

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Dwayne Umbarger at 1:38 p.m. on February 20, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senators Hensley & Downey (excused)

Committee staff present: Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statues
Judy Steinlicht, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Senator Brownlee
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, State Board of Education
Jim Medina, USD #233, Olathe, Milken Award Winner
Cheris Bass, USD #204, Bonner Springs, Milken Award Winner
Senator Oleen
Mark Tallman, KASB
Senator Lee

Others attending: See Attached List

Milken Family Foundation Awards

Senator Brownlee visited the Senate Education Committee to congratulate Milken award winner, Jim Medina. Jim is a teacher at her son's school in Olathe.

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, State Board of Education, told the Committee about the selection process of the Milken Family Foundation and introduced Jim Medina, USD #233 Olathe and Cheris Bass, USD #204 Bonner Springs. Jim Medina and Cheris Bass shared personal experience with the Committee and answered questions.

Information on other state's boards of education was requested at yesterday's meeting. This information on the method of election, number of members, etc. was distributed today for the Committee's reference. (Attachment 1)

SB190--State Board of Education; nonpartisan election

Senator Oleen stated that she introduced **SB190** to create dialog among Committee members and to bring more visibility to the various components and various methods of election to the state boards of education in other states. There were no questions.

Mark Tallman, KASB spoke as a proponent of **SB190**. KASB believes there should be an odd number of state board members to prevent tie votes; board members should be selected on a non-partisan basis; and that elections for state board members should be held in conjunction with elections for local board members. KASB members believe that the long tradition of non-partisanship in local school board elections has worked well, and should be extended to members of the state board. (Attachment 2)

SCR 1611--State Board of Education; elected by members of the local boards of education

Senator Lee introduced **SCR 1611** on behalf of letter received from a constituent. He had attended area informational forums on redesigning Kansas schools and has always been interested in education. Senator Lee shared her constituent's letter with the Committee. The local school board is elected by the people and they are subject to the voter's wishes in the individual districts. He believes the local school board members are the most knowledgeable and very interested in what is best for local students. Local level school boards are accountable to the electorate for their decisions. They are well aware of who is on the

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE at 1:38 p.m. on February 20, 2003 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

state board and what they stand for and he believes that the local school boards should elect the State Board of Education. Several comments were made by Committee members.

Chairman Umbarger invited Committee members to let him know if they wished to have further discussion on bills. Interest was expressed in electing an odd number to the State Board of Education.

Meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 123-S.

STATE EDUCATION GOVERNANCE AT A GLANCE
Compiled by the National Association of State Boards of Education
(Revised January 2002)

*Senate Education,
2-20-03,
Attachment 1*

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KSBE

STATE	METHOD OF SELECTION OF STATE BOARD MEMBERS	NUMBER OF VOTING STATE BOARD MEMBERS	LENGTH OF TERM	METHOD OF SELECTION OF CHIEF STATE SCHOOL OFFICER	OFFICIAL ROLE OF CHIEF STATE SCHOOL OFFICER (CSSO) ON STATE BOARD	UNIQUE FEATURE OF STATE BOARD	SPECIAL NOTES
Alabama	Partisan Ballot	8 elected & Governor	4	Appt. by SBE	Sec. & Exec. Officer	Governor sits as President of Board	Four members elected in 1998 received 2-year terms so that 4 members will run for election every other year
Alaska	Appt. by Gov.	7	5	Appt. by SBE, with approval by Gov.	Exec. Officer	Board appoints one non-voting student advisor and one non-voting military advisor	CSSO must have 5 yrs. experience in education; 3 in administration
Arizona	Appt. by Gov.; Confirmed by Senate	9	4	Partisan Ballot	Exec. Officer	Sits as Vo-Tech board	Requires three lay members
Arkansas	Appt. by Gov.	10	6	Appt. by SBE	Agent Ex Officio	The CSSO serves at the pleasure of the Governor	CSSO must have 10 yrs. experience as a teacher, including 5 in administration or supervision, and hold Ark. teacher's certificate
California	Appt. by Gov.	11 incl. student member	4 (1yr. for student)	Non-Partisan Ballot	Sec. & Exec. Officer	Voting student member who has full participation rights	
Colorado	Partisan Ballot	7	6	Appt. by SBE	Secretary		
Connecticut	Appt. by Gov., approved by House and Senate	9	4	Appt. by SBE	Secretary	The Commissioner of Higher Education serves as an ex officio, non-voting member of the board	Beginning in 1998, two student members (non-voting) serve 1-year terms on the board
Delaware	Appt. by Governor, approved by Senate. President serves at the pleasure of the Governor	7	6	Appt. by Gov.	Exec. Secretary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 SBE members must have local board experience; Must be a resident for 5 yrs. in order to sit on board 	Change from State Board-appointed CSSO to Governor-appointed CSSO occurred in 1997.

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Florida	Appt. by Gov. (new board)	7	4	Elected statewide through Dec. 2002; Appt. by SBE beginning Jan. 2003	Currently Secretary & Exec. Officer	After January 7, 2003, this will be a "K-20" board with authority over community colleges and the state's higher education system as well as elementary and secondary education	Florida is in transition from the old board composed of the Governor's cabinet to the new Governor-appointed K-20 board. The transition will be complete in January 2003.
Georgia	Appt. by Gov.	11	7	Elected statewide	Executive Secretary	Must be a resident for 5 yrs. to sit on board	CSSO must have 3 years teaching experience
Hawaii	Non-Partisan Ballot	13	4	Appt. by SBE	Executive Officer	Non-Voting Student Member selected by the state student council	
Idaho	Appt. by Gov.	8	5	Non-Partisan Ballot	Executive Secretary and voting Ex Officio member of the board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be a resident for 3 yrs. in order to sit on board; • Members are also Regents of the Univ. of Idaho 	
Illinois	Appt. by Gov.	9	6	Appt. by SBE	Chief Executive Officer	Requirements for regional and political balance on board	Chair is appointed by Governor
Indiana	10 appt. by Gov. and elected Chief	11	4	Partisan Ballot	Chairman and voting member	4 members must be educators Political balance is required	\$2,000 per year for state board members
Iowa	Appt. by Gov.	9	6	Appt. by Gov.	Executive Officer		
Kansas	Partisan Ballot	10	4	Appt. by SBE	Executive Officer		
Kentucky	Appt. by Gov.	11	4	Appt. by SBE	Executive Secretary, Executive Admin.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President of Council on Postsecondary Ed. is non-voting ex officio member; • Board members must be resident for 3 yrs., be at least 30 years old, and hold a 2-year Associate degree 	Governor appoints Secretary of Education, Arts & Humanities
Louisiana	8 elected, 3 appt. by Gov.	11	4	Appt. by SBE	Ex. Officio Sec.		
Maine	Appt. by Gov.	9	5	Appt. by Gov.	None		
Maryland	Appt. by Gov.	12 incl. student member	4	Appt. by SBE	Chief Exec./Sec. Treas.	Voting high school student, which is a one-year appointment by the Gov.	CSSO must have 7 yrs. teaching experience, and administration exp.

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Massachusetts	Appt. by Gov.	9 incl. student member	5	Appt. by SBE	Board Secretary & CEO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chancellor of Higher Ed. Board is voting member; Voting student elected by the State Student Advisory Council 	Board reduced from 15 to 9 members in August, 1996. Current terms vary in length to provide transition period.
Michigan	Partisan Ballot	8	8	Appt. by SBE	Chairman	Constitutional Board with defined responsibility for K-12 education and more limited role in post-secondary.	
Minnesota	None			Appt. by Gov.			State Board ended operations as of Dec. 31, 1999. Most board authority was transferred to the Commissioner of Children, Families & Learning
Mississippi	5 appt. by Gov. 4 appt. by Leg.	9	9	Appt. by SBE	Executive Secretary	Lt. Gov. and speaker of the house each appoint 2 members	CSSO must have 5 yrs. admin. experience
Missouri	Appt. by Gov. with consent of Senate	8	8	Appt. by SBE	Chief Admin. Officer	Authority over University and Community College system teacher education programs.	
Montana	Appt. by Gov.	7	7	Partisan Ballot	Ex officio member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-voting Student member; Governor is ex officio member 	
Nebraska	Non-Partisan Ballot	8	4	Appt. by SBE	Executive Officer	Constitutional Board	Teachers; State officials or candidates; and non-residents are not-eligible for board membership.
Nevada	Non-Partisan Ballot	11	4	Appt. by SBE	Secretary	Non-voting Student member	
New Hampshire	Appt. by Gov.	7	5	Appt. by SBE	None	Gov. & Council appoint SBE	
New Jersey	Appt. by Gov.	13	6	Appt. by Gov.	Secretary	3 members of SBE must be women	Resident for 5 yrs. to sit on board
New Mexico	10 elect./5 appt. by Gov.	15	4	Appt. by SBE	Chief Admin. Officer	3 appointed members are of same affiliation as Gov. who appointed them	
New York	Appt. by Legislature	16	5	Appt. by SBE	Chief Executive Officer	Responsible for higher education, cultural institutions, and licensed professions	

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North Carolina	Appt. by Gov.	11	8	Partisan Ballot	Secretary & Chief Admin. Officer	2 Teacher of the Year advisors; 2 student advisors	Separate higher ed. board Separate community colleges board
North Dakota	Appt. by Gov.	7	6	Non-Partisan Ballot	Exec. Dir. & Sec.		
Ohio	11 elected by Non-Partisan Ballot; 8 Appt. by Gov.	19	4	Appt. by SBE	Secretary & Admin. Officer	Separate board for higher education	2 Ex Officio members (non-voting)
Oklahoma	Appt. by Gov.	7	6	Partisan Ballot	Chairperson of both State Board and State Board of Voc. and Tech. Education	State Board members are ex officio voting members of the State Board of Vocational and Technical Education	New Board member must take new Board member training established by the State Department during the first year of membership to remain on Board.
Oregon	Appt. by Gov.	7	4	Non-Partisan Ballot	Admin. Officer	K-12 and Community College Authority	
Pennsylvania	Appt. by Gov., confirmed by Senate	21	6	Appt. by Gov.	Chief Executive Officer	Statutory responsibility for post-secondary education.	Also sits as State Board for Vocational Education; 4 Ex Officio legislative members
Rhode Island	Appt. by Gov.	11	3	Appt. by SBE	Chief Executive Officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 member is appointed from House; 1 member is appointed from Senate 	Separate Higher Education Board
South Carolina	Appt. by Legislature	17	4	Partisan Ballot	Secretary & Admin. Officer	Legislative delegations elect 16 SBEs; gov. appoints 1 SBE member.	
South Dakota	Appt. by Gov.	9	4	Appt. by Gov.	Executive Officer		
Tennessee	Appt. by Gov., confirmed by General Assembly	10 incl. student member	9	Appt. by Gov.	Required to be present at SBE meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Voting student member (1 yr. term) Board selects Executive Director Serves as State Board for Vocational Education 	The Board maintains its own staff apart from the Dept. of Ed.; Exec. Dir. of Higher Education Commission is ex officio, non-voting member of SBE.
Texas	Partisan Ballot	15	4	Appt. by Gov.	Executive Secretary	The SBE is also the State Board for Vocational Education.	
Utah	Non-Partisan Ballot	15	4	Appt. by SBE	Executive Officer	The SBE is also the State Board for Career and Technology Education.	\$3,000 per year for SBE members.

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Vermont	Appt. by Gov. and approved by the Senate	9 incl. student member	6	Appt. by SBE and approved by Gov.	CEO & Secretary	Chair is elected by the board for 2-year term.	2 student members: one is appointed each year for a 2-year term. Student does not vote during 1 st year of term, has full voting rights during 2 nd .
Virginia	Appt. by Gov.	9	4	Appt. by Gov.	Secretary		Sec. of Ed. is a cabinet member
Washington	9 elected by local school board members, 1 elected by private schools	11	4	Non-Partisan Ballot	Chief Executive Officer and Ex Officio member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CSSO votes only to break ties; Private school rep. votes only on issues affecting private schools; Nonvoting students and Governor's representatives 	
West Virginia	Appt. by Gov.	9	9	Appt. by SBE	Chief Executive Officer		
Wisconsin	None			Non-Partisan Ballot			
Wyoming	Appt. by Gov.	11	6	Partisan Ballot	Ex Officio Member	Meets quarterly; reviews all school accreditation compliance for approval or disapproval.	Deputy CSSO is ex officio member and parliamentarian
District of Columbia	5 Non-Partisan Ballot 4 appt. by mayor	9	4	Appt. by SBE	Ex Officio Member	Board president elected at-large	Newly reconfigured board took office in January 2001
Guam	No central board; four district boards elected by voters in each district			Appt. by Gov., confirmed by legislature	Chief Executive Officer		The CSSO (Director of Education) has policymaking authority for state-level functions
Northern Marianas	Elected	5	4			Serves as both the state and local school board	
Puerto Rico	Appt. By Gov.	7	5	Appt. by Gov.	None	General Council on Education is a state agency for licensing and accreditation of public and private schools from pre-school to post secondary—not university level.	



Testimony on
S.B. 190 – State Board of Education
Before the
Senate Committee on Education

By
Mark Tallman, Assistant Executive Director/Advocacy

February 20, 2003

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to appear today as a proponent of S.B. 190. Several years ago, the KASB Delegate Assembly adopted the following policy position:

“KASB believes that there should be an odd number of state board members to prevent tie votes; board members should be selected on a non-partisan basis; and that elections for state board members should be held in conjunction with elections for local board members.”

As I noted in testimony before this committee yesterday, changing the number of state board members would require a constitutional amendment. This bill would accomplish the other two points in our position: non-partisan election and changing to the election cycle for state board members to coincide with local board elections.

Our members believe that the long tradition of non-partisanship in local school board elections has worked well, and should be extended to members of the state board. We believe that, throughout the history of the state board since it was established in 1966, political orientation has played little role in its actions. However, under the current method of selection, there are often instances where all the candidates are from one of the two major parties. This means, in effect, that voters in a single party choose the State Board Member for the entire district. If there are only two candidates, we believe both should be on the general election ballot. If there are more than two, the ballot should be narrowed in a non-partisan primary, as in done in local school board elections.

We support moving the election of State Board Members to coincide with local board elections for several reasons. First, we believe that state board elections might receive more attention if they were not on the same ballot with all of the other federal, state and county offices in November. Second, we believe this change might also raise awareness of local elections for cities and counties in April. Third, if the elections are made non-partisan, it would be consistent to move them from November to April.

Thank you for your consideration.

*Senate Education
2-20-03
Attachment 2*