

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION K-12.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ralph Tanner at 9:00 a.m. on January 22, 2002 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department  
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department  
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes  
Ann Deitcher, Committee Secretary

Kansas Department of Education Deputy Commission Dale Dennis spoke to the Committee of the valuable contribution made by teachers. (Attachment 1).

He then introduced the first of the 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year Finalists, Tracy Taylor Callard of Horace Mann Elementary Foreign Language Magnet School, Wichita. Ms. Callard is also a 2002 National Teacher Finalist.

The following finalists were also presented: Susan K. Hagedorn, Hanover Public School, Hanover; Linda L. Nelson, Salina Central High School; Patricia A. Lira, Scranton Attendance Center, Scranton; Barbara L. Chamberlain, Seaman High School, Topeka; Linda McPherson, Mize Elementary School, Shawnee; Sarah Pike, Turner Middle School, Kansas City; and Mark A. Diskin, Maize High School, Maize.

Each spoke of the challenges and rewards of their profession and answered various questions of the Committee.

Representative Ostmeyer moved for the introduction of a bill that would enable merging school districts to have available all funds from those districts. The motion was seconded by Representative Mason and passed on a voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2002.

**KANSAS**  
*Teacher  
of the Year*



**2002 State Awards Banquet**

*Teachers...You Touch the Heart*

**The Marriott Hotel, Wichita, Kansas  
November 10, 2001**

House Education Committee  
Date: 1/22/02

Attachment # 1-1

# Program

4:00 p.m. Reception

## Music

Maize High School Small Ensemble  
Kristy Smith, Orchestra Director  
1st Violin – Anthony Chau, Sianna Nelson  
2nd Violin – Michelle Decker, Mitchell Houser  
Viola – Quinn Nelson  
Cello – Erin Bodlak

5:00 p.m. Welcome

Mistress of Ceremonies  
Sherry J. Nelson  
1999 Kansas Regional Teacher of the Year  
Lawrence USD 497

and

Master of Ceremonies  
Dale M. Dennis  
Deputy Commissioner of Education

Processional: Salute to the Kansas Teacher of the Year Class of 2002  
Music by Maize High School Small Ensemble

A Tribute to America: “The Star-Spangled Banner”  
Judy Sneath  
Wichita USD 259

Invocation: “How Great Thou Art”  
Judy Sneath

Welcome and Congratulations from the Kansas State Board of Education  
Dr. William “Bill” Wagnon, Member  
Kansas State Board of Education

Introductions and Videotape Presentation  
Sherry Nelson and Dale M. Dennis

Dinner

“Making a Difference”  
Janet S. Lewandowski  
2001 Kansas Teacher of the Year  
Maize USD 266

Presentation of Awards to Kansas Teacher of the Year Finalists  
Dr. William “Bill” Wagnon  
and  
Dr. Andy Tompkins  
Commissioner of Education

Musical Tribute to Teachers: "You Touch the Heart," a song written and composed by Beverly McWilliams, Kansas Regional Teacher of the Year 2000, Circle USD 375

Vocalists:

Amanda Crisler	Karsten Reilly
Ashley Crisler	Kimberly Wendler
Logan Gibson	Whitney Williams
Brianna Kerwood	Sarah Wittlake

Synthesizer: Natalie Calderera

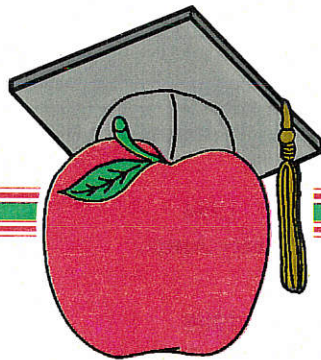
Flute: Lee Jensen

Announcement of 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year  
Dr. Andy Tompkins

Presentation of Awards to Kansas Teacher of the Year  
Dr. Amanda Golbeck  
Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Kansas Board of Regents

Greg Garvin  
President, Security Distributors, Inc. and  
Senior Vice President, Sales and Distribution  
The Security Benefit Group of Companies, Topeka

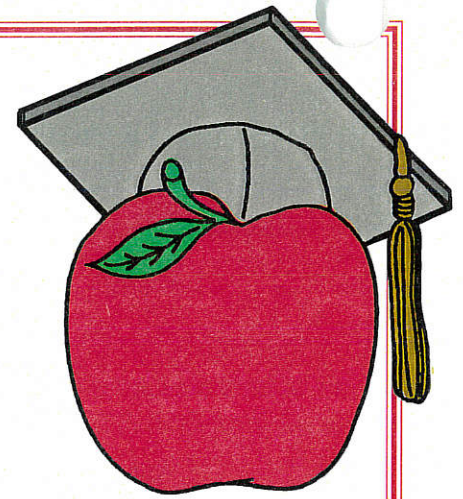
Closing Finale: "Music of the Heart," composed by Diane Warren  
Ashley Rippe and Matthew Nichols  
Bishop Carroll Catholic High School, Wichita



### Special thanks to...

- Members of the Banquet Planning Committee for their work on the theme and music for this evening's celebration.
  - Susan M. Rippe, Chair, Kansas Teacher of the Year 2000, Wichita
  - Barbara J. Firestone, 1990 Kansas Teacher of the Year, Wichita
  - Janet S. Lewandowski, 2001 Kansas Teacher of the Year, Maize
  - Beverly McWilliams, Kansas Regional Teacher of the Year 2000, Towanda
  - Judy Sneath, Teacher, McCollom Elementary School, Wichita
- Kansas State Teachers of the Year Association for the table centerpieces.

# Kansas Teachers of the Year



1960 Helen Case	1976 James E. Brown	
1962 Marjorie French	1977 Nelda B. Ikenberry	
1963 Etta Dahlgren	1978 Martha McReynolds	1990 Barbara J. Firestone
1964 Neysa Eberhard	1979 Carolyn D. Jones	1991 Frances J. Ireland
1965 Bill D. Shipman	1980 Loren Riblett	1992 Norman D. Conard
1966 Evelyn Harper	1981 Helen A. Wagner	1993 Carol J. Swinney
1968 Jean E. Jones	1982 Shirley Palmer	1994 Nancy J. Costigan-Talbott
1969 James H. Hood	1983 Patricia Williams-Boyd	1995 Becky Goodwin
1970 Deana McClure	1984 Betty Amos	1996 Christy R. McNally
1971 Hope Shackelford	1985 Carol L. Reneau	1997 Nancy R. McRoberts
1972 Selma M. Maronde	1986 Alice M. Wolf	1998 Darla J. Mallein
1973 Janet Service	1987 Christine E. Chalender	1999 Carol Strickland
1974 C. Don Everhart	1988 Glenda S. Watkins	2000 Susan M. Rippe
1975 Mildred Bradley	1989 Judy Beedles-Miller	2001 Janet S. Lewandowski

# 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year Finalists

## Region 1



Susan K. Hagedorn  
Hanover Public School, Hanover  
Barnes USD 223



Linda L. Nelson  
Salina High School Central  
Salina USD 305



Patricia A. Lira  
Scranton Attendance Center,  
Scranton  
Santa Fe Trail USD 434



Barbara L. Chamberlain  
Seaman High School, Topeka  
Seaman USD 345

## Region 3



Linda McPherson  
Mize Elementary School,  
Shawnee  
DeSoto USD 232



Sarah Pike  
Turner Middle School,  
Kansas City  
Turner USD 202



Tracy Taylor Callard  
Horace Mann Elementary  
Foreign Language Magnet  
School  
Wichita USD 259



Mark A. Diskin  
Maize High School  
Maize USD 266

## Region 4

## Mission

The Kansas Teacher of the Year leads a team of exemplary teachers committed to **improving schools, student performance, and the teaching profession** in Kansas. The Kansas Teacher of the Year and finalists serve as ambassadors for Kansas education, making public appearances across the state. The Kansas Teacher of the Year represents the state in the National Teacher of the Year program sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers and Scholastic Inc.

One strength of the Kansas program is its team concept. The program involves the Kansas Teacher of the Year, state finalists, and district nominees. They join a network of exemplary educators who are education leaders in Kansas. Who can better speak about the educational successes and needs of students than those closest to them – classroom teachers!

# 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year District Nominees

## Region 1

### Finalists

Susan K. Hagedorn  
Hanover Public School  
Barnes USD 223

Linda L. Nelson  
Salina High School Central  
Salina USD 305

### Semi-Finalists

Janet Schremmer  
Lincoln Elementary School  
Great Bend USD 428

Cathy Esquibel  
Northwest Elementary School  
Dodge City USD 443

Stephen R. Germes  
Garden City High School  
Garden City USD 457

Milton Allen  
Sacred Heart Jr.-Sr. High School  
Catholic Diocese-Salina

### Nominees

Tiffany Brewer  
Hugoton Intermediate School  
Hugoton USD 210

Allen Gregory  
Hugoton High School  
Hugoton USD 210

Ethel Reimer  
Meade Elementary School  
Meade USD 226

Demetre Evangelidis  
Smith Center Jr.-Sr. High School  
Smith Center USD 237

Myoan McJunkin  
Maynard Elementary School  
Emporia USD 253

Johanna Marquardt  
Emporia High School  
Emporia USD 253

Mary Hill  
Medicine Lodge Middle School  
Barber County North USD 254

Cindy Boyd  
Medicine Lodge High School  
Barber County North USD 254

Connie Kopsa  
Beloit Jr.-Sr. High School  
Beloit USD 273

Jane O'Neil  
Heusner Elementary School  
Salina USD 305

Laura Louise Overcem  
Faris Elementary School  
Hutchinson USD 308

Donna C. Davis  
Hutchinson Middle School - 7th Grade  
Attendance Center  
Hutchinson USD 308

Cindi Grafel  
Herndon High School  
Herndon USD 317

Laurie Doll  
Quivira Heights Elementary & Jr. High  
School  
Lorraine USD 328

Robert P. John  
Quivira Heights High School  
Lorraine USD 328

Delvin A. Strecker  
Concordia Jr.-Sr. High School  
Concordia USD 333

Kathryn A. Donley  
Stafford Middle & Sr. High School  
Stafford USD 349

Tina M. Ludwig  
Park Elementary School  
Lyons USD 405

Kenneth E. Troyer  
Lyons High School  
Lyons USD 405

Jill Hultberg  
Eisenhower Elementary School  
McPherson USD 418

Rick Reed  
McPherson High School  
McPherson USD 418  
*Nominated by North Ottawa  
County USD 239*

Peggy Johnston  
Gertrude Walker Elementary School  
Garden City USD 457

Kathy J. Hoover  
Blue Ridge Elementary School  
Chapman USD 473

Jill Goldsmith  
Chapman Middle School  
Chapman USD 473

Shanna Rachell Dinkel  
Felten Middle School  
Hays USD 489

# 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year District Nominees

## Region 2

### Finalists

Patricia A. Lira  
Scranton Attendance Center  
Santa Fe Trail USD 434

Barbara L. Chamberlain  
Seaman High School  
Seaman USD 345

### Semi-Finalists

Kathryn S. Brooks  
Eugene Field Elementary School  
Ottawa USD 290

Beverly Jean Fulton  
Amanda Arnold  
Elementary School  
Manhattan USD 383

Allen Wilhite  
Humboldt High School  
Humboldt USD 258

Darren Edward Gunderson  
Fort Riley Middle School  
Geary County Schools USD 475

### Nominees

William J. Freeborn  
21st Century Educational Opportunity  
Center  
Southeast Kansas Education Service  
Center Interlocal 609

Brian M. Carlson  
St. Paul Schools  
Erie-St. Paul USD 101

Pamela K. Ham  
Eugene Ware Elementary School  
Fort Scott USD 234

Michelle M. Brittain  
Fort Scott Middle School  
Fort Scott USD 234

Kathryn E. Scott  
Burlington Elementary School  
Burlington USD 244

Janis E. Saket  
R. V. Haderlein Elementary School  
Girard USD 248

Joyce L. Vietti  
Frontenac Jr.-Sr. High School  
Frontenac USD 249

Angelea Fae Heim  
Marmaton Valley Jr.-Sr. High School  
Marmaton Valley USD 256

Rebecca Kay Gill  
McKinley Elementary School  
Iola USD 257

Miriam S. Lemp  
Ottawa Middle School  
Ottawa USD 290

Cheryl Stallard  
Central Elementary School  
Wamego USD 320

Patricia C. Langston  
Wamego Middle School  
Wamego USD 320

Ann M. Kocher  
Onaga High School  
Onaga-Havensville-Wheaton USD 322

Victoria N. Seeger  
Pleasant Hill Elementary School  
Seaman USD 345

Lisa Falls  
Westphalia Elementary School  
Garnett USD 365

Alvin Peters  
Anderson County Jr.-Sr. High School  
Garnett USD 365

C. Lee Woodford  
Manhattan High School  
Manhattan USD 383

Peggy A. Simmons  
Troy Elementary School  
Troy USD 429

Donna M. Kahle  
Santa Fe Trail High School  
Santa Fe Trail USD 434

Dana D. Stout  
Indian Hills Elementary School  
Auburn Washburn USD 437

Kevin Hedberg  
Washburn Rural High School  
Auburn Washburn USD 437

Susan L. Leiker  
Sabetha Elementary School  
Sabetha USD 441

Lisa J. Suhr  
Sabetha Middle School  
Sabetha USD 441

Karen Burkholder  
Tecumseh North Elementary School  
Shawnee Heights USD 450

Cherylene G. Lovett  
Shawnee Heights High School  
Shawnee Heights USD 450

Cynthia S. Korb  
Tonganoxie Elementary School  
Tonganoxie USD 464

Ronnie L. Lewis  
Tonganoxie High School  
Tonganoxie USD 464

Mary Jane Witt  
Lincoln Elementary School  
Geary County Schools USD 475

Marilyn Geyer Patten  
Meadows Elementary School  
Topeka USD 501

Rebecca D. Svaty  
Topeka West High School  
Topeka USD 501

Cindy Kearns  
Meadow View Grade School  
Labette County USD 506



# 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year District Nominees Region 3

## Finalists

Linda McPherson  
Mize Elementary School  
DeSoto USD 232

Sarah Pike  
Turner Middle School  
Turner USD 202

## Semi-Finalists

Steven Courtney  
Harmony Elementary School  
Blue Valley USD 229

James Medina  
Havencroft Elementary School  
Olathe USD 233

Sherry L. Unruh  
Blue Valley Northwest High  
School  
Blue Valley USD 229

Kathryn A. Reddy  
DeSoto High School  
DeSoto USD 232

## Nominees

S. Todd Mildfelt  
George York Community School  
Southeast Kansas Education Service  
Center Interlocal 609

Sally B. Betta  
Muncie Elementary School  
Turner USD 202

Cheris Bass  
Edwardsville Elementary School  
Bonner Springs USD 204

Trudy Peterson  
Spring Hill Elementary School  
Spring Hill USD 230

Bradley Scott Reinking  
Spring Hill High School  
Spring Hill USD 230

Barbara K. Kirgan  
Sunflower Elementary School  
Gardner Edgerton USD 231

Steven C. Schultz  
Olathe South High School  
Olathe USD 233

Mike Berg  
Baldwin Jr. High School  
Baldwin City USD 348

Neil W. Shepherd  
Trojan Elementary School  
Osawatomie USD 367

Patty S. Johnson  
Osawatomie Middle School  
Osawatomie USD 367

Debra M. Keller  
Cottonwood Elementary School  
Paola USD 368

Angela Christine Barber  
Circle Grove Elementary School  
Louisburg USD 416

Rebecca Dawn Morgan  
Louisburg Middle School  
Louisburg USD 416

Merilee Dymacek  
Eudora West Elementary School  
Eudora USD 491

Gretchen Lehman  
Kennedy Elementary School  
Lawrence USD 497

Pamela M. Bushouse  
Lawrence Free State High School  
Lawrence USD 497

Connie S. McCormick  
Brookridge Elementary School  
Shawnee Mission USD 512

Zola Mae Norton  
Westridge Middle School  
Shawnee Mission USD 512

# 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year District Nominees

## Region 4

### Finalists

Tracy Taylor Callard  
Horace Mann Elementary Foreign Language Magnet School  
Wichita USD 259

Mark A. Diskin  
Maize High School  
Maize USD 266

### Semi-Finalists

Paula S. Claycamp  
Towanda Elementary School  
Circle USD 375

Barbara C. McCalla  
Garfield Elementary School  
Augusta USD 402

Norman E. Terry  
Wichita Northeast Magnet  
High School  
Wichita USD 259

Vivian E. Leupp  
Valley Center Middle School  
Valley Center USD 262

### Nominees

Jeffrey R. Smith  
Carlton Math Science Magnet School  
Derby USD 260

Rhonda O. Clark  
West Elementary School  
Valley Center USD 262

Carolyn Sue Wilson  
Mulvane High School  
Mulvane USD 263  
*Nominated by Renwick USD 267*

Lori C. Heger  
Maize East Elementary School  
Maize USD 266

Linda Fadely  
Sedan High School  
Chautauqua County Community USD 286

Scott Hudson  
Conway Springs Middle School  
Conway Springs USD 356

Tracy R. Adams  
Oxford Elementary School  
Oxford USD 358

Anita M. Bales  
Oxford Jr.-Sr. High School  
Oxford USD 358

Kathleen Klenke  
Meadowlark Elementary School  
Andover USD 385

Cynthia L. Bradford  
Rose Hill Middle School  
Rose Hill USD 394

Jean Shetlar  
Augusta Middle School  
Augusta USD 402

Leigh Ann Griffin  
Lincoln Central Elementary School  
Cherryvale USD 447

Janice Prather  
Washington Elementary School  
El Dorado USD 490

Jane A. Simms  
El Dorado Middle School  
El Dorado USD 490

# Teachers of Promise

Each Kansas university and college was invited to select two teacher education students to attend tonight's celebration of teaching. Students also had the opportunity to participate in a professional development workshop conducted by the 2001 Kansas Teacher of the Year team. These students, referred to as "Teachers of Promise," are outstanding individuals who will enter the teaching profession during the next few years. Almost every institution chose to support these activities. We extend special thanks to **Bank of America** as the corporate sponsor for the "Teachers of Promise."

## Public Universities

### **Emporia State University, Emporia**

Chris Childers  
Leah McBride

### **Fort Hays State University, Hays**

Beth Haymond  
Kent Jacobson

### **Kansas State University, Manhattan**

Melissa Siefkes  
Joshua Morris

### **University of Kansas, Lawrence**

Peter Haack  
Anna Sahadeo

### **Pittsburg State University, Pittsburg**

Carrie LaRue  
Kylie Scott

### **Wichita State University, Wichita**

Susan Wright  
Bethany Zecha

## Municipal University

### **Washburn University, Topeka**

Kelly White  
Jessica Starr

## Private Educational Institutions

### **Baker University, Baldwin City**

Dana Barker  
Kyleigh Gragg

### **Friends University, Wichita**

Tara Atkinson  
Charles Martinez

### **Kansas Wesleyan University, Salina**

Anna Bonilla  
Nicholas Owen

### **McPherson College, McPherson**

Travis Sears  
Becky Witte

### **MidAmerica Nazarene University, Olathe**

Lisa Ann Lund  
Sarah E. Wise

### **Newman University, Wichita**

Chris Waner  
Beverly Hovorka

### **Saint Mary College, Leavenworth**

Amy Culey  
Liberty Usera

### **Southwestern College, Winfield**

Ryan Rusco  
Allison Viola

### **Sterling College, Sterling**

Justin G. Vercher  
Christy L. Vercher-

### **Tabor College, Hillsboro**

Angela Hoops  
Brian Mowry

## Career Teachers

Each of the eight 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year Finalists selected one career teacher to attend tonight's celebration of teaching. These teachers have devoted their lives to educating our children and youth. Each school district sponsored the participation of its teacher.

<b>Career Teacher</b>	<b>School District</b>	<b>Number of Years of Teaching</b>	<b>Grade Level and Subject</b>
Nancy Gossett	Turner USD 202	25 years	junior high/middle school - family & consumer sciences
Theresa Bruna	Barnes USD 223	9 years	high school - mathematics
Donna Miller	DeSoto USD 232	31 years	elementary
Ruth Anne Ellis	Wichita USD 259	27 years	elementary
Kenneth Diskin	Maize USD 266	40 years	high school - social sciences
Nancy Presnal	Salina USD 305	30 years	high school - social studies
Gerald Fischer	Santa Fe Trail USD 434	38 years	high school - industrial arts/drafting, physical education, psychology, and social studies
Carol Wilson	Topeka USD 501	34 years	high school - language arts

# Kansas Foundation for Excellence in Education

The Board of Directors for the Kansas Foundation for Excellence in Education, under the leadership of former United States Senator Nancy Kassebaum-Baker, engaged in a fund-raising campaign to establish a permanent endowment for the Kansas Teacher of the Year program. The earnings fund a one-semester ambassadorship for the Kansas Teacher of the Year. **The 2002 Kansas Teacher of the Year is the third recipient of this annual award.** The ambassadorship is named in honor of the lead contributor—

## The R. D. & Joan Dale Hubbard Foundation.

Atchison, Topeka, & Santa Fe  
Railway Company

Bank of America

Black & Veatch Engineers

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas

Boeing

Jim & Sherry Bukovatz

Cereal Food Processors, Inc.

Cessna Aircraft Company

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Carla Deckert

Ellsaesser Trust

Fleming Companies, Inc.

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Helzberg Foundation

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Dennis & Jamie Hofmeier

Hudson Foods

Kemper Foundation

Learjet Corporation

Marion Merrell Dow, Inc.

Pete & Debby Maxon

May Department Stores

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Association

OFG Financial Services, Inc.

Ottawa Truck Company

Marynell Reece

Sallie Mae

Seaboard Corporation

Sheplers, Inc.

Southwestern Bell

WOS Fund Accounting

Xerox Corporation

## Investors

This program is made possible through the Kansas Foundation for Excellence in Education and the generous contributions of businesses, organizations, and individuals.

### General Program Investors

Bank of America

Cytek, Topeka

Kansas State Department of Education

Kent Audio-Visual, Wichita

Livingston's, Inc., Topeka

Marriott Hotel, Wichita

The Security Benefit Group of Companies, Topeka

Wallace Photography, Topeka

Wendling, Noe, Nelson & Johnson, LLC, Topeka

## Award Sponsors

The Kansas Teacher of the Year, finalists, and district nominees receive awards provided by businesses and organizations.

### ***Kansas Teacher of the Year***

Kansas Foundation for Excellence in Education .....	The Hubbard Foundation Kansas Teacher of the Year Ambassadorship
Kansas Board of Regents and Washburn University .....	Kansas Teacher of the Year Lifelong Learning Scholarship. <i>This enables all Kansas Teachers of the Year—past, present, and future—to attend any Regents' university and Washburn University free as long as they continue teaching in Kansas.</i>
The Security Benefit Group of Companies, Topeka .....	\$4,000 cash award presented at the state awards banquet
SMARTer Kids Foundation, SMART Technologies Inc., NEC Technologies, Inc., and AlphaSmart, Inc.	Teaching Excellence Award: SMART Board and Floor Stand, NEC projector, and AlphaSmart portable keyboard
Davis-Moore Auto Group, Wichita .....	automobile for use during the ambassadorship
Kansas Corn Commission .....	ethanol gas for the ambassadorship travel
Apple Computer, Inc. ....	Apple computer and software
Jostens, Inc. ....	Leader in Education ring
Southwestern Bell Foundation .....	\$250 classroom grant
Superior School Supplies, Inc., Wichita .....	\$100 gift certificate
Kansas State Teachers of the Year Association	one-year memberships in both the national and state teachers of the year organizations and a pin
Harcourt School Publishers and Holt, Rinehart & Winston ....	Kansas Teacher of the Year 2002 notebook

### ***Kansas Teacher of the Year Finalists***

The Security Benefit Group of Companies, Topeka .....	\$2,000 cash award presented at the regional awards banquets
Nancy Kassebaum-Baker .....	\$1,000 cash award presented at the regional awards banquets
Southwestern Bell Foundation .....	\$250 classroom grant
Superior School Supplies, Inc., Wichita .....	\$100 gift certificate
The Master Teacher, Manhattan .....	engraved golden apple presented at the regional awards banquets
Harcourt School Publishers and Holt, Rinehart & Winston ....	Kansas Teacher of the Year 2002 notebook

### ***Kansas Teacher of the Year District Nominees***

Harcourt School Publishers and Holt, Rinehart & Winston ....	Kansas Teacher of the Year 2002 notebook
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## Banquet Table Sponsors

Cisco Systems Inc., Overland Park	Kansas Association for Private Colleges of Teacher Education
DEPCO, Inc., Pittsburg	Kansas Association of School Boards
Dillon Stores, Hutchinson	Kansas Association of Secondary School Principals
The Hollis & Miller Group, Overland Park	Kansas Building Systems, Inc., Topeka
Ignite! Learning, St. Louis, Missouri	Kansas Farm Bureau Services, Inc., Manhattan
Intrepid Videoconference Systems, Overland Park	Kansas National Education Association
The Jason Foundation for Education, St. Louis, Missouri	Kansas School Public Relations Association
Kansas Association of Colleges for Teacher Education	Kansas State High School Activities Association
Kansas Association of Elementary School Principals	NCS Learn, Homewood, Illinois
Kansas Association of Middle School Administrators	United School Administrators of Kansas

# Kansas Teacher of the Year Program State Steering Committee

Pete Maxon  
Bank of America

Larry Nespica  
The Hollis & Miller Group

Mitch Sexton  
Jostens, Inc.

Jim Edwards  
Kansas Chamber of  
Commerce and Industry

Carla Deckert  
Maximus

Jenifer Purvis  
The Security Benefit Group  
of Companies

Jeanne Cohorst  
Southwestern Bell

Bruce Jones  
KSNT TV 27

Region 1  
Carol J. Swinney  
Jamie Hofmeier

Region 2  
Ada "Ligia" R. Paquette  
Melanie Campbell  
Kay Bushman Haas

Region 3  
Linda L. Herbel  
Karen Wall

Region 4  
Kendra S. Wilkinson  
Barbara G. White  
Carolyn L. Muehring

Christine Chalender  
Kansas Teachers of the  
Year

Kansas State Department of  
Education  
Robert L. Gast  
Sherry Bukovatz

## State Selection Committee

James A. Stoddard  
The R. D. & Joan Dale  
Hubbard Foundation

Wilda Pentola  
Apple Computer, Inc.

Bob Landers  
Bank of America, Wichita

Pete Maxon  
Bank of America, Topeka

Karen Kelley  
Cisco Systems, Inc.,  
Overland Park

Bill Jones  
Cytek, Topeka

Theresa Schifferdecker  
Davis-Moore Auto Group, Wichita

Forrest Hicks  
DEPCO, Inc., Pittsburg

Wynne Dillon  
Dillon Stores, Hutchinson

Janet Fulgham  
Gear for Sports, Lenexa

Robert Manley  
Harcourt School Publishers,  
Shawnee

Larry Nespica  
The Hollis & Miller Group,  
Overland Park

Steven Bailey  
Ignite! Learning, Austin, Texas

Larry Ehlers  
Intrepid Videoconference  
Systems, Overland Park

Lori Wishert  
Jostens, Inc., Topeka

Bruce Jones  
KSNT TV 27, Topeka

Neil Fisher  
Kansas Building Systems,  
Inc., Topeka

Jim Edwards  
Kansas Chamber of  
Commerce and Industry

Jere White  
Kansas Corn Commission

Peggy Goe  
Kansas Farm Bureau, Manhattan

Bill Livingston  
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The Security Benefit Group of  
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Rep. Bill Feuerborn  
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Rep. Dennis McKinney  
District 108, Greensburg

Rep. Eber Phelps  
District 111, Hays

Dr. William "Bill" Wagnon  
Kansas State Board of Education

Dr. Rob Little  
Kansas Association of School  
Administrators

Dr. Nick Compagnone  
Kansas Association of  
Independent and Religious  
Schools

Deborah J. Ayers-Geist  
Kansas Association of  
Elementary School Principals

Rick Riffel  
Kansas Association of Middle  
School Administrators

Darin Headrick  
Kansas Association of  
Secondary School Principals

Susan M. Rippe  
Kansas Teacher of the Year  
2000, Wichita

Blake West  
Kansas National Education  
Association

Bob Johnson  
Wamego High School, Wamego

Dr. Tom Buttery  
Fort Hays State University, Hays

Dr. Janice Wissman  
Kansas State University,  
Manhattan

Dr. Angela Lumpkin  
University of Kansas, Lawrence

Dr. Sandra Greer  
Pittsburg State University,  
Pittsburg

Dr. Donald L. Beggs  
Wichita State University, Wichita

Dr. Jon M. Engelhardt  
Wichita State University, Wichita

Dr. Gloria Dye  
Washburn University, Topeka

Dr. H. Bruce Quantic  
Friends University, Wichita

Dr. Victoria White  
Southwestern College, Winfield

Dr. Mike Perl  
Association of Teacher  
Educators - Kansas

Dr. Bill Neuenswander  
Kansas Association for Colleges  
of Teacher Education

Marilyn Nichols  
Kansas Association for Private  
Colleges of Teacher Education

Dana Barker  
Teacher Education Student,  
Baker University, Baldwin

Brett Beem  
Student, Wamego High School,  
Wamego

Gail Vertz  
Kansas Congress of Parents  
and Teachers

Dr. Jesse C. Williams  
Kansas Alliance of Black  
School Educators

Carol Farmer  
Kansas School Public Relations  
Association

Gary Musselman  
Kansas State High School  
Activities Association

# You Touch the Heart

Teachers can be like a candlelight,  
Shining for all to see.  
Sending out a warm, soft glow,  
That allows discovery.  
Each little spark and each flicker, too,  
Help illuminate the way.  
To show direction, guide with love,  
And teach lessons to touch the heart.

You've always been there,  
Through good times and bad  
You've been the one others turn to.  
You've helped us see that through all that you've taught  
It's more than lessons,  
You Touch the Heart.

Teachers can be like the grains of sand,  
Along life's rocky shore.  
Shaping, inspiring the youth in their care,  
Hoping each child will soar.  
Each little sand pebble has a part,  
When it's tossed into a pool.  
To ripple to make the waves of change,  
The ebb and flow, to Touch the Heart.

Teachers can be like a tapestry,  
Woven threads of harmony in art,  
The carefully planned interlocking twine,  
They stretch the mind,  
And Touch the Heart.

Teachers can be like a mighty oak,  
Spreading its branches out wide.  
Deeply rooted in knowledge and truth,  
Standing strong and sturdy with pride.  
Its many leaves and branches, all  
Give shelter to those in need  
Its falling leaves become the seeds that start  
New generations to  
Touch the Heart.

Beverly McWilliams  
Kansas Regional Teacher of the Year 2000  
Circle USD 375



# Kansas Education Shines



In its Kansas Kid Count Data Book, Kansas Action for Children, Inc., awarded the state of Kansas an "A-" for its success in education. Kansas Action for Children, Inc., is a private, not-for-profit, citizen-based organization that works on behalf of all children to ensure that their physical and emotional needs are met and that they become healthy, contributing adults. Kansas Action for Children, Inc.



In a national study, "Quality Counts 2001," Kansas received high marks for its academic standards which have been rewritten the past three years. Only seven states scored higher than Kansas on standards and accountability. Education Week – January 11, 2001



Kansas is tied for fourth place in the nation for having the highest percentage of students graduate from high school. Currently, 92 percent of Kansas' young people complete high school or its equivalency. National Education Goals Panel



Kansas is one of the top ten states in the nation for having a high percentage (62%) of its high school graduates continue onto college immediately after high school. National Education Goals Panel



Kansas high school students continue to excel on the ACT national college entrance exam. In 2001, the composite score for students taking the test was 22.6 which tops the national average of 21.4. Kansas' results are even more impressive when compared to other states. This year, 78 percent of Kansas seniors took the test and no other state with an equal or greater percentage of students taking the test scored higher. ACT, Inc.



In 2001, Kansas students once again exceeded the national averages on the SAT national college entrance test which measures verbal and mathematical reasoning. This year, Kansas attained an average score of 577 on the verbal portion of the test, as compared to the national average of 506. Kansas high school students scored 580 on mathematics, well above the national average of 514. The College Board



Kansas is one of the top four states in the nation for having the highest SAT and ACT college entrance examination scores. The College Board and ACT, Inc.



Kansas stands at 96.2 percent of schools with Internet access. Kansas schools have one computer for every six students. Market Data Retrieval, 2000 "Public School Technology Survey"



One hundred seventy-seven Kansas high school students were named National Merit semifinalists in 2002. Nationally, over 16,000 high school students were named semifinalists.



In the American Legislative Exchange Council's "Report Card on American Education" in ranking of states by academic achievement, Kansas was ranked 11<sup>th</sup> within the nation.



In the 2001 NAEP reading test, Kansas fourth graders had an average scale score of 222, compared to the national average of 215. Kansas eighth graders had an average scale score of 268, as compared to the national average of 261.