

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:

Lauren Douglass, Legislative Research Department
Mark Savoy, Legislative Research Department
Erna Fabert, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Jason Long, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

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

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Joint Meeting of the House and Senate Education Committees

Chairperson Abrams welcomed committee members to the joint meeting of the House and Senate Education Committees.

Bill introductions

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

Presentation of reports by Chairperson Sam Williams, K-12 Student Performance and Efficiency Commission

Chairperson Abrams invited Sam Williams to present to committee members the report and recommendations of the K-12 Student Performance and Efficiency Commission (Commission).
[\(Attachment 1\)](#)

Mr. Williams gave a brief description of the diverse background of Commission members. He then expressed his approach as chairman in setting aside what has been known 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. The chairpersons opened the meeting to questions for Mr. Williams from committee members.

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Questions from committee members being at an end, Chairperson 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.

Senator Vicki Schmidt asked if it would be possible to amend one of the recommended bills. Discussion took place. Jason Long, staff revisor, addressed the question.

Chairperson 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.

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

Chairperson 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 Baumgardner seconded the Senate Education Committee sponsor the bill. The motion passed.

Chairperson 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.

Chairperson 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. Senator Hensley asked for discussion, which followed. Questions were answered by Jason Long.

Chairperson Abrams recommended the motion be withdrawn and the bill introduction addressed at another time. Senator Melcher and Senator Arpke, being in agreement with the Chairperson's recommendation for withdrawal, withdrew their motion.

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

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

CONTINUATION SHEET

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

The next meeting of the Senate Education Committee will be held on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 144-S.