Report of the State Board of Education
Committee on School Initiatives
January 22, 2009

The State Board of Education Committee on School Initiatives met at 6:15 p.m. on Thursday, January 22, 2009, in Room #1-111 of the William B. Travis Building, 1701 N. Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas. All members of the committee were present, as follows:

Present: Bob Craig, Chair; Mavis B. Knight, Vice Chair; Mary Helen Berlanga; Pat Hardy; and Don McLeroy

Non-Committee Members Present: Lawrence Allen, Jr.

Public Testimony

This item provides an opportunity for the public to present testimony at the time the related item comes up for committee discussion or action. The procedures for registering and taking public testimony at State Board of Education committee meetings and general board meetings are provided at **http://www.tea.state.tx.us/sboe/op_rules.html** or in the information section (yellow pages) of the agenda.

The Committee on School Initiatives received no presentations of public testimony.

1. Election of Chair
(No agenda exhibit)

State Board of Education (SBOE) operating rules call for each committee to elect a chair from among its members. This item provides an opportunity for each of the SBOE standing committees to elect a chair in the event that the SBOE elects to retain the existing committee structure. The chair may appoint a vice chair. If the board changes the committee structure, the committee may elect a member to preside over the January meeting only. Statutory authority for this action is the Texas Education Code, §7.107.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Mary Helen Berlanga, seconded by Pat Hardy, and carried unanimously to elect Bob Craig as Chair of the Committee on School Initiatives. Mr. Craig appointed Mavis B. Knight as vice chair of the committee.*

CONSENT ITEM

2. Recommendation for Appointments to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees
(Board agenda page IV-1)
[Consent agenda item (#5)]

This item provides an opportunity for board consideration of three appointments to the board of trustees of the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District. These appointments are necessary to

fill the vacancies resulting from the expiration of the terms of office for three board members. Statutory authority for this action is Texas Education Code (TEC), §11.352, and 19 TAC §61.2.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Bob Craig, seconded by Pat Hardy, and carried unanimously to recommend the reappointment of Keith Toney to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees, to serve a two-year term of office from January 23, 2009, through January 22, 2011.*

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Pat Hardy, seconded by Mavis B. Knight, and carried unanimously to recommend the reappointment of Deborah Seabron to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees, to serve a two- year term of office from January 23, 2009, through January 22, 2011.*

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Don McLeroy, seconded by Mavis B. Knight, and carried unanimously to recommend the reappointment of Eustace Lewis to the Fort Sam Houston Independent School District Board of Trustees, to serve a two-year term of office from January 23, 2009, through January 22, 2011.*

ACTION ITEM

3. Proposed Process for Awarding Open-Enrollment Charters to Remaining Generation 14 Applicants
(Board agenda page IV-47)
[Official agenda item #18]

This item provides the State Board of Education (SBOE) an opportunity to adopt a process for awarding open-enrollment charter schools to remaining Generation 14 applicants when charters become available. Statutory authority for this action is Texas Education Code (TEC), §12.101 and §12.110.

MOTION AND VOTE: *It was moved by Don McLeroy and seconded by Mary Helen Berlanga to approve the proposal that, if one or more charters become available for award at a State Board of Education (SBOE) meeting prior to September 1, 2009, it would offer each remaining Generation 14 applicant a chance to provide a 10-minute overview of the program to the Committee on School Initiatives. This will occur at the Committee on School Initiatives meeting the day before the SBOE may award available charters. If an additional charter or charters become available for award at a subsequent SBOE meeting, but prior to September 1, 2009, the remaining applicants will be expected to attend the Committee on School Initiatives meeting the day before the SBOE meeting when the committee members will discuss the applications, but there will be no additional presentations by the applicants. The committee members will deliberate and determine the recommendation for the board, and the board may take action the following day to award charters. The motion carried by a 4-0 vote. Ms. Hardy was absent for the vote.*

The meeting of the Committee on School Initiatives adjourned at 6:28 p.m.