

Approved: _____
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Representative Ralph Tanner at 9:00 a.m. on March 1, 2000 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: A quorum was present

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research Department
Renaë Jefferies, Revisor of Statutes
Linda Taylor, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Mark Desetti, KNEA
Christi Leving, Learning First Alliance
Mr. Watts, Ottawa Schools
Representative Jim Morrison
Greg Rasmussen, Kansas Department of Education
Doug Heacock, KANREN
Don Heiman, DISC

Others attending: See Attached List

Mark Desetti and Christi Leving made a presentation to the committee regarding the Read Across America program. (Attachments 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5) After giving a brief explanation of the program and its goals, they presented each member of the committee with a book to be donated to a school of their choice. Mr. Desetti explained the Kansas First Reading Circle catalog, a listing of suitable books and age appropriate materials. Ms. Leving then told about the events that would take place on March 2 in regards to the Read Across America activities.

Chairman Tanner introduced Mr. Watts of Ottawa Kansas who attended the committee meeting with a group of gifted students from Ottawa.

Hearings on **HB 2591 - State education technology network (KAN-ED) established** were opened.

Representative Jim Morrison appeared before the committee to present a report of the work completed by the KAN-ED subcommittee during the five meetings they had in concert with the House Utilities subcommittees. (Attachments 6 and 7)

Greg Rasmussen from the State Department of Education appeared before the committee as a proponent of **HB 2591**. (Attachment 8) He introduced the KAN-ED concept and briefly explained some of the advantages and importance of providing Internet services to all students in Kansas unified school districts.

Doug Heacock, Executive Director, KANREN, summarized the KAN-ED project, gave a brief review of **HB 2591** and presented a vision of what KAN-ED will look like in the future. (Attachment 8)

Don Heiman of DISC briefly described his role in **HB 2591** and added that he hopes to see proponents with additions to the bill, not opponents. He further stated that the focus should be on deploying the project. He told the committee that the project could be in place by January 2001 if everyone works together.

Hearings on **HB 2591** were closed.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

