The January meeting of the Board of Education was held telephonically. Board members Gene Vincent, Sally Frudden, Charlie Edwards, Sister Jude Fitzpatrick, Rosie Hussey, Wayne Kobberdahl, Greg McClain, Mary Jean Montgomery and Max Phillips were present. Also present were Department Director Judy Jeffrey and staff members Gail Sullivan, Pam Pfitzenmaier, Carol Greta, Jeff Berger, Kathi Slaughter, Roger Utman, Su McCurdy, Michelle Wendel, Suana Wessendorf and Beverlee Adams.

President Gene Vincent called the meeting to order.

It was moved by Rosie Hussey and seconded by Sally Frudden to approve the agenda as written.

**Rules: Chapter 6—Duties and Operational Procedures (GAAP) — Adopt**

Su McCurdy, Administrative Consultant and School Budget Review Committee Liaison was present to answer questions on the proposed Chapter 6 amendments. The major purpose of the proposed amendments to the School Budget Review Committee’s operational procedures was to implement Iowa Code subsection 257.31(4), by requiring all school districts to implement the generally accepted accounting principles.

**Motion:** It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Rosie Hussey that the Chapter 6, “Duties and Operational Procedures (GAAP)” rule amendments be approved for adoption.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**Rules: Chapter 41—Special Education — Notice**

The Chapter 41 rule amendments conform rule language to federal law and provide alignment of departmental rules with federal regulations and standards. A more comprehensive review of Chapter 41 will be provided following finalization of the Reauthorized Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.
Motion: It was moved by Wayne Kobberdahl and seconded by Mary Jean Montgomery that the Chapter 41, “Special Education” rule amendments be approved for notice of intended action.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Appeal Decision

Carol Greta, Legal Consultant, presented an overview of the appeal decision In re Petition to Change Affiliated Area Education Agency. AR-WE-VA Community School District, Appellant, v. Heartland AEA 11 and Northwest Area Education Agency. The Appellant is a local school district currently located in the newly reorganized Northwest Area Education Agency. The Northwest AEA is made up of the combined AEA 4 and AEA 12 agencies. AR-WE-VA petitioned to be allowed to change to AEA 11.

Due to a conflict, Gene Vincent removed himself from discussion and voting on this agenda item.

The decisions by both AEA boards denied AR-WE-VA’s request due to the fact that AEA 12 has successfully served AR-WE-VA’s needs in the past and the newly reorganized Northwest AEA felt that the district’s needs would continue to be adequately served in the future. The administrative law judge found no abuse or discretion by either Board’s decision.

Motion: It was moved by Sister Jude Fitzpatrick and seconded by Rosie Hussey that the State Board approve the proposed decision of the administrative law judge.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously with Gene Vincent abstaining.

Administrator Preparation Program-Loras/St. Ambrose University

Pam Pfitzenmaier, Division Administrator and Del Hoover, Deputy Division Administrator, Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education presented this agenda item.

Pfitzenmaier said that Chapter 256.7 of the Code of Iowa provided authority for the State Board of Education to set standards and procedures for the approval of practitioner preparation programs. The rules in Chapter 79 further described approval of the administrator preparation programs. If approved, the administrator preparation program jointly submitted by Loras College and St. Ambrose University will be the sixth administrator preparation program approved by the State Board.
Pfitzenmaier and Hoover provided an overview of the Report of the National Panel for Administrator Preparation Program Review for Loras/St. Ambrose Consortium for Educational Leadership.

**Motion:** It was moved by Sally Frudden and seconded by Max Phillips that the State Board approve the Loras/St. Ambrose administrator preparation program through the next review cycle.

**Vote:** The motion carried unanimously.

**State Board Advocacy for 2006 Legislative Session**

Jeff Berger, Legislative and Policy Liaison, conducted the discussion on State Board advocacy. He stated that each year the State Board developed a legislative priority platform for the legislative session.

During this session Board members discussed several education priorities and how they could encourage positive reinforcement of ideas with legislators. The Board felt the information provided by Jeff Berger was a valuable resource in fielding constituent or legislative questions.

President Gene Vincent adjourned the telephonic meeting.

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Gene E. Vincent    Judy A. Jeffrey, Director and
President     Executive Officer