

MINUTES of the JOINT HOUSE and SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEES

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Abrams at 1:00pm on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, 112-N of the Capitol.

All members were present

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Legislative Research Department
Sue Mollenkamp, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Tamera Lawrence, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Edward Penner, Legislative Research Department
Nick Myers, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Sam Williams, Chairman of the K-12 Student Performance and Efficiency Commission

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Bill introductions

Chairman Abrams asked Senate committee members for bill introductions; there were none. Chairman Highland asked House committee members for bill introductions; there were none.

Presentation of the Report of the K-12 Student Performance and Efficiency Commission by Chairperson Sam Williams

Chairman Abrams invited Sam Williams to present to committee members the report and recommendations of the K-12 Student Performance and Efficiency Commission.

Mr. Williams gave a brief description of the diverse background of commission members and then expressed his approach as chairman in setting aside what has been known in order to learn what changes need to be made in the Kansas public education system to produce world-class students with marketable skills which allow them to become self-reliant. In his evaluation, changes made to the current system, which is decades old, have affected the parameter of the system without effecting change to the essence of the system in a way that would enable it to function well in today's world. The commission members held frank conversations on the topics discussed and sought to effect change by listening to all parties involved. Due to the diversity of perspectives, two reports were generated by the commission. Mr. Williams presented the details of the majority and minority sections of the commission report and also explained the legislation recommended there. ([Attachment 1](#))

The Chairmen opened the meeting to questions for Mr. Williams from committee members. When there were not more questions from committee members, Chairman Abrams clarified the number of bills recommended by the commission and explained that the bills would have to be introduced in both the House and the Senate.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Education at 1:00pm on Wednesday, January 14, 2015, 112-N of the Capitol.

Senator Vicki Schmidt asked if it would be possible to amend one of the recommended bills. Discussion took place. Jason Long addressed the question. It was determined that changes to the bills can be made through amendments as they are worked in the committees.

Chairman Abrams asked if there was a motion from the Senate members to sponsor the bill recommended by the commission majority creating the efficient operation of schools task force. Senator Arpke moved and Senator Melcher seconded the Senate Education Committee sponsor the bill. The motion passed.

Chairman Highland asked if there was a motion from House members to sponsor the same bill. Vice-Chairman Lunn moved and Representative Barker seconded the House Education Committee sponsor the bill creating the efficient operation of schools task force. The motion passed.

Chairman Abrams asked if there was a motion from Senate members to sponsor the majority-recommended bill creating the Kansas education standards study commission. Senator Arpke moved and Senator Baumgartner seconded the Senate Education Committee sponsor the bill. The motion passed.

Chairman Highland asked if there was a motion from House members to sponsor the same bill. Representative Lunn moved and Representative Barton seconded the House Education Committee sponsor the bill creating the Kansas education standards study commission. The motion passed.

Chairman Abrams asked if there was a motion from Senate members to sponsor the minority recommended bill relating to negotiable terms and conditions in the professional negotiations act. Senator Melcher moved and Senator Arpke seconded the Senate Education Committee sponsor the bill. Sen. Hensley asked for discussion. Discussion ensued. Questions were answered by Jason Long. Chairman Abrams recommended the motion be withdrawn and the bill introduction addressed at another time. Senator Melcher and Senator Arpke being in agreement with the Chairman's recommendation for withdrawal, the motion was withdrawn.

Chairman Abrams thanked Mr. Williams for his presentation and dismissed Senate members to the Senate floor.

Chairman Highland checked with House members for further business. There being none, the meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

The House Education Committee will meet again on Thursday, January 15, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 112-N of the Capitol.