

MINUTES of the JOINT HOUSE and SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEES

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ron Highland at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, January 27, 2016, 112-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Marc Rhoades – Absent
Representative Sue Boldra – Absent
Representative John Bradford – Absent

Committee staff present:

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

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education (KSDE)
Justin Coffey, Dodge City, high school mathematics instructor
Kristoffer Barikmo, Blue Valley, high school social studies instructor
Lucinda Crenshaw, Lawrence, Grade 7 science instructor
Shelly Jennings, Maize, Grade 2 instructor
Sheila Koup, Eureka, high school English instructor
Nona Mason, Goodland, Kindergarten instructor
B. Jolene Pennington, Paola, Grade 5 instructor
Anna Sahadeo, De Soto, Grade 2 instructor

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Possible bill introductions

Chairman Highland opened the meeting and asked for bill introductions from House committee members; there were none.

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

Presentation by 2016 Teacher of the Year Team

Chairman Abrams invited Dale Dennis to the podium to provide a brief explanation of the Teacher of the Year program selection process and to introduce the Teacher of the Year Team. ([Attachment 1](#)) ([Attachment 2](#))

Justin Coffey, 2016 Teacher of the Year, spoke of his use of project-based instruction and of integrating

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MINUTES of the Committee on Education at 1:30 pm on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 in Room 112-N of the Capitol.

technology in his classroom. He also recognized the importance of helping low-income students develop the skills needed to be successful.

Shelly Jennings commented on the importance of Kindergarten preparedness and its effect on her second-grade classroom.

Nona Mason shared experiences from her Kindergarten classroom which includes a large percentage of students who are learning English as a second language.

Anna Sahadeo spoke of the research done by her second grade class and the learning that took place during their student-selected project on how toilets work. She seeks to individualize her instruction to facilitate student learning.

Jolene Pennington spoke with enthusiasm about the new Department of Education vision for KansansCan and provided information about learning projects used for instruction in her elementary classroom.

Lucinda Crenshaw gave personal background and spoke of ways she encourages her students to be engaged in their learning process and of ways she provides support to those students who learn English as a second language.

Shiela Koup expressed her desire to help students who have experienced little success in their educational process. She works to develop relationships with these students that can free them from past failures and open the opportunity for them to experience academic success.

Kristoffer Barikmo seeks to make government and history relevant to his students and to prepare them for adulthood.

The Teacher of the Year Teams answered questions from committee members.

The House and Senate Committees adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

The House Education Committee will next meet on Thursday, January 28, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 112-N of the Capitol.