State Board of Education
Summary of Action Items
January 27, 2012

1. Resolutions and Presentations

The board approved a resolution recognizing the Texas finalists for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching. The finalists for Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics Teaching are Cynthia Knowles from Eisenhower Senior High School in the Aldine Independent School District (ISD), Dixie Ross from Pflugerville High School in Pflugerville ISD and Jill Stevens from Trinity High School in the Hurst-Euless-Bedford ISD. The state finalists for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science Teaching are Gianluca Corsi from Haltom High School in the Birdville ISD, Joy Killough from Westwood High School in Round Rock ISD and M.J. Tykoski from Cooper Junior High School in Wylie ISD.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Curriculum Division at (512) 463-9581.

2. Approval of Consent Agenda

Any agenda item may be placed on the Consent Agenda by any State Board of Education committee.

(1) Proposed Repeal of 19 TAC Chapter 111, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Mathematics, Subchapter A, Elementary, §§111.11-111.17, Subchapter B, Middle School, §§111.21-111.24, Subchapter C, High School, §§111.31-111.37, and Subchapter D, Other High School Mathematics Courses, §111.52
(First Reading and Filing Authorization)
(Committee of the Full Board)

The board took no action on this item.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Curriculum Division at (512) 463-9581.

(2). Ratification of the Purchases and Sales of the Investment Portfolio of the Permanent School Fund for the Months of October and November 2011
(Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund)

The board ratified the purchases and sales of securities executed in the portfolio of the Permanent School Fund for the months of October and November 2011 in the amount of $719,856,578 and $567,482,023 respectively.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the office of the Permanent School Fund (512) 463-9169.

(3) Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 33, Statement of Investment Objectives, Policies, and Guidelines of the Texas Permanent School Fund
(First Reading and Filing Authorization)
(Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund)
Pulled from Consent

The board approved for first reading and filing authorization proposed amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 33, Statement of Investment Objectives, Policies, and Guidelines of the Texas Permanent School Fund. The proposed amendments were necessary to reflect voter approval of Proposition 6, the constitutional amendment that expanded the base by which Permanent School Fund distributions to the Available School Fund are calculated. Other changes were made to clarify current procedures and policies.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the office of the Permanent School Fund (512) 463-9169.

(4) Decision on Real Estate Investments
(Committee on School Finance/Permanent School Fund)

The board approved the execution of agreement(s) with Prudential Real Estate Investors (PREI) necessary to make an investment commitment of up to $50 million in Senior Housing Partners IV, L.P., subject to continued due diligence and negotiation of fund terms.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the office of the Permanent School Fund (512) 463-9169.

(5) Recommendation for Appointments to the Randolph Field Independent School District Board of Trustees
(Committee on School Initiatives)

The board approved the reappointment of Sharon Holland and John McKinley and the appointment of Patrick Luna to the board of trustees of the Randolph Field Independent School District for a two-year term of office from Jan. 27, 2012 to Jan. 26, 2014.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Department of Accreditation and School Improvement at (512) 475-3697.

(6) Update of Employers for Education Excellence Award
(Committee on School Initiatives)

The board approved changes to the requirements for the SBOE's Employers for Education Excellence Award. These include striking the requirement that companies have formal procedures that would not require employees to use sick leave or vacation leave to attend either parent-teacher conferences or for volunteer duties at local schools, thereby allowing more smaller businesses to participate in the program. Other changes include moving the nomination period to March through May, giving businesses additonal ways to prove they allow employees to

participate in parent-teacher conferences or school volunteer opportunities and authorizing the board chair to approve the list of businesses recommended to receive the award. The changes are effective with the 2012 nomination process.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Division of Communications and State Board of Education Support at (512) 463-9000.

ITEMS FOR ACTION BY THE FULL SBOE (COMMITTEE OF THE FULL BOARD)

3. Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 111, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Mathematics, Subchapter A, Elementary, Subchapter B, Middle School, Subchapter C, High School, and Subchapter D, Other High School Mathematics Courses (First Reading and Filing Authorization)

The board gave preliminary approval to new mathematics Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills as amended. The standards will be posted in the Texas Register and available for public comment in mid-February, with final board approval anticipated in April.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Curriculum Division at (512) 463-9581.

4. Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter A, Required Curriculum, §74.1, Essential Knowledge and Skills, and §74.3, Description of a Required Secondary Curriculum, and Proposed New Chapter 74, Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter G, Graduation Requirements, Beginning with School Year 2012-2013 (Second Reading and Final Adoption)

The board approved on second reading and final adoption amendments to the graduation requirements, beginning with school year 2012-2013. The new subchapter updates the graduation requirements to align with recently passed legislation, allows additional courses to satisfy certain graduation requirements, and provides additional clarification regarding requirements. The board clarified that a student may not combine a half credit of a course for which there is an end-of-course exam with another half credit to satisfy a graduation requirement.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Curriculum Division at (512) 463-9581.

5. Update on Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) Review

No action was taken on this item.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Curriculum Division at (512) 463-9581.

6. Adoption of Review of and Proposed Revisions to 19 TAC Chapter 66, State Adoption and Distribution of Instructional Materials
(Adoption of Review)
(First Reading and Filing Authorization of Revisions)

The board approved to maintain rules for the state adoption and distribution of instructional materials as required by Texas Government Code, Chapter 2001.039 which establishes the four year rule review cycle. They also approved for first reading and filing authorization the proposed amendments to Chapter 66 to meet the new requirements in Senate Bill (SB) 6 that was passed by the Texas Legislature in 2011.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Division of Instructional Materials and Educational Technology at (512) 463-9601.

7. Proposed Cycle for the Adoption of Instructional Materials

The board approved a new schedule for the adoption of instructional materials. Proclamation 2014 is scheduled to be issued at the April 2012 State Board of Education meeting. The content for Proclamation 2014 includes science materials for all grades; mathematics materials for kindergarten through eighth grade; and technology applications. The full adoption cycle is attached.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Division of Instructional Materials and Educational Technology at (512) 463-9601.

COMMITTEE ON INSTRUCTION

8. Proposed Approval of Innovative Courses

The board approved the renewal of the following innovative courses: G/T Interdisciplinary Studies/Mentor Seminar I-IV for a three-year period; Coca-Cola Valued Youth Program for a three-year period; Pathway to Success for a one-year period; and Methodology for Academic and Personal Success for a one-year period. The board also approved one new innovative course, Path College/Career Prep I-IV, for a three-year period. Innovative courses approved by the SBOE are courses that do not fall within any of the subject areas of the foundation or enrichment curriculum.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Curriculum Division at (512) 463-9581.

9. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 118, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits, Subchapter A, High School, §118.4, Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits, High School (One-Half Credit), Beginning with School Year 2011-2012
(Second Reading and Final Adoption)

The board approved the proposed amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 118, Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills for Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits, Subchapter A, High School, §118.4, Economics with Emphasis on the Free Enterprise System and Its Benefits, High School (One-Half Credit), Beginning with School Year 2011-2012. The proposed amendment would add methods of paying for college and other postsecondary education and training

to the standards for personal financial literacy to align with requirements of House Bill (HB) 34 passed in 2011. School districts will be required to implement the new standards beginning in the 2012-2013 school year.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Curriculum Division at (512) 463-9581.

COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE/PERMANENT SCHOOL FUND

10. Consideration of the Development of Strategic Relationships Within the Absolute Return Asset Class

The board approved the Pricing Proposal Request for an absolute return strategic relationship between existing fund-of-fund managers and the Texas Permanent School Fund. The purpose of the relationship is to reduce management fees and to act to solicit appropriate services.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Office of the Permanent School Fund (512) 463-9169.

COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL INITIATIVES

11. Proposed Amendment to 19 TAC Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter A, Board of Trustees Relationship, §61.2, Nomination of Trustees for Military Reservation School Districts and Boys Ranch Independent School District (Second Reading and Final Adoption)

The board approved amendments to the rules pertaining to the nomination of board of trustees members for military reservation school districts and the Boys Ranch Independent School District. One amendment specifies that the term of office for board members appointed to all types of special-purpose school districts is two years and clarifies the process for filling a vacancy on a special-purpose school district board resulting from the disqualification or resignation of a board member. One additional change recommended and approved since first reading establishes the president and chief executive officer of the Cal Farley's Boys Ranch, instead of the superintendent of the Boys Ranch ISD, as the position responsible for nominating trustee candidates for the Boys Ranch ISD board of trustees.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Department of Accreditation and School Improvement at (512) 475-3697.

12. Proposed Amendments to 19 TAC Chapter 157, Hearings and Appeals, Subchapter A, General Provisions for Hearings Before the State Board of Education, and Subchapter D, Independent Hearing Examiners (Second Reading and Final Adoption)

The board approved for second reading and final adoption amendments to the rules on hearings before the SBOE and certification of independent hearing examiners. The amendments prohibit parties to a contested case before the SBOE from communicating with board members during the pendency of the case, address technological advances, and standardize references to independent hearing examiners.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Division of Legal Services at (512) 463-9720.

13. Action on Authorized Generation 16 Charter – The Pro-Vision Academy

The board postponed a decision on the rescission of its contingent authorization for a charter to be operated by the Pro Vision Educational Services, Inc., to allow the organization until March 16, 2012 to provide agency staff the required documentation from the Internal Revenue Service.

Staff Contact: Questions about this item should be directed to the Division of Charter School Administration at (512) 463-9575.