CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Jim McNiece called the monthly meeting of the State Board of Education to order at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2015, in the Board Room at the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas. He welcomed special guests in attendance from Wichita State University and students from the pre-service teacher programs at Baker University and the University of Saint Mary.

ROLL CALL
The following Board members were present:
Kathy Busch  Carolyn Wims-Campbell  Deena Horst
Jim McNiece  Jim Porter  Steve Roberts
Janet Waugh  Ken Willard

Board member John Bacon was absent; Sally Cauble arrived later in the morning.

STATE BOARD MISSION STATEMENT, MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Chairman McNiece read the Board’s Mission Statement. He then asked for a moment of silence after which the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Mrs. Horst moved to approve the one-day meeting agenda. Mrs. Busch seconded. Motion carried 7-1, with Mr. Roberts in opposition.

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER MEETING MINUTES
Ms. Wims-Campbell moved to approve the minutes of the September Board meeting. Mr. Porter seconded. Motion carried 8-0.

COMMISSIONER’S REPORT
Dr. Randy Watson shared highlights from his visits around the state the past couple of months. He has been to eight institutions of higher learning, service centers several times, and 45 different schools.
He noted the diversity evident in the challenges and strengths each district experiences. Schools were in rural and urban locations, and ranged in enrollment classifications from 1A to 6A. Several of his school visits were with State Board members from those areas.

RECEIVE RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO SCHOOL BUS SAFETY REGULATIONS
K.S.A. 8-2009a authorizes the Kansas State Board of Education to adopt rules and regulations concerning school buses. Proposed amendments to School Bus Regulations 91-38-1, 91-38-2, 91-38-3, 91-38-4, 91-38-5, 91-38-6 and 91-38-8 were presented. Keith Dreiling with KSDE’s school bus safety division explained that revisions to seven of the 10 bus regulations are being recommended to correspond with current state and federal laws as well as national standards for the advancement of safety. He then answered Board members’ questions. The Board is expected to vote next month to submit the proposed amendments to the Department of Administration and Attorney General for review.

CITIZENS’ OPEN FORUM
Chairman McNiece declared the Citizens’ Forum open at 10:35 a.m. Speakers and their topics were:
Dr. Anke Wells, representing World Language Teachers — recommendation to include world languages in public school curriculum; Colby Lake, student at Seaman High School — support for learning
RECEIVE BIANNUAL REPORT FROM COALITION OF INNOVATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

The Coalition of Innovative School Districts is required to report twice a year to the State Board of Education. Bev Mortimer, representing the Coalition of Innovative School Districts, shared highlights from the six designated Innovative Districts. She first reported on the work of Concordia USD 333 citing achievements since the baseline year of 2014. There have been changes in superintendents at three of the CISDs, so Ms. Mortimer commented on these transition periods. Bill Mullins, Superintendent at Marysville USD 364, discussed his district’s efforts, including the evaluation of ACT Aspire test results as compared to the state assessment results. The 2016 CISD meeting dates were presented.

Board member Mrs. Cauble arrived at 11:10 a.m.

KANSAS SCHOOL WELLNESS POLICY MODEL GUIDELINES — USD IMPLEMENTATION

The Kansas School Wellness Policy Model Guidelines include goals for nutrition, nutrition promotion and education, physical activity, and other school-based activities that promote student wellness. Cheryl Johnson, Director of Child Nutrition and Wellness, and Dr. Mark Thompson, Healthy Kansas Schools Project Director, presented an overview of the new wellness policy impact tool used to assess policies in place and report data on progress. Mrs. Johnson focused on nutrition elements, while Dr. Thompson addressed physical activity and integrated school-based wellness. Representatives from Seaman USD 345 and Lawrence USD 497 gave specific examples of wellness activities, particularly related to physical activity.

UPDATE ON KANSAS VOLUNTEER COMMISSION

Kansas Volunteer Commission Executive Director Brittany Crabtree provided an overview of the KVC and its focus areas, which address community needs through service. She highlighted recent recognition for the number of young people volunteering in Kansas, a new KVC logo and achievements of the Kansas Mentors program. The organization’s guiding document — a state service plan — is due to be revised by Spring 2016. Ms. Crabtree is seeking Board member input for the plan, including identifying ways the KVC might align with the State Board’s vision over the next three years.

LUNCH

At 12:15 p.m., Chairman McNiece recessed the meeting for lunch until 1:30 p.m.

INFORMATION ON ANTI-BULLYING AWARENESS WEEK

The first full week in October is designated as Anti-Bullying Awareness Week in Kansas. Schools across the state had access to resources to generate awareness and address the harm that bullying creates. Education Program Consultant Kent Reed showed several examples of school projects to promote kindness. He presented information from a bullying data report that indicates a reduction in the number of physical bullying incidents and a greater focus on addressing cyberbullying. Dr. Anne Williford from the University of Kansas, shared data from 10 statewide anti-bullying policy workshops conducted in 2013 and 2014. The information included statistics related to gender, school setting (urban or rural), and training for school personnel.

RECEIVE KANSAS CURRICULAR STANDARDS FOR MUSIC

Joyce Huser, Fine Arts Education Program Consultant, introduced members of the revision committee tasked with updating the Kansas Curricular Standards for Music. Martha Gabel of Olathe Public
Schools identified the revision process, explaining that both the structure and artistic process are consistent with the National Music Standards. The Kansas Music Standards are divided into a section specific to PreK-8 general music (listed by grade level) and another section specific to ensembles (listed by skill level). Members of the revision committee answered questions. This was a receive item intended for a vote next month.

**ACTION ON NEW APPOINTMENT TO PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD**
Chairman McNiece noted the submission of a second nomination for the open position on the Professional Standards Board. There are two nominees to represent public middle school administrators. Ms. Wims-Campbell moved to appoint Keith Jones, Principal at Chase Middle School (USD 501), to fill a partial term on the Professional Standards Board to run from Oct. 13, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Mrs. Horst seconded. Motion carried 9-0.

**ACTION ON NEW APPOINTMENT TO LICENSURE REVIEW COMMITTEE**
Mr. Roberts moved to appoint Amy De LaRosa (Eudora Elementary USD 491) to a partial term on the Licensure Review Committee to run from Oct. 13, 2015 through June 30, 2016. Mrs. Cauble seconded. Motion carried 9-0. Ms. De LaRosa will represent building-level administrators. Appointments for both the PSB and LRC were brought forth by Dr. Scott Myers, Director of Teacher Licensure and Accreditation.

**ASSESSMENT UPDATE**
Dr. Scott Smith and Beth Fultz from KSDE’s Career Standards and Assessment Services team reported on Kansas assessment activities. Mrs. Fultz explained that the first day of KSDE’s annual conference (Oct. 26) will be dedicated to sessions for new test coordinator training and test security training. There will also be breakout sessions on various topics related to 2016 assessments plus an opportunity to visit with help desk staff. Oct. 12-31 is the period individual districts may review their data from the spring assessments. Dr. Smith discussed a recent meeting of the Kansas Technical Advisory Council. He also explained that the U.S. Department of Education has released updated peer review evaluation criteria for state assessment systems.

**ACCREDITATION UPDATE**
Dr. Scott Myers, Director of Teacher Licensure and Accreditation, highlighted work that has taken place with the Kansas Education Systems Accreditation (KESA), beginning in 2010 to the present. KSDE and the accreditation advisory council have been addressing process details for cycle years one through five as well as creating additional professional learning opportunities for the field. One focus is asking school districts to examine their current efforts as they relate to the five Rs of the accreditation model and the Rose Capacities. There is also work on the fifth R (results), considering possible measurements in the categories of academic/cognitive, technical/career-specific, employability, and post-secondary evidence. Dr. Myers then answered Board members’ questions.

The Board took a break from 3:20 to 3:35 p.m.

**ACTION ON REQUIREMENT OF SSHB 2095 - DETERMINING HARD-TO-FILL POSITIONS**
Senate Substitute for House Bill 2095 requires the State Board of Education to annually certify the top five types of licensed positions that are hard to fill. Once determined, a school district would be allowed to hire retirees in those positions, plus special education, for up to three years if districts are willing to pay the KPERS surcharge. Deputy Commissioner Dale Dennis presented the top five list which was a result of vacancies reported by school districts on Sept. 1. Discussion followed about the information, the designations of secondary versus junior/middle school, and the licensure types that ranked #6 and #7 on the vacancy list. Variations of the recommended motion were considered. After more discussion, Mrs. Waugh moved to approve the following positions as hard to fill for the 2015-16 school year.
school year: English Language and Literature (secondary), science (secondary), Elementary Classroom Teacher, Mathematics (secondary) and Fine Arts. Mr. Porter seconded. Motion carried 9-0.

CONSENT AGENDA
Mrs. Busch moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Wims-Campbell seconded. Motion carried 8-1 with Mrs. Roberts in opposition. In the Consent Agenda, the Board:

- received the monthly Personnel Report for September.
- confirmed the unclassified special project personnel appointment of Tessa Adcock as Public Service Executive II on the Child Nutrition and Wellness team effective Sept. 28, 2015 at an annual salary of $53,414.40.
- accepted the following recommendations for licensure waivers valid for one school year:
  
  **Adaptive Special Education** — Kyle Zuber, USD 260; Lita Zimmerman, USD 405; Claire Willms, USD 409; Geovanni Popoca, Amy Dale, Caryn Riddle, Jennifer Mendez, USD 409; Daniel Sheely, Douglas Alderman, Molly Mosher, Sarah Laffere, Ursula Conley, April Hayden, Karen Hay, Marie Jones, Amy French, Brittany Ford, Ryan Nuessen, USD 475; Jessica Rall, Mindy Christensen, Sara McKnight, Tracie Betz, Travis Betz, D0602; Stephanie Groth, Kendra Mattox, Malinda Williams, Jeffrey House, D0607; Michael Ayers, Rachel Zamaitis, D0609; Jessica Fischer, Tori Olberding, Mark Lackey, D0615; Cathleen Gibson, D0636; Bridget Esaw, D0637. 
  
  **Early Childhood Special Education** — Michelle Gregory, D0637.
  
  **Early Childhood/Preschool** — Rita Boles, D0602; Ratava Moyer, D0637. 
  
  
  **Functional Special Education** — Carol Finley, Molly Whitwell, USD 260; Amanda Edwards, Heather Ackley, Jason Curley, USD 469; Jillian Walker, Victoria Starr, D0607; Christopher August, Melissa Kinney, Christa Scritchfield, D0637.
  
  **Gifted** — Shari Norman, USD 382; Katherine Clapp, Whitney Chism, D0609.
  
  **Visual Impaired** — Charina Flores, USD 512.

- authorized the Commissioner of Education to negotiate and

  - enter into a contract with US Games to provide Tier 3 support services for Fitnessgram for the purpose of continuing the Kansas Fitness Information Tracking project (K-FIT) from Nov. 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017 with a contract amount not to exceed $20,000;
  
  - enter into a contract with North Central Kansas Technical College to provide service in coordinating, training and implementing the Microsoft IT Academy in secondary schools across Kansas in an amount not to exceed $30,000;
  
  - extend the current Microsoft IT Academy contract with JourneyEd for the purpose of allowing Kansas high school students to take Microsoft certification exams for free and to access Microsoft curriculum and resources in an amount not to exceed $494,608.20 for each of the two remaining years (November 2015-November 2017).

DISCUSSION ON 2016 BOARD MEETING DATES
Board members were presented a draft calendar of meeting dates for 2016, which follows the traditional format of two-day meetings on the second Tuesday and Wednesday of each month. Discussion followed. Chairman McNiece noted that the 2016 November Tuesday meeting date coincided with election day. Board members are expected to vote on the schedule next month.

ACTION ON REVISIONS TO NASBE BYLAWS
The Kansas State Board of Education is a member of the National Association of State Boards of Education. NASBE’s Board of Directors will vote on recommended changes to the association’s governing bylaws at its annual meeting in October. Chairman McNiece highlighted the proposed revisions. Each
member state has a voting delegate. Mr. Willard moved to authorize Carolyn Wims-Campbell to vote for the NASBE Bylaw changes. Mrs. Horst seconded. Motion carried 9-0.

**BOARD REPORTS & FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Communication — Mrs. Cauble noted that there would be additional communication plans to promote the Board’s new vision.

NASBE Leadership Stipend — Mrs. Busch reported on the KELI mentor/mentee training session Sept. 10. She also discussed potential outreach to increase dialogue opportunities with other educational organizations as a continuation of stipend activities.

ESI Task Force — Task Force representative Jim Porter reported that there were numerous presentations at the last meeting from parents and school officials. A subcommittee is scheduled to meet Oct. 19 and the full task force on the 20th.

Board Attorney Mark Ferguson provided updates on the Petrella lawsuit involving local option budgets and the plaintiffs’ petition for certification to the U.S. Supreme Court asking for review of the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals’ decision. He also shared key dates on the Gannon school finance litigation.

During individual Board member reports, Mrs. Busch attended the reunion tour forum at Clearwater and toured schools in her district with Dr. Watson; Mr. Willard participated in the C3 conference in New Orleans and attended the reunion tour forum at Hutchinson; Mrs. Cauble attended reunion tours in her district, local school board meetings in Ellis and Ashland, and Achieve’s science networking conference; Ms. Wims-Campbell was a guest at Schweger Elementary School in Lawrence for National School Lunch Week, participated in the Kansas Volunteer Commission meeting in Hays, and toured the Kansas juvenile complex in Topeka; Mrs. Waugh’s activities included a ribbon cutting in Lawrence, reunion tour in Olathe, Kansas City and Topeka; Mr. Porter attended reunion tours at three locations, the Altamont Site Council meeting, and visited Tri City School in Haysville; Mrs. Horst commented on the partnership event with KELI in Manhattan; the Kansas Teacher of the Year regional meetings, the reunion tour in Salina, and KASB’s fall summit; Mr. Roberts will attend an education summit in Denver this month.

Requests for Future Agenda Items: Mr. Porter would like to continue the format of a work session on the second day of the Board meeting; Mrs. Waugh requested three topics for future meetings: foreign language in schools, mental health among Kansas youth, and promotion of the education profession to offset teacher shortage.

Chairman Jim McNiece expressed appreciation to Randy Watson and Brad Neuenswander for the original vision tour and the follow-up visits. He talked about the NASBE annual conference next week in Baltimore and the potential for more NASBE regional meetings as the organization moves away from study groups. Mr. McNiece gave examples of school efficiencies he witnessed while visiting schools in his district.

**BOARD MEMBER TRAVEL**

Additions to the travel requests were: Mrs. Busch Oct. 28 KSHSAA mini regional meeting in Maize; Ms. Wims-Campbell Oct. 12 visit to Schweger Elementary in Lawrence; Mrs. Cauble Nov. 5 legislative forum in Garden City. Mrs. Horst moved to approve the travel list and additions. Mr. Roberts seconded. Motion carried 9-0.
ADJOURNMENT
Chairman McNiece adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m. He reminded members that part three of the Board retreat and vision planning would begin at 9 a.m. on Wednesday at the KASB offices.

Jim McNiece, Chairman
Peggy Hill, Secretary

BOARD RETREAT AND VISION PLANNING
The Kansas State Board of Education convened at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 14, for a retreat and vision planning session, which was held at the KASB Offices, 1420 SW Arrowhead Rd., Topeka. Board members in attendance were: Chairman McNiece, Vice Chair Wims-Campbell, Mrs. Waugh, Mr. Roberts, Mrs. Cauble, Mrs. Horst, Mr. Willard, Mrs. Busch and Mr. Porter. Commissioner Randy Watson led discussions on the role of K-12 in implementing the Board’s vision for education. Topics focused on strategic activities (i.e. school climate, career planning, individualized instruction) and what the State Board wants to use as measurable outcomes for their vision. Board members evaluated multiple potential ways to monitor efforts at the state level. There was no Board action.