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Kansas State Board of Education
Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Call to Order

Chair Melanie Haas called the meeting of the Kansas State Board of Education to order at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, January 14, 2025, in the boardroom of the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson St., Topeka, Kansas.

Roll Call

The following Board members were present:

- Mrs. Betty Arnold
- Mrs. Michelle Dombrosky
- Mrs. Melanie Haas, Chair
- Mr. Dennis Hershberger
- Mrs. Cathy Hopkins
- Dr. Beryl New
- Mrs. Connie O'Brien
- Mrs. Debby Potter
- Mr. Jim Porter, Vice Chair
- Mr. Danny Zeck

The Board attorney, Mr. Mark Ferguson and Commissioner Dr. Randy Watson were in attendance at the Board table.

Swearing In Ceremony

The entire board was sworn in, some for the first time, some for the tenth time, as a group. This was a ceremonial oath that was expanded to include all. After the Pledge of Allegiance, the Shawnee Heights High School Choraliers sang the National Anthem. Student members: Reese Bell, Jean Busby, Aiden Corner, Ella Devena, Leia Farias, Jaidyn Fountaine, Isabelle Hogan, Reagan Holte, Grant Michaud, Scarlet Mink, Gretchen Morelinton, Markell Rice, Carter Ryan, Halle Sanders, Wren Smith, Laura Sobba, Connall Stevenson, Fiona Stevenson, Ty Thompson, Ben Wills. Nicolas Carr, Director

4:07
Oath

The Honorable Kansas State Supreme Court Chief Justice Marla Luckert was present and made these remarks:

“The Kansas State Board of Education is responsible for the policy that guides the path of 455,815 students’ pre-kindergarten through high school. As a Board you

represent approximately 2,112,590 constituents of voting age. Each of you represents approximately 290,000 persons in your district. This responsibility calls for dedication, patience, and the ability to use your gifts and talents collaboratively with your fellow board members. To that end we ask that you take the oath of office today, collectively.

(Each member stood as they were introduced.)

Danny Zeck, District 1, elected in 2022, has served two years and will be serving two more years in his term.

Melanie Haas, District 2, first elected in 2020, has served four years and has been reelected in 2024 to serve four more years.

Michelle Dombrosky, District 3, first elected in 2018, reelected in 2022, has served six years and will be serving two more years in her term.

Connie O'Brien, District 4, newly elected in 2024 to serve four years in her term.

Cathy Hopkins, District 5, elected in 2022, has served two years and will be serving two more years in her term.

Dr. Beryl New, District 6, newly elected in 2024 to serve four years in her term.

Dennis Hershberger, District 7, elected in 2022, has served two years and will be serving two more in his term.

Betty Arnold, District 8, elected in 2020, has been reelected in 2024, has served four years and will serve four more years in her term.

Jim Porter, District 9, elected in 2014, reelected in 2018 and 2022, has served ten years and will serve two more years in his term.

Debby Potter, District 10, newly elected in 2024 to serve four years in her term.

Please raise your right hand and repeat after me:

I do solemnly swear

That I will support the Constitution of the United States

And the Constitution of the State of Kansas

And faithfully discharge the duties of my office

As a member of the Kansas State Board of Education.

So help me God."

The Choraliers then sang the Kansas state song with all present joining in the chorus:

Home, Home on the Range.

Where the deer and the antelope play.

Where seldom is heard a discouraging word

And the skies are not cloudy all day.

Approval of the Agenda

Chair Haas asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda for both Tuesday and

18:32
Agenda

Wednesday. Mrs. Potter requested that items h and i be removed from the consent agenda for discussion. Mrs. Dombrosky requested items d, e, f, g and h be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

Mrs. Arnold moved to approve the agenda for Tuesday and Wednesday as amended. Mr. Zeck seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Approval of the November 12 & 13, 2024 minutes

Mrs. Dombrosky reported she shared a few corrections with the board secretary and those will be made prior to the minutes being made public. Chair Haas asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Mrs. Hopkins moved to accept the minutes of November 12 & 13, 2024.

Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Election of Chair, Vice Chair, Legislative Liaison, Policy Committee

Mr. Porter move to nominate Mrs. Hopkins as chair. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. A written ballot was taken, and Mrs. Hopkins was elected unanimously.

After the election of a new chair, Mrs. Hopkins and Mrs. Haas switched places, and Mrs. Hopkins chaired the meeting.

Mrs. Dombrosky moved that Mr. Zeck be elected vice chair. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Mrs. Haas moved to nominate herself for vice chair. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. A written ballot of was taken and Mr. Zeck received 7 votes, Mrs. Haas received 3 votes. Mr. Zeck was elected vice chair, 7-3. The list of individual votes is as follows:

Mrs. Betty Arnold voted for Mrs. Haas

Mrs. Michelle Dombrosky voted for Mr. Zeck

Mrs. Melanie Haas voted for Mrs. Haas

Mr. Dennis Hershberger voted for Mr. Zeck

Mrs. Cathy Hopkins voted for Mr. Zeck

Dr. Beryl New voted for Mr. Zeck

Mrs. Connie O'Brien voted for Mr. Zeck

Mrs. Debby Potter voted for Mr. Zeck

Mr. Jim Porter voted for Mrs. Haas

Mr. Danny Zeck voted for Mr. Zeck

After the election of Mr. Zeck he changed places with Mr. Porter and took over his duties as vice chair.

18:40
Minutes

19:15
Elections

After a discussion about the pattern for legislative liaisons involvement in the 2025 Kansas Legislature. Mrs. Arnold moved that the chair and vice chair be elected as the legislative liaisons. Mrs. Dombrosky seconded the motion. **Motion carried 10-0 and Mrs. Hopkins and Mr. Zeck were elected as legislative liaisons.**

Mr. Porter moved and Dr. New seconded to elect Betty Arnold for the Policy Committee. **Motion carried 10-0 and Mrs. Arnold was elected to the Policy Committee.**

Mr. Hershberger moved, and Mrs. Arnold seconded to elect Mrs. Haas to the Policy Committee. **Motion carried 6-4 and Mrs. Haas was elected to the Policy Committee.**

Mrs. Potter moved, and Mr. Zeck seconded that Mrs. Dombrosky be elected to the Policy Committee. **Motion failed 5-5.** (the vote must be 6)

Mrs. Haas moved, and Mrs. Arnold seconded that Mr. Hershberger be elected to the Policy Committee. **Motion passed 9-1 and Mr. Hershberger was elected to the Policy Committee.**

The Policy Committee will be Mrs. Arnold, Mrs. Haas, and Mr. Hershberger.

Commissioner's Report

Dr. Watson welcomed the new board members and the new leadership. He spoke about the paradox of technology, describing his recent trip to a volleyball tournament where he had to use his phone to get into the venue because they did not accept cash. It is a new world, where the way we function in a day to day way has changed. Educators are concerned about screen time, and yet technology is an undeniable part of functioning in modern society. He described his great grandmother and the changes that took place in her era. The inventions automobiles, moving pictures, and radios were challenges to the older generation. Technology is going forward. There is no denying that. He showed a photo of two lumberjacks chopping down a tree and Dr. Watson asked, "As you do the hard work is it the right work? Or should you be on the other side of the forest?"

Some say education needs to change dramatically to reflect the dominance of technology in our current world, others say education needs to return to the good old days and just provide the "basics." What matters? Academics. Reading is primary. Math/Science are next. One of the primary challenges to success in school is chronic absenteeism. Children who test in the lower levels have high levels of chronic absenteeism. Again, Dr. Watson emphasized, "Academics matter. Soft skills, employability skills, and Kansas Can Competencies, are also important."

49:10
Report

Dr. Watson went through the process that was used to teach him how to read when he was a young child. Over the years new methods have emerged. The State Board is investing in training all the teachers and administrators to teach with the Science of Reading and have instituted an immediate stop to the practice of *3 cueing*. The Board has required all students in college, preparing to teach elementary school, to have Science of Reading courses and demonstrate a high degree of knowledge and fluency. The Board now requires all elementary educators/administrators to demonstrate their knowledge of the Science of Reading by 2028. There has been a slight increase in student outcomes, not enough, but on the right track.

Dr. Watson shared the news that Janet Waugh, who served on the State Board for 24 years, died this past week. Her funeral is Saturday, January 18th. Dr. Watson expressed his sympathy to her family and celebrated her long years of service.

Citizen's Forum

1:28:00
Forum

Chair Hopkins opened the Citizen's Forum at 11:30 a.m.

Representative Steve Huebert, Valley Center, introduced himself as a long time legislator who has been very involved in education. He stated that he would like to be a collaborator with the Board.

Phyliss Setchell, Topeka, brought the Hillsdale curriculum for the Board to read. Hillsdale is a university, and their curriculum is open to all. She spoke about the importance of liberty.

Patty Lantor, Olathe, is the mother of three children. Mrs. Lantor was concerned about the recent Power School data breach which affected schools across Kansas. She asked that the Board put children first and protect their data. She is against data collecting in schools. Personal information should be safe. Centralized data is dangerous.

Review/Discussion of appointments to be made by Chair, Vice Chair and Commissioner

3:33:00
Board appts.

Chair Hopkins noted that all the committees are "vacated" and available for board members. She asked that all the members make a list of the top three or four committees that they would like to join and to give that to her by the end of the day. She will fill the appointments on committees with upcoming meetings as soon as possible and present a full list at the next board meeting.

Act on appointment of Board Attorney and Board Secretary

3:36:00
Positions

Dr. Watson noted that the appointment of the board attorney is not dependent on the contract which ends on June 30, 2025. There is a *Request for Proposal* (RFP) for the attorney and that will come before the board prior to June 2025.

Mrs. Haas moved to appoint Deborah Bremer as the board secretary. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Mrs. Arnold moved to appoint Mark Ferguson as the board attorney. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried 10-0.

Legislative Report and Update

Dr. Harwood explained to the Board how the legislature begins a two year cycle in 2025 and how the bills are introduced and tracked. If a bill is of importance to the Board, Gabrielle Hull, Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) legislative coordinator, will create a description and give that to the Board chair and vice chair (as the Board legislative liaisons) and then they can decide if they want to testify and who should do that. The legislative priorities will guide the testimony. Every Friday, the relevant bills will be shared with the Board in the Friday notes. If something comes up outside of the Board monthly meeting schedule, there might be a need for an online Board meeting. On Wednesdays, the committees share the following week's schedule for hearings. Normally there are at least three days to prepare testimony to a committee. The testimony needs to be sent in 24 hours in advance.

3:39:00
Update

School Mental Health Presentation

Trish Backman, School Mental Health, KSDE, gave a brief overview of mental health supports for schools, students and families. There is an umbrella of social mental health services. There are school psychologists, school counselors are licensed through KSDE, and the school social workers are licensed by Behavioral Sciences Regulatory Board (BSRB). The School Mental Health Advisory Committee advises the State Board of Education on any unmet needs. She described interagency work with Kansas Department of Health and Environment, Kansas Aging and Disability Department, TASN Technical Assistant Systems Network, and Families Together.

3:56:30
Mental
Health

Receive Annual Review and update of At-Risk evidence based practices

Dr. Proctor gave the annual review and went through the updated list of At Risk programs for 2025. (note: the details are directly from the PowerPoint at the presentation)

4:57:00
At Risk

According to Kansas Statute 72-5153, the State Board must:

- Identify, approve, and provide a list of at-risk educational programs that provide best practices and evidence-based instruction to students who are identified as eligible to receive at-risk programs and services above and beyond that of regular education.

- Review and update the list as necessary, and the department shall publish such list of approved at-risk educational programs on the department's website.

Note: All expenditures from a district's at-risk fund must come from the approved list unless it is a provisional at-risk program.

Dr. Proctor shared the statistics of the programs that were reviewed to be on the At-Risk list:

2023 Review of the Evidence-Based List

Total Number of Practices & Programs Reviewed	275
Total Number of Practices and Programs Approved	151
Total Number of Practices and Programs Removed	124

2024 Vendor Applications

Total Number of Vendor Applications Received	155
Total Number of Vendor Applications Approved	42

2025 Updated Evidence-Based List

Current Number of Programs and Practices Approved	124
Total Number of Vendor Applications Approved	42
Updated Number of Programs and Practices for Approval	166



Dr. Proctor recommended that at the February 2025 meeting, the State Board approve the Evidence-Based Programs and Practices list that includes 166 programs and practices that have peer-reviewed evidence to support at-risk students and may be used to provide students with additional educational opportunities, interventions, and services above and beyond regular education services.

For those programs that were not yet approved, there is an option of a provisional application. So far there have been 49 provisional applications received and 21 have been approved. There must be measurable success shown, so that is difficult for newer programs that have not gathered longitudinal data. Those programs can apply for a provisional approval.

Kansas Content Standards and Assessment Development

Beth Fultz introduced the directors, Matt Copeland and Susan Martin, from Assessment Technology, at the Assessment and Achievement Institute at the University of Kansas.

The Kansas Assessment System consists of three parts: interim tests; mini tests and the summative tests. This presentation focused on how these tests are created, based on the learning standards in each area. There are tests blueprints and item/stimulus materials which developed. Test blueprints identify general information about the specific content addressed in test questions and the available points for each reporting category on the test. They are developed in collaboration with AAI and KSDE staff, with input from educators across the state.

Items are the actual questions that appear on students' tests. Stimuli are the texts students read alongside the questions being asked, called passages for English language assessments and phenomena or scenarios in science assessments. The process of developing these materials is a combination of writing, review, field testing, rewriting and then the final items and stimuli.

The presenters emphasized "The success and strength of the KAP assessments are built upon a foundation of the iterative process and the strong collaboration among AAI, KSDE, and Kansas educators."

Update on the Science of Reading and Licensure Requirements

Dr. Watson stepped in to present, as Shane Carter was ill.

(The following is primarily from the PowerPoint presentation)

Dr. Watson presented a review of literacy requirements for veteran educators, and for literacy training providers. He went over the test options and explained the seal of literacy.

Professional Licensure Renewal

Required for licensure renewal as of July 1, 2028, for educators actively serving as:

- Elementary English Language Arts teachers.
- Elementary History, Government and Social Studies teachers.
- Special Education teachers who provide services to elementary students.
- Reading Specialists who provide services to elementary students.
- School Psychologists who provide services to elementary students.
- Administrators assigned to elementary schools.
- The current elementary endorsement is PrK-6; when the term Elementary is used above it indicates grades PreK-6.

Professional Development Training that is State Board approved:

LETRS

The only training paid for by KSDE.

Reading
6:39:54

LETRS for Elementary Educators (Volumes 1 and 2). Required for Elementary K-6 educators and optional for administrators.

LETRS for Early Childhood Educators available for PreK teachers.

LETRS for Administrators. Administrators may complete this training or the LETRS for Elementary Educators.

Must complete training aligned to the position your employed.

Extensions available for \$99; out of pocket payment required.

AIMS Pathways to Proficient Reading.

Pathways to Proficient Reading. Available for all educators.

Pathways to Proficient Reading Secondary. An option for districts who want a training geared to Secondary teachers.

Pathways to Literacy Leadership. Available for administrators only.

Keys to Literacy

Keys to Beginning Reading. Available for all educators.

Completion Requirements

LETRS:

For Elementary Educators:

80% Units 1-4 Post-Test.

80% Units 5-8 Post-Test.

For Early Childhood Educators:

80% Units 1-4 Post-Test

For Administrators.

80% Units 1-5 Post-Test.

Completion Requirements

AIMS Pathways:

Pathways to Proficient Reading.

80% Post-Course Knowledge Inventory.

Pathways to Proficient Reading Secondary.

80% Post-Course Knowledge Inventory.

Pathways to Literacy Leadership.

80% Post-Course Knowledge Inventory.

Keys to Literacy:

Keys to Beginning Reading.

Certificate of Completion.

Test Options for Veteran Educators

ETS:

Elementary Educators- Teaching Reading (sub-test 7002).

Passing Score 143.

Cost \$85.

Pearson:

Pearson:190 Foundations of Reading.

Passing Score 140.

Cost \$139.

Center for Effective Reading and Instruction

Knowledge and Practice Examination for Effective Reading Instruction (KPEERI).

Passing Score 500.

Cost \$165.

Educator Data Collection System.

- Assignment verification use Licensed Personnel Guide Elementary Educators (Educator Type 1)
- Subject Area (80).
- Subject Area (81).
- Subject Area (84).

Early Childhood Educators (Educator Type 1)

- Subject Area(89). OR
- Subject Areas (80), (81), (84) and PreK grade level only selected.

Special Education (Educator Type 4)

- Subject (94) and Elementary Grade Level selected (Prk-6).

School Specialists (Educator Type 6)

- Reading Specialist (96001) and Elementary Grade Level selected (Prk-6).
- School Psychologist (96004) and Elementary Grade Level selected (Prk-6).

Administrators (Educator Type 8)

- Principal (91009) and Elementary Grade Level Selected (Prk-6).
- Assistant Principal (91001) and Elementary Grade Level (Prk-6).
- Building Level Supervisor – General Education (91011) and Elementary Grade Level (Prk-6).
- Building Level Supervisor/Coordinator SPED (91012) and Elementary Grade Level (Prk-6).

- Other Building Level Assistant Administrator (91007) and Elementary Grade Level (Prk-6).

Beginning 2025-2026 School Year, districts will be required to submit a Science of Reading training report via the Licensed Personnel Report.

LETRS

- Teacher Licensure has Lexia LETRS management access.
- Teacher Licensure will use Lexia data to add Seal of Literacy to qualified educators upon completion of training.

AIMS Pathways

- Teacher Licensure will receive data from Pathways Points of Contact to add Seal of Literacy upon training completion.

Keys to Literacy

- Teacher Licensure will work with Keys to Literacy team and district cohorts directly to receive training completion.

Seal of Literacy Alternative Method

- Submit training transcript and certificate of completion with professional license renewal application.

Seal of Literacy Data

LETRS Completion

- 2,649 Educators received the Seal of Literacy as 1/14/2025.
- ETS Elementary Teaching Reading Subtest (7002):
- 184 Educators have taken the exam (90.2% passed).
- Passing percentage 9% higher than the national average (81%).

KBOR Blueprint to Literacy Training

Training not finalized for State Board of Education approval at this time.

- Pending review and approval through KSDE literacy team.
- Pending third party vetting.

Both steps above must be completed before training will be submitted to the State Board of Education for review/approval.

5:29:30
Federal

Federal Educator Programs Overview

Dr. Harwood and Dr. Proctor presented the major federal programs that affect Kansas students and schools. The following is from the PowerPoint:

Fund	FY24
Special Education	\$136,754,083
Title Programs	\$167,817,924
McKinney Vento	\$632,703
Perkins	\$6,644,103
Child Nutrition Programs	\$249,858,853
Education Research Grants	\$716,255
AmeriCorps	\$2,850,679
Pre-K Pilot	\$4,152,866
American Rescue Plan Act	\$357,969,153

Title I

Part A: Schools are eligible to receive funding if 40% or more of students qualify for free or reduced lunch.

Part B: Provides for state assessments.

Part C: Supports Migrant Students

Part D: Serves students who are neglected, delinquent, or at-risk.

Title II

Supports professional learning for educators.

Title III

Provides language instruction for English language learners and migrant students.

Title IV

Part A: Supports enrichment through improving school conditions and enhancing the use of technology.

Part B: Provides for 21st century community learning centers to support academic and enrichment outside the school day.

McKinney Vento Education for Homeless Children and Youth

Provides services to homeless students.

Perkins V (Career and Technical Education)

Supports career and technical education.

Child Nutrition Programs

School Breakfast Program

Child and Adult Care Food Program

Other Child Nutrition Programs

Special Milk Program

Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

Technology Innovative Grants

Farm to School Grants

Education Research Grants

Statewide Longitudinal Data System Grant

Disability Innovation Fund: Pathway to Partnership

Additional Federal Funds

Kansas Volunteer Commission to administer AmeriCorps Programs

Pre-K Pilot: Supports children aged 3-5 who meet at least one at-risk criteria

COVID-19 Relief Funds

Allocations approved to school systems and KSDE by the State Board to address response to the COVID-19 pandemic

ESEA Consolidated Administration Pool

To support administration of all Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) federal funds.

Chair Hopkins recessed the meeting at 5:47 p.m. until the following day at 10 a.m.



Kansas State Board of Education
Wednesday, January 15, 2025

Chair Hopkins called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. All members were present.

Career and Technical Student Organizations

Natalie Clark, Assistant Director, Career, Standards and Assessment Services, gave an introduction to the student presenters. Each presenter gave a brief history of how they got involved in their organization and what impact it has had on their life.

- Business Professionals of America, BPA
President Rishabh Barve,
Blue Valley West High School
- “Distributive Education Clubs of America” DECA
President Aditya Anantharaman,
Blue Valley West High School
- Future Business Leaders of America FBLA
President Mason Lytle, Wellsville HS
- Family, Career and Community Leaders
of America FCCLA President Ava Gustin,
Mission Valley High School
- Future Farmers of America FFA
State Treasurer Zoë Rhodes, Girard HS
- Kansas Future Health Professionals (HOSA)
President Hayan Raffi, Wichita Collegiate
- SkillsUSA (skilled trades) President - Pending
- National Technology Student Association TSA
President Lane Lamping,
Basehor-Linwood High School
- Kansas Technology Student Association TSA
President Arya Vilandai, Olathe North HS

The students were given a standing ovation by the entire State Board after their presentations. There was a time of questions and answers.

00:05
CTE

Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Quarterly Report

Marvin Miller, President of SEAC, shared the top priorities of this council. One top issue is the inclusion of special needs children in virtual schools. Another issue is the topic of dyslexia. Transition initiatives are in the process, which involves all the agencies in helping special needs students make the transition into adulthood. The annual report of SEAC was presented to the board as a hard copy and in digital form.

Receive FAFSA removal from the graduation requirements

Scott Gordon, General Counsel, KSDE, noted that the public hearing on removing FAFSA from graduation requirements will be next month during the Board meeting. Based on the Board's earlier decision to remove FAFSA from requirements, steps have been taken to make this change.

1:06:00
SEAC

Consent Agenda as amended

Mr. Hershberger moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve consent agenda items a, b, and c. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-1 with Mr. Zeck voting no.

1:17:15
FAFSA

Act on Capital Improvement and Bond Elections

Dr. Harwood explained the background of bond applications. Statue permits local boards of education to issue bonds up to 14% of the district's assessed valuation if approved by the local voters. The state board can grant the local board authority to exceed the 14% of assessed valuation. However, there is a cap on the total amount of bond authority the State Board can authorize annually. For the 2024-2025 school year, this amount is \$593,908,109. As of December 2024, the State Board has approved 10 bond applications totaling \$859.3 million. To date, 5 of the bond issues have passed, 2 have failed and 3 have upcoming elections. Of the bond application amount approved by the state board, \$330.5 million applies to the bond cap. This leaves \$293.4 million for the State Board to approve for bond applications subject to the cap.

Since November 15, 2024, the State Board has received 6 bond applications totaling \$469.3 million:

USD	School District	Bond Amount
308	Hutchinson	\$109,530,000
499	Galena	\$7,500,000
402	Augusta	\$55,000,000
231	Gardner Edgerton	\$100,000,000
235	Uniontown	\$1,250,000
265	Goddard	\$196,000,000
Total		\$469,280,000

1:22:00
Consent

1:26:20
Bond

If all current bond applications were approved, the bond cap would be exceeded by

\$62.7 million. If the bond cap is met, the State Board of Education must prioritize applications with the following criteria in order of highest to lowest priority.

- A. Safety of the current facility and disability access to such facility, demonstrated by a state fire marshal report, ADA inspection, or similar evaluation;
- B. Enrollment growth and imminent overcrowding, demonstrated by successive increases in the immediately preceding three school years;
- C. Impact on the delivery of educational services, demonstrated by restrictive inflexible design or limitations on installation of technology; and
- D. Energy usage and other operational inefficiencies, demonstrated by a district-wide energy usage or architectural analysis or other similar evaluation.

Bond hearings were held on December 20. The committee considered each application submitted and the information gathered during the hearings.

For priority A, no districts were determined to meet the criterion.

For priority B, only USD 265 Goddard was determined to meet this criterion.

For priorities C and D, all four districts were determined to meet these criterion.

The bond committee recommendation is: *To maximize the State Board's authority to approve bond issues, the committee recommends granting full approval to USD 402, USD 265 Godard and USD 499 Galena. The committee also recommends the State Board grant tentative approval to USD 308 Hutchinson.*

Mr. Porter moved to approve the capital improvement and bond election recommendations as presented. Mr. Hershberger seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Potter present, not voting.

2:01:54
Motion

Consent item d

d. Act on request from USD 261 Haysville, to accept a supplement to their bond application that revises the ballot question to be submitted to qualified electors of the district. The supplement is not a material change to the project. The original bond application was approved by the state Board on September 11, 2024.

2:03:36
Item d

Mrs. Haas moved to approve consent item d. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. Motion carried 10 – 0.

Act on Evaluation Review Committee (ERC)

Dr. Chmidling went over the process of reviewing higher education programs. She went through the educator preparation program approvals for the seven programs that were recommended for approval by the ERC.

2:04:48
ERC

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education accept the recommendations of the Evaluation Review Committee for educator preparation program approvals for Benedictine College, Fort Hays State University, Newman University, Ottawa University, University of Kansas, University of Saint Mary and Washburn University. Mrs. Haas seconded the motion. **Motion carried 10-0.**

2:16:15
Motion

Remaining Consent Agenda items voted on separately

Mr. Porter moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve item e from the consent agenda. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. **Motion carried 10-0.**

2:18:30
Consent
pulled

e. act to approve the renewal of a special education cooperative agreement with Beloit

Mrs. Dombrosky moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve item f on the consent agenda. Mrs. Haas seconded the motion. **Motion carried 10-0.**

f. Notification to the Kansas State Board of Education of the intention of four private schools to participate in the Tax Credit for Low Income Student Scholarship Program (TCLISSP)

Dr. New moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve item g on the consent agenda. Mr. Porter seconded the motion. **Motion carried 10-0.**

g. Act on local professional development plans

Mr. Hershberger moved that the Kansas State Board of Education act to approve item h on the consent agenda. Mrs. Arnold seconded the motion. **Motion carried 9-0-1 with Mrs. Dombrosky present not voting.**

h. Act to initiate a Request for Proposal (RFPO) for special populations in CTE

Mrs. Arnold moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve item i on the consent agenda. Mrs. Haas seconded the motion. **Motion carried 6-2-2 with Mr. Zeck and Mrs. O'Brien voting no, and Mrs. Potter and Mrs. Dombrosky present not voting.**

i. Act on request to contract with the Maple Leaf Technology Solutions, LLC for work on the KSDE authentication process

Chair's Report

Committee Report

Mr. Hershberger noted that Nancy from Ag in the Classroom committee lost her mother

2:41:00
Report

Board Attorney Remarks

Mark Ferguson, board attorney, introduced himself to the new Board members. He shared his background, parents were career educators in Junction City, he went to K-State and then KU for law school. He has had a lifelong career as an attorney working with schools. He started working with insurance issues with school boards across the

2:42:00
Board
Attorney

state of Kansas. Worked often with KASB, Johnson County school districts, Johnson County Community College, and he now runs a 12 person law firm in Overland Park. Licensed in Kansas and Missouri. He emphasized that he is not the same Mark Ferguson that advertises as a criminal lawyer on the Royals radio broadcasts, and also that he recently was hacked on Facebook, and it appeared that he was a crypto genius who made a lot of money. He represents the Board if there is a need, he has also here to guide and to answer questions to the Board, and to comment if he see something that could be a problem, such as a KORA/KOMA violation. He explained how to contact him, the purpose of executive sessions, and reminded the Board that all emails are subject to disclosure. He reminded the Board to be careful about speaking about Board matters outside of table discussions and meetings. Conducting the business of the Board should be transparent.

Travel Requests

Mrs. Dombrosky moved that the Kansas State Board of Education approve the travel requests presented for January 2025. Mrs. Haas seconded the motion. **Motion carried 10-0.**

Future Board Requests

Mrs. Arnold stated her concern about the consent agenda and that members should come to the table prepared to vote. She encouraged members to ask questions in advance so that at the consent agenda does not become a long process of evaluation.

Mrs. Dombrosky expressed her frustration with items that are added late. She requests that if an item is added late in the process, that it should be put on the following month.

Mrs. Potter requests discussion on opt in/opt out, connecting the State Board with local boards, addressing behaviors in the classroom, and the possibility of having open forums.

Chair Cathy Hopkins

Board Secretary Deborah Bremer