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Chancellor Rosenstone stated that discussions with the Governor's office and with legislators have gone extremely well. Leaders understand that access to the education that the system delivers, as well as the quality of the graduates, are key to the prosperity of communities across Minnesota. The Governor and House and Senate leadership have responded with their interests in increasing funding for higher education and are committed to increased transparency and accountability. Chancellor Rosenstone concluded that he looks forward to working with Governor Dayton and the members of the House and Senate over the weeks ahead.

4. Consent Agenda

(1) Review and Approve Release of 2012 Audited Financial Statements

(2) Metropolitan State University Approval of Contract Exceeding \$3 Million for WebWOC Program

(3) Winona State University Approval of Contract Exceeding \$3 Million for eWarrior Program

(4) Approval of Joint Powers Agreement, Southwest Minnesota State University

(5) Itasca Community College 2004 Revenue Bond Refunding

Trustee Michael Vekich moved approval of the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

5. Board Policy Decisions

There were no Board Policy Decisions.

6. Board Standing Committee Reports

a. Audit Committee

Philip Krinkie, Chair

Committee Chair Philip Krinkie reported that the committee heard a report from the external auditors on the release of the audited financial statements. He thanked the presidents and staff for an excellent audit report.

b. Finance and Facilities Committee

Michael Vekich, Chair

(1) 2012 and 2011 Audited Financial Statements

Committee Chair Michael Vekich reported on the 2012 and 2011 Audited Financial Statements. The statements were presented to the Audit Committee on January 15, 2013.

c. Joint Study Session: Diversity and Equity and Academic and Student Affairs Committees

Cheryl Dickson and Duane Benson, Co-Chairs

• **Closing the Achievement Gap**

Committee co-chair Cheryl Dickson reported on the joint study session of the Diversity and Equity and Academic and Student Affairs Committees on closing the achievement gap. Data from secondary schools and the system institutions were reviewed. Proposed

