

STATE OF KANSAS

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DURING SESSION

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JOINT COMMITTEE ON ARTS AND  
CULTURAL RESOURCES  
MEMBER: WAYS AND MEANS  
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David Dennis, Chairperson  
Kansas State Board of Education  
120 S.E. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Chairperson Dennis:

The Senate Committee on Education held a hearing on HB 2444 regarding seclusion and restraint in public schools. The Committee voted on March 13, 2012, to table HB 2444 dealing with this issue in light of the fact that the Board voted at its March meeting to take action on the Kansas Guidelines on Seclusion and Restraint as amended in 2011 into Emergency Safety Interventions. The Senate Education Committee may or may not discuss HB 2444 during the veto session depending upon the decision of the State Board, which we understand will occur at the April State Board meeting.

As the Board works on the issues related to seclusion and restraint, the Senate Education Committee requests the Board consider developing rules and regulations related to this issue. In addition, the Committee looks forward to receiving information related to effective training methods in crisis intervention and prevention, including the expansion of the Multi-Tier System of Supports, and Positive Behavior Support training. The Committee heard compelling testimony regarding the effectiveness of such programs and believes teacher training in these methods will result in positive outcomes for Kansas students.

In addition, the Senate Education Committee tabled Senate Bill 410 dealing with dyslexia; however, we remain concerned about students with a diagnosis of dyslexia. We know schools are working hard to educate dyslexic students, but many parents remain concerned. Perhaps, additional training of educators with such programs as Alphabetic Phonics and other such programs would prove effective for dyslexic students. We heard from many parents in our meetings and hundreds *via* e-mail. This is an issue of great concern to many parents.

Following the April meeting of the State Board of Education, I request you send me a report describing the Board's position and recommendations regarding these two issues: seclusion and restraint and diagnosis and education of dyslexic students. In addition to the Senate Education Committee taking possible action at the veto session, the Legislative Educational Planning Committee (LEPC) will review these issues during the interim session. The LEPC also will discuss with the Board of Regents teacher training programs and how these programs might be enhanced to provide additional training related to the issues outlined in this letter.

Legislative Educational Planning Committee  
November 13, 2012  
Attachment 2

If you have any suggestions for the Committee, we welcome them. We thank you for your hard work and dedication to our Kansas children.

Sincerely, *Jean Kurtis Schodorf*

Jean Kurtis Schodorf  
Chairperson, Senate Education Committee

*Thank you!*

cc:

Ed McKechnie, Chairperson  
Andy Tompkins, President and CEO  
Kansas Board of Regents

Dr. Diane DeBacker, Commissioner  
Kansas Department of Education