

**MISSOURI NEA'S  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

*Notes from the June 21, 2007 meeting of the State Board of Education*

**DERIO GAMBARO SWORN IN AS NEW MISSOURI STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMEBER**

Sworn in by his father with his mother, Derio Gambaro began his term as an active member of the Missouri State Board of Education on June 21, 2007.

Gambaro is an engineer for BRI Inc. He served in the Missouri House of Representatives from 1998 to 2002, during which time he served on the education committee. Gambaro attended the United States Air Force Academy and graduated from St. Louis University in 1979.

**APPROVAL OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION STANDARDS IN MISSOURI**

Board approved standards to meet the requirements of a law passed in 2006, which requires the Department to develop and maintain high standards for quality early childhood education.

Diane Addison, Early Childhood Director, Hannibal Public Schools, and JoAnne Ralston, Director of Early Childhood Education presented strategies that would direct the Early Childhood Task Force towards accomplishing the goals of improved student performance for all students in a safe environment for learning. These strategies included Vision, Principles and Quality Standards that have been enforced over the past 2 years. The Early Childhood Task Force encompasses 70 members who work in private childcare programs, early childhood programs, Head Start, and other state agencies. This task force developed the standards adopted by the board.

**RIVERVIEW GARDENS SCHOOL DISTRICT LOOSES ACCREDITATION**

In a unanimous decision, the Missouri State Board of Education classified the Riverview Gardens School District as Unaccredited beginning July 1, 2007 due to district's low performance status and financial situation.

Becky Kemna, Coordinator, Missouri School Improvement Program, School Improvement Accreditation Section presented the accreditation history of Riverview Gardens. Provisionally accredited in 3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle MSIP, Riverview Gardens dropped to an unaccredited status in the 4<sup>th</sup> Cycle Review.

3<sup>rd</sup> Cycle Accreditation  
Provisionally Accredited

4<sup>th</sup> Cycle Accreditation  
Unaccredited

In 2006, the district only met three (3) performance standards out of eleven (11). The three (3) performance standards met include: MAP Grades 3-5 Mathematics, Career Education Placement, and Graduation Rate.

Derio Gambaro abstained from vote due to lack of time to become knowledgeable on the topic.

**BOARD RECEIVES REPORT ON EDUCATON-RELATED LEGISLATION PASSED DURING THE 2007 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Dr. Schulte updated the Board on the 2007 legislative session. Two-hundred (200) education related bills were proposed and 20 have been Truly Agreed To and Finally Passed during the 2007 legislative session. A few bills worth noting include:

- **HB 678** Certain school districts declared federal disaster areas from January 2007 ice storms
- **HB 741** Laws changes regarding tax increment financing
- **HB 1055** Law changes regarding sexual education instruction in public schools and establishes public awareness and services for alternatives to abortion programs
- **SB 16** Every child enrolled in kindergarten or first grade is to receive a comprehensive vision examination
- **SB 22** Modifies laws relating to political subdivisions
- **SB 64** Authorizes school districts to set opening date for schools prior to Labor Day and provides exemption to make-up days requirement based on inclement weather
- **SB 84** Modifies provisions relating to child placement and protection
- **SB 112** Modifies provisions relating to special education
- **SB 339** Creates the “Fairness in Public Construction Act”
- **SB 406** Modifies provisions regarding employee benefit plans
- **SB 456** Grants additional payment to school districts in certain situations

### **MISSOURI HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES’ PERFORMANCE REPORT**

Tom Ogle, Director of School Core Data, and Leigh Ann Grant-Engle, Data Manager, presented information and discussion of the agenda item.

As required by state law, RSMo 173.750, the Missouri High School Graduates Performance Report is prepared by the Department of Higher Education. As of 1996, the report provides current and historical data about classes of Missouri public high school graduates that enrolled in Missouri public colleges and universities (2-year and 4-year). Data includes enrollment data (disaggregated by gender and ethnicity), average ACT score, enrollment in postsecondary remedial coursework, completion/retention data (first fall and spring, second fall, freshman to sophomore), average cumulative GPA, and two-year, four-year, and total average graduation rates from public colleges and universities.

The report is available on the DESE website under educational performance for each district and building. [www.dese.mo.gov](http://www.dese.mo.gov)

### **MISSOURI RECOGNIZED AS MAINTAINING RIGOROUS PERFORMANCE STANDARDS**

According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) report on Mapping 2005 State Proficiency Standards onto NAEP Scale, Missouri is shown to maintain rigorous math performance standards in grades 4 and 8. Information regarding Missouri’s reading standards was not accessed by this years’ NAEP Scale.

As provided by the NAEP report, “implications of the report are that there are large differences among states in the relative stringency of the states’ proficiency standards used for AYP purposes.”

### **HIGH ENROLLMENT AT MISSOURI’S VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION PROGRAM**

Curt Fuchs, Director of Virtual Schools, reported that the program will serve 2,000 Missouri Students. Enrollment in the high school program is at 100% and elementary enrollment is at 96%. Of the current data provided, 50.2% are female and 48.8% are male. A little over one-fourth of the students will be enrolled full-time. Highest enrollment are in Spanish 1 (secondary level), Mathematics (elementary level), and AP courses.

St. Louis County maintains the highest enrollment rate and six (6) Missouri counties decided not to participate in the Virtual School Program.

### **MISSOURI NEA MEMBERS REPORT TO THE BOARD**

The Missouri Advisory Council for the Certification of Educators (MACCE) members, Donna Collins and Tim Ema are two of Missouri NEA's six representatives on this important council:

Donna Collins, a teacher at Grandview C-4 School District did an excellent job preparing and presenting a detailed report regarding recruitment and retention. Tim Ema, a teacher at Ferguson-Florissant R-11 School District, provided detailed material regarding collaboration with higher education. Donna and Tim served as MACCE subcommittee chairs this year.

### **ADDITIONAL APPOINTMENTS AND REAPPOINTMENTS MADE TO THE MISSOURI ADVISORY COUNCIL OF CERTIFICATION FOR EDUCATORS**

Three MNEA members were appointed to MACCE. Judy Webb and Tim Ema were reappointed to the council and Karen Davis was appointed to replace Julia Todd on the council. The terms for these individuals on MACCE will expire on June 30, 2011.

### **IN OTHER ACTION THE STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

- Authorized subject specific competencies for beginning educators
- Considered of classification of school districts under the Missouri School Improvement Program
- Received an update on the St. Louis Public School District. A 3-member board and law firm was set in place for review. Becky Kemna, Missouri School Improvement Program, School Improvement and Accreditation Section testified. 120 day extension was filed.
- Heard the Federal Legislative Report was read
- Received an update on Wellston School District Progress
- Considered seven (7) request for appointment to the Missouri Advisory Council of Certification for Educators (MACCE)
- Considered request for a Substitute Certificate of License to Teach
- Considered to discipline the Certificates of License to teach in four (4) cases
- Considered the Fiscal Year 2008 Salary Schedules for DESE Support and Professional Staff, State Schools Teacher and Non-Teaching Positions, and Support Staff for State Board Operated Programs