement in the Juvenile Justice program and mentoring programs and also reported on the road system in the county that needed to be maintained to transport students to the county schools. Dwayne Scott, Director of the Doniphan County Special Education Cooperative,

reported on efforts towards total implementation of classroom inclusion in the five districts in the county. He reported that major changes had been made in recent years to stabilize policies and procedures to make them consistent throughout all five districts. Von Lauer, Executive Director of the Northeast Kansas School to Work Consortium, Wolf River Center/Greenbush, reported on the commitment to preparing students for the workforce. He indicated the Wolf River Center had grown from serving eight districts to serving twenty-three, and discussed the Center's affiliation with Greenbush. He predicted the Center would be serving twenty-five districts in the 2000-2001 school year. He reported on the relationship the Center had with Highland County Community College, business and industry, and the Northeast Kansas Technical School. He also reported on other services offered to districts in the area of staff development. The final presentation was made by Dr. Betty Stevens, President of Highland County Community College. Dr. Stevens describe the role the community college played as a partner with the districts in assisting students in making the move from K-12 to post-secondary education. She also reported on the many activities held at the community college by the districts or sponsored by the community college for participation by the districts. Mr. Huxman introduced area superintendents who were in attendance. In closing remarks to the presenters, Dr. Wagnon indicated the need for a seamless web between education and the community and noted the need for resources to be directed to strengthening the web. Dr. Wagnon thanked the presenters, on behalf of the Board, for their presentations.

Mrs. Holloway arrived at 11:25 a.m. At the conclusion of the Doniphan County presentations, the Board took a break from 11:50 a.m. until 12 noon.

RECOGNITION OF KANSAS SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis introduced Dr. Milton L. Pippenger, Superintendent of Garden City USD 457, who was named the 2000 Kansas Superintendent of the Year. Mr. Dennis noted that Dr. Pippenger had also been one of the finalists for National Superintendent of the Year. Mr. Dennis also indicated that Dr. Pippenger had been one of the early superintendents to being the school reform process based on data; that he had raised graduation requirements in the district; and that he expected his teachers to be leaders. Dr. Pippenger shared with the Board some of the qualities, experiences and successes that contributed to his state recognition. He noted that his career vision was based on the four principles of the ServiceMaster Corporation: 1) to honor god in all that one does; 2) that a leader's job is to develop people; 3) to pursue excellence; and 4) do what one does profitably. Examples of those principles in action included the commitment to make Garden City a total learning community; efforts to expect excellence from students, such as one math teacher's decision to move pre-algebra to 7th grade and algebra to 8th grade; and the BUFF project, a performance/research project required by each high school senior in the district. Dr. Pippenger noted that to be a successful leader it was important to take chances and try new ideas.

PROGRESS REPORT FROM THE EARLY WARNING TASK FORCE

Dr. Steve Adams, Team Leader for School Improvement and Accreditation, joined Dr. Pippenger and

they provided a progress report on work of the Early Warning Task Force on assisting schools with potential accreditation problems. Their report included a proposed early warning self-assessment system that could be used by schools to further investigate troublesome trends or seek external help in addressing

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problems. The self-assessment would include indicators examining performance on state assessments, locally-determined assessment indicators, and attendance and dropout indicators. In the Board discussion that followed, Dr. Abrams and Mrs. Brown expressed their concern about the recommendation that school staff focus on their school improvement plans if 40% or more of their students scored at the "basic" and "unsatisfactory" levels on the state assessments in reading and mathematics. Both indicated they thought 40% was possibly too high and that the percentage should be lowered. Dr. Pippenger noted the difficulty of the state assessments and suggested that 40% would be a reasonable starting point for some schools, especially when combined with the recommendation that the percentage be lowered by 10% per year in subsequent years because of improvement in scores. Dr. Adams indicated that data would be reviewed in the fall when it became available and that the percentages could possibly change at that time. Dr. Wagnon commended the Task Force on its work and the emphasis on a self-assessment system for schools.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Chairman Voth and Commissioner Tompkins presented Dr. Pippenger with a certificate commending him for being selected as the Kansas Superintendent of Year.

The Board recessed for lunch in the Troy High School cafeteria at 12:40 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:30 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING

Education Licensure Regulations S.B.R. 91-1-200 through 91-1-211 and revocation of Regulations 91-1-26 through 91-1-153.

Chairman Voth opened the public hearing on proposed Education Licensure regulations at 1:30 p.m. Those appearing before the Board to present comments were: Tom Erb, Kansas Association for Middle Level Education; Bill Otto, LeRoy, KS; Ken Weaver, Division of Psychology and Special Education, Emporia State University, Emporia, KS; Noel Mintz, Kansas Driver and Safety Education Association (KDSEA), Emporia, KS; Laura McCall, Kansas Association of School Social Workers, Lawrence, KS; Bob Reeves, Bonner Springs, KS; Jim Hathaway, Bonner Springs, KS; Steve Reynolds, Kansas Teachers of Psychology in Secondary Schools, El Dorado, KS; Jackie Richardson, Kansas Association

of School Psychologists, Lawrence, KS; Vic Lyczak, (KDSEA), Russell, KS; Tom Skrtic, Special Education Advisory Council, Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators (KASEA), Special Education Teacher Education Faculty of the Associated Colleges of Central Kansas, Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Kansas State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Kansas, Washburn University and Wichita State University; Lawrence, KS; Bob Wilburn, Emporia High School;

Marlene Kilgore, (KASEA), Eureka, KS; Doug Bowman, Kansas Coordinating Council, Topeka, KS; Mike Holen, Regents' Council of Education Deans, Manhattan, KS; Rick Lindskog, Kansas Trainers of School Psychologists, Pittsburg, KS; Gretchen Wilbur, Kansas Association of Private Colleges of Teacher Educators, Atchison, KS; Peg Dunlap, Kansas NEA, Topeka, KS; Jason Gray, Kansas Association of Career and Technical Education, Olathe, KS; Dr. Judie Erickson, Leavenworth County Special Education Cooperative, Leavenworth, KS; Dr. Ralph Beacham, JC-TEC, Olathe, KS; John Richard Schrock, Emporia, KS; Trudy Stegelman, Learning Disabilities Association of Kansas, Topeka, KS; C. Wilson Anderson, Jr., KS/WMO Branch of the International Dyslexia Association, Topeka, KS; Pat Easter, Kansas Driving School, Overland Park, KS; Joe Swalwell, Learning Disabilities Association of Kansas, Topeka, KS; and Barbara Palmer, Professional Standards Board, Ulysses, KS. There being no other individuals requesting to speak, Chairman Voth concluded the hearing at 3:00 p.m.

The Board took a break from 3:00 p.m. until 3:17 p.m.

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PUBLIC HEARING

Professional Practices Commission Regulations K.A.R. 91-22-1a through 91-22-26 and Revocation of Regulations 91-1-61

Chairman Voth opened the public hearing on proposed Education Licensure regulations at 3:17 p.m. Peg Dunlap, Kansas NEA, Topeka, KS, presented comments to the Board. There being no other individuals requesting to speak, Chairman Voth concluded the hearing at 3:20 p.m.

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

Department Attorney Kevin Ireland was present to answer questions regarding the recommendations of the Professional Practices Commission. There being none, Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the State Board of Education adopt the findings of fact and conclusions of the Professional Practices Commission and approve the recommendations of the Commission in cases numbered 99-FC-

10, 00-FC-01, 00 FC-02 and 00-FC-10.

PLAN OF CHANGE OF METHOD OF ELECTION AND VOTING PLAN – USD 348

Mr. Ireland explained the request for a plan of change of the method of election and voting plan for USD 348, Baldwin City. He indicated that the criteria for the Board's consideration of a request for such a change is: that the plan of change is complete, be sufficient, and be presented to the Board in a timely manner. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. DeFever, that the State Board find the plan of change to be complete, sufficient and timely, and certify its findings to those persons specified in K.S.A. 72-8006. The motion carried on a vote of 7-0, with Dr. Wagnon abstaining.

LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis reviewed the current status of FY 2001 budget, noting items to be determined when the Omnibus bill is worked. Those included the 4 year-old at-risk funding, juvenile detention facilities, parent education including a reduction in match to 65%, technology infrastructure, restoration of approximately \$6.5 million in KPERS for school employees, and the experimental wraparound project. Mr. Dennis indicated several items would be contingent upon receipt of the federal nursing home care funds. Those included the total increase recommended for base state aid per pupil and the increase of special education funding from 80% to 85%. A line item appropriation of \$30,000 was made for Ag in the Classroom, but funding for other discretionary grants had been eliminated. Funding for the structured mentoring program was eliminated, but \$500,000 had been approved by the Senate for a reading readiness program. Up to \$2 million in savings had been approved by the Legislature for inservice education, but \$1 million of that amount might have to be used for a teacher mentoring program. Deputy Commissioner Dennis also reviewed the status of a number of bills of interest.

GUIDELINES FOR INTERNET-BASED COURSES

Commissioner Tompkins presented to the Board guidelines developed by the Task Force for internet-based courses, with the assistance of members of the education community involved in the area of on-line education. The guidelines addressed two areas: 1) how students enrolled in internet-based courses should be counted as far as school funding is considered; and 2) how to assist districts make decisions as they develop or select internet-based courses for their students. It was proposed that no student be counted as more than 1.0 FTE, and if a student is enrolled in more than one district, then the district in which the student has been regularly enrolled would have first priority in determining the portion of time the student is enrolled in another district. Because decisions regarding course content and assignment of credit are local district responsibilities, it was proposed that the Department of Education develop some model standards for districts to use in making those determinations. Additionally, it was proposed that students taking internet courses be required to take the state assessments and be included in the data use for annual reporting and accreditation decisions.

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REGULATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR REVIEW**Revised Institutional Accreditation and Program Approval Regulations**

The Board was asked for approval to submit revisions to the Institutional Accreditation and Program Approval Regulations for review. The requested revisions had been in response to requests from teacher educators wishing clarification of timelines and types of reports that must be submitted to the state for review. Mrs. DeFever moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that the Board approve submittal of the procedural regulations for Institutional Accreditation and Program Approval, K.A.R. 91-1-68a through 91-1-68e, to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for Review. The motion carried.

Revised Teacher In-Service Education Regulations

The Board was asked for approval to submit revisions to the Teacher In-Service Education Regulations for review. The requested revisions would allow district staff to be reimbursed for their time attending professional development activities during non-contractual time. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. Holloway, that the Board approve submittal of the revised regulations for Teacher In-Service Education, K.A.R. 91-1-146a through 91-1-146e, to the Department of Administration and the Attorney General for Review. The motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by Mrs. Holloway, that the consent agenda be approved as submitted. The motion carried.

In the consent agenda, the State Board:

- Received the monthly personnel report.
- Confirmed the appointments of Amanda Hernandez to an unclassified special projects Secretary I position the under the Reading Excellence Grant, effective March 13, 2000, at an hourly pay rate of \$8.06; and Eric Palmberg to an unclassified special projects Office Assistant III position under the Fedearl Indirect Cost Funds, effective April 3, 2000, at an hourly pay rate of \$8.68.
- Approved school construction plans for USD 261 Haysville; USD 464 Tonganoxie; Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church, Leavenworth; USD 210 Hugoton; USD 232 DeSoto (3 projects); USD 512 Shawnee Mission (2 projects); USD 229 Blue Valley; USD 358 Oxford; USD 239 North Ottawa County; and USD 396 Douglass.
- Approved Cycle I accredited status for Wichita Catholic Diocese: St. Patrick Elementary; USD

232 DeSoto: Woodsonia Elementary; USD 440 Halstead: Halstead Middle School and Halstead High School; USD 259 Wichita: White Elementary; and approved Cycle II accredited status for USD 395 LaCrosse: LaCrosse Elementary; and USD 452 Stanton County: Bib Bow Elementary, Johnson Elementary, State County High School, Manter Elementary and Stanton County Middle School.

- Approved the inservice education plan from Sabetha USD 441.
- Approved a Visiting Scholar certificate for Linda Davis-Stephens to allow her to teach secondary Spanish and political science/government at Jennings High School, USD 1987.
- Approved and ed-flex waiver for USD 260, Derby.
- Approved Parents as Teachers expansion grants for USD 259 Wichita in the amount of \$23,3333.

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- Received a summary of the Quality Performance Accreditation Advisory Council meeting of December 13, 1999.
- Approved requests for waiver of state QPA regulations for the 1999-2000 school year from districts to utilize the services of individuals to teach courses as follows: USD 259 – Tracy Callard and Laura Cusick to teach Gifted Education at the elementary level, and Pamela Stuckey to teach Interrelated Special Education at the elementary level; USD 261 – TaraLynne Wolfenbarger to teach Interrelated Special Education at the elementary level; USD 353 – Jaime Oss to teach Gifted Education at the secondary level; USD Tri-County Special Services Cooperative – Carrie Allison teach Interrelated Special Education at the elementary level; Sedgwick County Area Education Services Interlocal Cooperative #618 – Gary Hogan to teach Interrelated Special Education at the secondary level; Leavenworth County Special Education Cooperative – Christine Edgren to Behavior Disorders at the at the elementary level; Kaw Valley Special Services Cooperative– Mary Eichman to teach Interrelated Special Education at the elementary level; Doniphan County Education Cooperative #616 – Nancy Fuhrman to teach Gifted Education at the secondary level; East Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative – Carol Patton to teach Interrelated Special Education at the secondary level; Barton County Cooperative of Special Education – Tammy Sturn and Patty Tanner to teach Learning Disabilities at the secondary level; USD 309 – Randy Hendrixson to teach Journalism at the secondary level and James McVay as a substitute teacher for a 90-day assignment; USD 265 – Amber Lane as a substitute teacher for a 44-day assignment; USD 305 – Melanie Atkinson as a substitute teacher for a 61-day assignment; USD 456 – Darcie Wooge as a substitute teacher for a 63-day assignment; Learning Cooperative of North Central Kansas – Jolene Claycamp as a substitute teacher for a 180-day assignment; Additionally, a QPA waiver was granted to allow USD 259 Greiffenstein Special Purpose School to postpone its accreditation visit to June 30, 2001, extending its accreditation for one year.

- Issued orders for Wabaunsee County USD 330, Belle Plaine USD 357, and South Haven USD 509 granting them authority to hold an election on the question of the districts' general bond debt limitation.

Contracts Approved:

The Commissioner of Education was authorized to negotiate and enter into a contract with the University of Kansas to develop, operate and host the tenth annual Kansas Governor's Academy for at-risk students in Kansas in June of 2000, with the contract amount not to exceed \$95,000.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Dr. Wagon moved, with second by Mr. Bacon, that the Board recess into an executive session for a period of 20 minutes for the purpose of discussing personnel matters of nonelected personnel so the privacy, confidentiality and other rights of such personnel are not violated, and for consultation with the Board attorney so that the Board could preserve the attorney-client privilege, and that the open meeting of the Board resume at 4:35 p.m. The motion carried. The open meeting resumed at 4:35 p.m.

RECESS

There being no further business, Chairman Voth recessed the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Harold Voth, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary

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CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Voth called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2000, at **Troy High School, USD 429, 319 S. Park, Troy, Kansas.**

ROLL CALL

Members present were:

Steve Abrams

Scott Hill

John Bacon

Harold Voth

Mary Douglass Brown

Bill Wagnon

Val DeFever

Janet Waugh

Linda Holloway

Mr. Rundell was still absent because of a serious illness in his family.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Voth asked for approval of the agenda. Mr. Bacon requested that a new item concerning the science standards be added to the agenda after the Board Policy Committee item. There being no additional changes, Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mrs. Brown, that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

ADOPTION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION REGULATIONS

Dr. Alexa Pochowski, Team Leader, Student Support Services, answered questions and provided explanations regarding concerns that had been expressed about the proposed special education regulations. She reiterated that the proposed regulations did not duplicate what was already included in state law. Dr. Pochowski also explained how the Department intended the guidelines on class-size case-load to be used immediately and modified when the evaluation data was gathered from the models currently being piloted. She indicated that rather than a census-based class-size case-load model, guidelines to be issued and models currently being piloted focused on what was appropriate to the needs of the students and give districts more flexibility in making determinations on class size case-load limits taking into account the specific needs of the students as well as the teacher.

Val DeFever moved, with a second by Janet Waugh, that the State Board of Education adopt the proposed Special Education regulations, K.A.R. 91-40-1 through 91-40-53; and the revoke 91-12-22, 91-12-23, 91-12-24a, 91-12-25, 91-12-27, 91-12-28, 91-12-30, 91-12-31, 91-12-32, 91-12-33, 91-12-35, 91-12-36, 91-12-37, 91-12-38, 91-12-39, 91-12-40, 91-12-41, 91-12-42, 91-12-44, 91-12-45, 91-12-46, 91-12-47, 91-12-48, 91-12-49, 91-12-50, 91-12-51, 91-12-52, 91-12-53, 91-12-54, 91-12-55, 91-12-56, 91-12-57, 91-12-58, 91-12-59, 91-12-60, 91-12-61, 91-12-62, 91-12-63, 91-12-64, 91-12-65, 91-12-66, 91-12-67, 91-12-68, 91-12-69, 91-12-71, 91-12-72, 91-12-73 and 91-12-74. On a roll call vote, the

motion carried 9-0 as follows:

Dr. Steve Abrams 'Yes'

Mrs. Linda Holloway 'Yes'

Mr. John Bacon 'Yes'

Mr. Harold Voth 'Yes'

Mrs. Mary Brown 'Yes'

Dr. Bill Wagnon 'Yes'

Mrs. Val DeFever 'Yes'

Mrs. Janet Waugh 'Yes'

Mr. Scott Hill 'Yes'

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ADOPTION OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES COMMISSION REGULATIONS

Kansas Department of Education General Counsel, Rod Bieker, asked to the Board to adopt the proposed regulations. Bill Wagnon moved, with a second by Val DeFever, that the State Board of Education adopt the proposed Professional Practices Commission regulations, K.A.R. 91-22-1a, 91-22-2, 91-22-4, 91-22-5a, 91-22-7, 91-22-9, 91-22-19, 91-22-22, 91-22-25, and the revocation of 91-22-3, 91-22-8, 91-22-10, 91-22-11, 91-22-12, 91-22-13, 91-22-14, 91-22-15, 91-22-16, 91-22-17, 91-22-18, 91-22-21, 91-22-23, 91-22-24, 91-22-26 and 91-1-61. On a roll call vote, the motion carried 9-0 as follows:

Dr. Steve Abrams 'Yes'

Mrs. Linda Holloway 'Yes'

Mr. John Bacon 'Yes'

Mr. Harold Voth 'Yes'

Mrs. Mary Brown 'Yes'

Dr. Bill Wagnon 'Yes'

Mrs. Val DeFever 'Yes'

Mrs. Janet Waugh 'Yes'

Mr. Scott Hill 'Yes'

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOOL AND READING EXCELLENCE RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

Dr. Sharon Freden, Assistant Commission for Learning Services, was present to answer Board questions

regarding recommendations for exceptional student and school and reading excellence recognition programs. She indicated that the recommendations had been developed in response to the Board's goal of improving state standards and assessments and improving reading achievement. Dr. Freden reported that the fiscal impact of most of the recommendations, except for the two recommendation scholarship programs, the Kansas Governor's Scholarship and the All-Kansas Student Scholarship, which were estimated to require \$3,625,699 and \$4,207,200, respectively. Commissioner Tompkins indicated it would be important to coordinate the scholarship program with the Board of Regents. Dr. Freden reported on the strong public relations emphasis included in the recommendations and the component for recognition of improvement on the state assessments. Board discussion and questions followed. Issues discussed included how to control the number of students eligible for scholarships; the addition of a scholarship or recognition program for students going into technical education programs; and how to make the assessments an accurate measure of academic achievement at the secondary level when there is a huge gap between districts' high school curriculum and what is tested. The purpose of the assessments and standards was discussed and whether they should be connected to what is currently being taught in the classroom, or a challenge for schools to do better. Concern was expressed by Mrs. DeFever about whether the scholarships would go to those who need them.

BUILDING STANDARD OF EXCELLENCE FOR REVISED STATE ASSESSMENTS

Dr. Freden presented a method recommended by staff for establishing a building level standard of excellence for new statewide assessments. The new standard would be based on a distribution of students across the five performance levels, instead of based on a building average score. Dr. Freden indicated that the minimum percentage of students in each performance level required to meet the standard of excellence would not be determined until after the results of the new assessments are computed in the fall. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mrs. Holloway, that the Board direct the state assessment contractor to set a building standard of excellence which takes into account the percentages of students within each performance category. The motion carried.

21ST SCHOOL PERSONNEL SUPPLY AND DEMAND STUDY

Ted Vannocker, Director of Operations, and Eldon Moore, the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence at Emporia State University, presented the most recent study which reveals the current supply and demand for Kansas school personnel. Mr. Vannocker indicated that teacher shortages were noted in math,

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science, foreign language, counseling and, in smaller districts, music. Mr. Vannocker indicated that the

report had a poorer response rate from districts this year because of additional data that had been requested. He stated the hope that a better response would be received in subsequent years by having Deputy Commission Dennis endorse the request for information. Mr. Vannocker was asked for clarification on whether the data on the response rate per State Board member district represented the number of school buildings responding or the number of districts. Mr. Moore indicated the Jones Institute would provide clarification to the Board. Mr. Moore and Mr. Vannocker were also asked about the reliability of the data on non-endorsed applicants. Dr. Freden indicated that a report on the number of teachers teaching outside their area of endorsement would be available in the near future. Dr. Abrams indicated that it might be helpful to have a breakdown of unfilled positions by district size and by urban and rural districts. Dr. Wagon agreed and indicated it would be more valuable information than the breakdown by state board district.

The Board took at break at 10:30 a.m. and returned at 10:45 a.m.

STATE BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Dr. Abrams presented policy changes presented to the Board in March for Board action. The policies included Policy 1012, Citizens' Open Forum; and State School Policies, 3220, Relationship with the Commissioner and Staff, and 3410.2, Conditions for Admission. Dr. Abrams moved with a second by Mrs. Brown, that the Board approve the changes as recommended by the Committee. The motion carried.

Dr. Abrams answered questions about additional policy changes recommendation by the Committee for action at the May meeting. They included Policy 1010, Operation of the State Board of Education, which contained changes in manner in which the Board would conduct its business, dropping Robert's Rules of Order and adding new language; and guidelines on bond elections. Mrs. DeFever asked why Robert's Rules were being dropped. Dr. Abrams noted that rules were very detailed and weren't consistently followed. Mrs. DeFever indicated she would like the Committee to reconsider audio- or videotaping the Board meetings and that it would hold the Board more accountable. Mr. Bacon agreed. Dr. Abrams responded that the Board's attorney had indicated taping would cause more problems than it would solve. Mr. Biles and Department General Counsel Bieker reviewed their concerns about taping meetings.

COVER LETTER TO ACCOMPANY THE KANSAS SCIENCE CURRICULUM STANDARDS

Mr. Bacon passed out copies of a revised motion regarding the science standards. Mr. Bacon stated that in an effort to better educate the public concerning the Kansas State Board of Education's decision on the state science standards and to help communicate the Board's position, that he moved that the State Board take the necessary steps to start a dialog in the major newspapers in Kansas and sponsor informative debates about the State Science Curriculum Standards. Further, that the Chair and Vice-Chair will appoint a committee to make the appropriate arrangements including, but not limited to: newspaper contacts, number of debates, dates, location, participants, co-sponsors (if any) and other items needed to further the goal of sponsoring the informative debates and participating in a newspaper

dialog. Mrs. Brown seconded the motion. Mr. Bacon was asked by Mrs. Waugh why the motion was being brought back to the Board when it had failed at the February meeting. He indicated he wanted to bring the item back to the Board for reconsideration. Mrs. Waugh expressed several concerns, including the fact that no one had defined what an informative debate would be, stating that the public was already well-informed on the Board's action regarding the standards. She indicated that elected officials do not have to debate why they make the decisions they make. Dr. Wagnon suggested that if individual Board members were

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concerned that there was misinformation being given to the public then those members, individually, could make the effort to clarify the issues. Mrs. Waugh noted that if the suggested action had been done closer to the time the science standards had been adopted by the Board, it would have made sense, but to do it at this time could be perceived by the public as a platform for re-election. Further discussion followed and included questions about what information the public had not already received and who the Board would debate. The motion failed on a vote of 5-4, with Mr. Voth, Mrs. DeFever, Dr. Wagnon and Mrs. Waugh voting "no".

Chairman Voth handed out a copy of a letter that he proposed be included with the science standards when they are sent to schools. Mr. Hill moved, with a second by Mr. Bacon, that the letter (a copy of which is attached) proposed by Chairman Voth be sent as a cover letter with the science standards when they are mailed to all school districts and that it also be issued as a press release. Dr. Wagnon moved that the motion be amended to include a change in the letter which would remove the purpose of the Board's efforts in rewriting the standards. Mrs. Waugh seconded the motion the motion to amend, which failed on a vote of 3-6, with Dr. Abrams, Mr. Bacon, Mrs. Brown, Mr. Hill, Mrs. Holloway, and Mr. Voth voting "no". The vote on the original motion carried on a vote of 6-3, with Mrs. DeFever, Dr. Wagnon and Mrs. Waugh voting "no".

BOARD REPORTS

Board Attorney

Mr. Biles reported on his recent activity on behalf of the Board. He indicated that the plaintiffs in the school finance case had asked for a year's worth of discovery time. Mr. Biles noted that the delay was appropriate if there was a possibility that the legislature might change the school finance formula during the next session. Mr. Biles also reported that this was the first time in three years that the Board had not been a defendant in a special education case. Mr. Biles also reported that he had been spending quite a bit of time on Kansas State School for the Deaf personnel matters. Dr. Abrams moved, with a second by

Mrs. Brown, that Mr. Biles' fees for services and expenses for March be paid as presented. The motion carried.

Legislative Coordinator

Mrs. DeFever gave a brief legislative report, noting that she had been in Topeka quite a bit. She indicated her concern on the minimum skills bill and Carl Perkins funding.

Commissioner

Commissioner Tompkins reviewed his written report. He reported on the reallocation of the space previously used by Community Colleges and the agency-wide computer migration. He also asked Dr. Freden to report to the Board on the next meet of the external assessment advisory committee which would be held June 8-9 at the Embassy Suites in Overland Park.

Board Member Reports

Mrs. DeFever reported on attendance at a school dedication; an early childhood stakeholders meeting where the need for quality child care for children ages 1-5 was discussed, especially help with school readiness skills. She also mentioned the need for an early childhood endorsement. Mrs. DeFever also reported on her attendance at the most recent Professional Standards Board meeting, noting that the Board was a very functional, broad-based group.

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MINUTES

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Mrs. Waugh reported on her attendance at the New American Schools Conference in Washington, D.C. and National School Board Associations' annual meeting in Orlando, FL. She mentioned how well-represented Kansas was in the school displays. She also reported briefly on the sessions she had attended.

Mrs. Holloway thanked Board members for their expression of sympathy when her father passed away. She also indicated she would like to have a session at a future Board meeting with individuals with concerns about special education and social studies endorsements in the proposed educator licensure regulations.

VOTE OF APPRECIATION FOR USD 429

Dr. Wagon moved, with a second by Mr. Hill, that the Board extend its appreciation to USD 429, Troy,

Superintendent Doug Huxman, and Troy High School Principal, Marty Stessman, for their generosity and hospitality in hosting the Board meeting. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF BOARD TRAVEL

Chairman Voth asked that a meeting in Pratt be added to his request. Mrs. Waugh asked that a dinner meeting at the Kansas State School for the Blind be added. Dr. Abrams asked to add a Byrd Scholarship meeting in Topeka. Mr. Bacon moved, with a second by Mrs. Waugh, that the travel requests be approved as amended. The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Voth asked for a motion to adjourn. Mrs. DeFever, with a second by Dr. Abrams moved that the meeting be adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned.

Harold Voth, Chairman

Penny Plamann, Secretary

LETTER PROPOSE BY CHAIRMAN VOTH

Referred to in Motion by Mr. Hill

4/12/00

DATE

To: Kansas Educators

Setting high standards of achievement for all Kansas students continues to be of primary importance to the State Board of Education. The science standards contained in this document reflect the State Board's efforts to strengthen state standards and assessments by providing greater clarity and specificity as to what students should know and be able to do.

Even while expressing the hope that these standards provide a framework for local curriculum development efforts, we cannot ignore the significant amount of contention and speculation that has surrounded the science standards since their adoption by the State Board. For clarification purposes, it should be noted that the science standards contained in this document still include the evolutionary concepts of variation within a species and natural selection. However, the standards do not include the evolutionary theory that one species can evolve into another species, references to geologic time or the

Big Bang theory of the origin of the Earth.

The absence of those items in the standards does not prevent schools from providing instruction in those areas. While it is the hope and intent of the State Board that all schools will teach up to the standards, each school also has the ability to teach beyond the standards.

We remain grateful to all the educational stakeholders who provided input on how to strengthen these curricular standards. Your continued efforts to improve student learning in Kansas are appreciated.

Sincerely,

The Kansas State Board of Education