

MINUTES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kathe Decker at 9:00 A.M. on January 26, 2006 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office
Art Griggs, Revisor of Statutes Office
Ann Deitcher, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Mark desetti, KNEA
Mike Womochil, Abilene High School
Kevin Bailey, Mill Creek Center
Robert Edelston, Manhattan Area Technical College
Debora Mock, KACTE
Tad Hernandez, Holton High School
Terry Holdren, Kansas Farm Bureau

Kathie Sparks gave an overview of the Post Audit Report regarding vocational education. She explained that under the school finance formula, vocational education is calculated as follows:

The number of contact hours in approved class/ by 6 hours (1 school day) times .5 equals the weighting.

The number of contact hours in approved class/ by 6 hours (1 school day) times .323 equals weighting.

“This calculation of .323 was achieved by taking a sample of 21 school districts that account for 32% of vocational education students and 28% of reported vocational education expenditures for 2004-05. They adjusted the direct costs reported by the 21 school districts by adding capital outlay and bond expenditures attributable to vocational education; adding salary and benefits based on time spent on vocation education; added additional direct expenditures districts had not reported in their vocational education funds for equipment, supplies, maintenance, transportation and repairs; removed allocated overhead expenses that were not incurred exclusively for vocational education programs; removed expenditures not related to an approved vocational education and added other minor adjustments for a total direct expenditure for vocational education.

This information was then allocated by students and ranked highest per pupil expenditure to lowest with the median be determined to be \$5,169 per pupil. From the \$5,169 the auditors deducted the cost of regular instruction per FTE (\$3,637) and federal funding for vocational education per FTE (\$352) which left \$1,375. The \$1,375 was deducted from the current vocational education amount of \$2,129 for a difference of \$754 or a decrease in the weighting of .177.”

Mark Desetti offered the thoughts of the KNEA in regard to the vocational education weighting issues raised in the LPA cost study. (Attachment 1).

Testimony was given by Michael Womochil. (Attachment 2).

Kevin Bailey appeared in support of vocational education. (Attachment 3).

Appearing in support of continued funding for vocational education was Robert Edelston. (Attachment 4).

CONTINUATION SHEET

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Debora Mock spoke as a proponent of vocational education. (Attachment 5).

Tad Hernandez offered testimony in favor of vocational education. (Attachment 6).

Terry Holdren appeared in support of vocational education. (Attachment 7).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2006.