

Approved 3/20/89
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don E. Crumbaker at
Chairperson

~~3:30 a.m.~~ p.m. on March 14, 1989 in room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes' Office
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research
Dale Dennis, Department of Education
Thelma Canaday, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Mr. Ben Barrett, Legislative Research
Mr. Craig Grant, Kansas National Education Association
Mr. Bill Curtis, Kansas Association of School Boards
Mr. Richard Robl, State Board of Education
Ms. Chris Graves, Associated Students of Kansas
Mr. Chuck Stuart, United Schools Administrators

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Crumbaker.

Hearings on SB 13, concerning educational excellence grant program; Re Proposal No. 32, were opened by the chairman.

Mr. Ben Barrett gave explanation of SB 13. Mr. Barrett said this bill creates a new state categorical aid program which provides educational system enhancement grants to qualifying school districts. Mr. Barrett pointed out special attention is given to at risk students Mr. Barrett said the State Board of Education would administer the program as provided in SB 13.

Mr. Craig Grant testified in support of SB 13. Mr. Grant said the educational excellence grant program outlined in SB 13 would allow school districts to experiment with new procedures and technologies. (Attachment 1).

Mr. Bill Curtis spoke in support of SB 13. Mr. Curtis believes SB 13 has potential for enriching the school curriculum through the excellence grant program it would provide. (Attachment 2).

Mr. Richard Robl testified in favor of SB 13. Mr. Robl said the provisions of SB 13 focuses on needs of students and gives financial incentive for schools to change rules and regulations to provide an environment for creative learning. (Attachment 3)

Ms. Chris Graves offered support of SB 13. Ms. Graves pointed out the at risk student would benefit by the enactment of this bill.

Mr. Chuck Stuart spoke in support of SB 13. Mr. Stuart said SB 13 could be a vehicle for the implementation of innovative and experimental procedures to deal with students at-risk. Mr. Stuart recommended additional funding be voted to implement this program. (Attachment 4).

The chairman closed hearings on SB 13.

Chairman Crumbaker asked the committee to consider SB 99, concerning professional negotiation statutory declaration of impasse date.

Representative Williams moved to pass SB 99. Representative Empson seconded the motion. During discussion Representative Lane proposed a substitute motion to insert on page 4 in line 137, after the period, "Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall the statutory declaration of impasse date in the 1988-89 school year be later than June 30." (Attachment 5). Seconded by Representative Blumenthal. Motion failed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
room 519-S, Statehouse, at 3:30 ~~xxx~~/p.m. on March 14, 1989.

Representative Lowther moved a conceptual amendment to remove any reference to a date for impasse. Seconded by Representative Williams. Motion carried.

Representative Williams moved to pass SB 99 as amended. Seconded by Representative Pottorff. Motion carried.

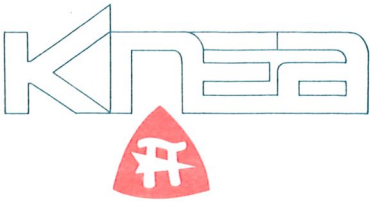
Chairman Crumbaker drew attention to SB 113, concerning the procedure for disposition of unneeded property in school districts.

Representative Blumenthal moved to adopt SB 113 favorably. Seconded by Representative R. D. Miller. Motion carried.

Chairman Crumbaker announced SB 13 concerning the educational excellence grant program will be worked in committee on Thursday.

The meeting was adjourned by the chair at 4:37 p.m.

The next meeting will be March 15, 1989 in Room 519-S at 3:30 p.m.



Craig Grant Testimony Before The
House Education Committee
Tuesday, March 14, 1989

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am Craig Grant and I represent Kansas-NEA. I appreciate this opportunity to visit with the House Education Committee on SB 13.

Kansas-NEA supports SB13. We testified in favor of the concept this summer and believe that the Legislative Educational Planning Committee presented a good bill which could be helpful to Kansas schools. We believe that each school district needs to look at its method of delivering instruction to the students and be willing to experiment with new procedures and technologies. Examination of the recent research on education and refining of our delivery methods in light of a changing student population is essential to keep schools current. Kansas-NEA has also pushed hard for improved inservice education and staff development program. All of these things and more could be enhanced by the educational excellence grant program as outlined in SB 13.

I would suggest two changes conceptually that we could ask be made in the bill. We believe that any moneys transferred from the general fund to the educational system enhancement fund to match the state's share should be outside any budget lids set by the legislature. As you will hear from us again, we believe that budgets are already stretched to the limit and districts need more, not less, flexibility in their general fund budget.

This brings us to our second point. On page four, within lines 119 to 128, we believe it should be made clear that districts do not have to use

general fund money to match the state's contribution; rather, a school could solicit private funds to assist in its educational excellence grant program. It is possible to interpret the bill that way now, but a statement to that effect would clarify the legislative intent.

Kansas-NEA supports SB 13 and offers the above mentioned changes for your consideration. We believe that the educational excellence grant program could assist districts in experimenting with innovative programs to assist the pupils of Kansas. This is certainly a worthwhile investment of our money. Thank you for listening to our concerns.



Testimony before the House Education Committee

by

**Bill Curtis, Assistant Executive Director
Kansas Association of School Boards**

March 14, 1989

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, we appreciate the opportunity to testify on SB 13 on behalf of the 301 member school districts that comprise the Kansas Association of School Boards.

SB 13 would establish an educational excellence grant program and award state moneys to school districts participating in the educational system enhancement plans. The moneys are subject to appropriations by the Legislature and the program would be administered through the State Board of Education. Grants would be limited to 50% of actual costs.

In our deliberations concerning legislative policies this year, KASB totally reworked the section on state school finance. One of the items within that new policy is entitled "Financial Incentives". That policy states that financial incentives should be used to encourage the attainment of objectives and the development of programs which are of sufficient importance to be made a matter of state policy. We believe SB 13 fits that statement. We urge your favorable consideration of SB 13. Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

*Attachment 2
House Education
3/14/89*



Kansas State Board of Education

Kansas State Education Building

120 East 10th Street Topeka, Kansas 66612-1103

Mildred McMillon
District 1

Connie Hubbell
District 4

Bill Musick
District 6

Evelyn Whitcomb
District 8

Kathleen White
District 2

I. B. "Sonny" Rundell
District 5

Richard M. Robl
District 7

Timothy R. Emert
District 9

Paul D. Adams
District 3

Richard J. Peckham
District 10

March 14, 1989

TO: House Education Committee
FROM: State Board of Education
SUBJECT: 1989 Senate Bill 13

My name is Richard Robl, State Board of Education Member from Hutchinson. It is a pleasure for me to appear before you on behalf of the State Board concerning Senate Bill 13.

Senate Bill 13 incorporates two programs which the State Board has included in its legislative recommendations for the 1989 session. The first program concerns the identification and prevention for at-risk students and the second program is structuring schools for the future. We believe the Legislative Educational Planning Committee has consolidated the two programs into one bill which the Board strongly endorses.

The State Board of Education is quite concerned about the identification and intervention of at-risk students. Large numbers of Kansas students experience problems that seriously interfere with their learning, school attendance, preparation for employment, or satisfactory progress toward graduation. They often fall behind their classmates, are truant, behave disruptively, face suspension or expulsion, and drop out of school. If their problems are not addressed effectively, these children face a bleak future: one that will bear enormous costs for both the children and society as a whole.

The number of children at risk of failure in school and life has risen dramatically with the increase in social and cultural stresses on children.

According to statistics compiled by the Children's Defense Fund, the Kansas State Department of Education, the Kansas Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse, and the National Education Association:

- * 19.3 percent of Kansas students who enter the ninth grade do not complete high school.
- * 1,657 Kansas teenagers under the age of 18 are incarcerated in prison.

- * 83.5 percent of Kansas teenagers reported using alcohol before their eighteenth birthday.
- * 26.2 percent of Kansas teenagers reported using marijuana before their eighteenth birthday.
- * 10.6 percent of Kansas teenagers reported using cocaine before their eighteenth birthday.
- * 40 teenage suicides were reported in Kansas in 1985-86.
- * 317 suicide attempts were reported to high school counselors in 1985-86.
- * 4,522 babies were born to teens in Kansas in 1985.
- * 67 percent of the mothers with children ages 6-17 work outside the home.
- * 48 percent of the mothers with children under six years of age work outside the home.

Although it is not solely the school's responsibility to alleviate the many social conditions that put children at risk, school programs and staff efforts are necessary to help children cope with health and social stresses that impair their ability to learn, progress through school, and graduate.

The State Board of Education believes that school districts need encouragement in order to improve the educational achievement of students and to assist districts in structuring programs to meet the needs of students in the 21st century.

To meet the demands of a knowledge-based society and the needs of a changing education clientele, adjustments in content, curriculum, organization, and performance of Kansas schools will eventually have to occur. It is essential that the state encourage and assist school districts to develop the kinds of programs which will address the future of the state by allowing them to explore new ideas in providing education.

Every school district would be given the opportunity to submit a grant application and plan for an educational excellence grant to improve the educational system of the district. The local district would be required to match state funds. Programs funded would be required to keep and provide written program documentation and evaluation to the State Board of Education. Such documentation would be made available to other Kansas districts if the programs were determined to be worthy of becoming models.

The State Board of Education recommends that the Committee report Senate Bill 13 favorably for passage.



SB 13

Testimony presented before the House Committee on Education
by Chuck L. Stuart, Legislative Liaison
United School Administrators of Kansas

March 14, 1989

Mister Chairman and members of the committee:

The United School Administrators of Kansas supports the passage of SB 13. We urge the committee to recommend additional funding.

Although we have no problem with enhancement measures such as identification of goals and needs, formulation of priorities and objectives, evaluation and enrichment of curricular and instructional programs as suggested in SB 13, we feel school districts have been steadily improving in these areas in recent years. We believe SB 13 should primarily be a vehicle for (1) the implementation of innovative and experimental procedures and (2) developing new ways of dealing with students at-risk.

For example, there are at least three clusters of schools and telephone companies willing to set up instruction by way of two-way interactive video. Through the use of fiberoptic telephone lines three or four classrooms in addition to the classroom of the instructor can be made as "one classroom". Through two-way interactive video, the teacher and all students can see each other and communicate as if they were in the same classroom.

This technology will allow schools to cooperatively offer subjects which they could not offer individually. Two-way interactive video instruction has the capability of unifying educational programs without destroying school districts. It can be the avenue by which every high school student in Kansas will have the opportunity to take courses recommended by the Regents in their enhanced curriculum program. In service, staff development, adult classes and a multitude of small community needs can be addressed by the technology of two-way interactive video.

The three clusters of school districts which have studied this technology are willing to match state grants to set up studio classrooms, purchase cameras and contract with telephone companies for equipment and services. Now is the time and SB 13 can be the funding vehicle to establish at least two interactive video clusters to showcase what can be done in Kansas with this technology toward delivery of instruction.

This again is but one innovative option open to school districts. Many local districts are willing to experiment with other programs, many of which deal with students at-risk. The need for experimental programs to assist these students has never been greater. Now is the time for the legislature to step forward and join with local districts on a matching grant basis to try bold new programs. SB 13 is broad enough to incorporate the spectrum of ideas among Kansas educators. It lacks only the funding to make a real difference.

The United School Administrators of Kansas urges the committee to not only pass SB 13, but to recommend adequate funding for it.

CLS/ed

Attachment 4
House Education
3/14/89

Proposed Amendment to Senate Bill No. 99
(As Amended by Senate Committee)

On page 4, in line 137, after the period, by inserting
"Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall the statutory
declaration of impasse date in the 1988-89 school year be later
than June 30."