

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dwayne Umbarger at 1:35 p.m. on March 21, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Lee (excused)

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research  
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes  
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner of Education  
Judy Steinlicht, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. Robert McFrazier, Superintendent, USD501  
Dr. Glennie Buckley, General Director of Education Programs  
Nancy Hedstrom, Principal, McClure Elementary School  
Mary Feighny, Assistant Attorney General  
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes

Others attending: See Attached List

### **Briefing on USD501 (Topeka) Mandatory Summer Program**

Dr. Robert McFrazier, Superintendent, USD501 Topeka, thanked the Committee for the legislation passed last year that allowed the summer school program. Dr. McFrazier feels this program has been very successful and that the gains were tremendous. SRS was very helpful with approximately twenty truancy problems with most of those cases closed at this time. Dr. McFrazier introduced Dr. Glennie Buckley and Nancy Hedstrom who were instrumental in getting the program started.

Dr. Glennie Buckley, General Director of Education Programs, USD501 Topeka, gave the Committee information on the curriculum and instruction. Dr. Buckley said the students were selected from multiple criteria. The program was held at four different elementary schools, four hours a day, five days a week. The students were given 20 days of instruction with 18 days required for the child to advance to the next grade. The program provided 5 make-up days, transportation and mid-morning snacks. The teachers were provided with staff development, scripted lessons and materials. The teachers benefitted from what they learned in staff development and were able to carry this into their classrooms during the regular school year. Dr. Buckley told the Committee about the assessments and curriculum for the Kindergarten, First & Second Grades. Support was received from KTWU Public Television, various programs, teacher experience and suggestions and parent involvement. Washburn University Education Department allowed them to offer a one hour credit for teachers who wanted to write up a report on what they had done.

Nancy Hedstrom, Principal of McClure Elementary School, talked about the organizational portion of the program. The goal was to have one teacher to every six students. The attachment shows the number of students qualifying and the number that participated in the program. The attachment also gives figures on attendance, retention, truancy and a record of contacts with parents. Testing results are recorded showing improvement in each grade level. This summer, 2002, they plan to include 5<sup>th</sup> grade and in 2003, 8<sup>th</sup> grade. (Attachment 1)

### **SB2831--Community colleges, interlocal cooperation agreements**

The contents of **HB2844**, a bill allowing High Plains Educational Cooperative and Southwest Kansas Area Cooperative to form a separate legal entity with the approval required by the attorney general, has been amended into **SB2831**. In the March 20 meeting, amendments were discussed and it was recommended that someone from the Attorney General's office clarify these matters.

Mary Feighny, Assistant Attorney General, appeared before the Committee. The Attorney General's office has determined that public agencies can enter into interlocal agreements like community colleges and school district cooperatives, however, to form a separate legal entity, they need independent statutory

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authority. Mary Feighny agreed that striking the phrase “provided such entity may be legally created” in KSA 12-2904C-2, any public agency would be able to create a separate legal entity. Mary also agreed that including interlocal cooperative in the definition of public agency in the Interlocal Cooperation Act, would allow the interlocal cooperative to create a separate legal entity. Community colleges are already recognized as a public agency in the definition and do not need to be added.

Senator Vratil made a motion to amend **HB2831** adding provisions to the bill which would amend KSA 12-2903, the definition of public agency, to include an entity created pursuant to KSA 12-2904A and amendments thereto, and further, by striking that portion of KSA 12-2904C2 which reads “provided such entity may be legally created.” Also to add a grandfather provision for separate entities, created by a community college, prior to the effective date of this act. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

Senator Oleen made a motion to pass **HB2831** favorably as amended. Seconded by Senator Teichman. Motion carried.

### **SB638–Employment after retirement for certain school retirants**

Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes, clarified the proposed amendments as recommended by Senator Kerr in the Senate Education meeting on March 19, 2002. The amendments proposed would make the hard to fill list be reviewed on an annual basis; on page 4, the change would be authorized; the provision would sunset in July 2005; it would authorize an interim study; it would protect those who took advantage of the provision; and employment would be at the discretion of the school board. It would also add the KPERS proposed amendment. (Attachment 2)

Senator Teichman made a motion to adopt the balloon amendments recommended by Senator Kerr for **SB638**. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

Senator Teichman made a motion to adopt an amendment to **SB638** to change the sunset date from July 2005 to June 30, 2006, so that there would be no gap between the sunset date and the time of the interim study. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried. (Attachment 3)

Theresa continued to explain additional amendments previously recommended by the Committee. (Attachment 4) It was the decision of the Committee not to rush passage of the amendments and the bill. It was felt that additional time was needed to digest all of the recommended amendments. Chairman Umbarger agreed and said the bill be worked again at the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.