

Approved: February 24, 1992
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rick Bowden at 3:30 p.m. on February 17, 1992 in room Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes Office
Ben Barrett, Legislative Research
Shirley Wilds, Secretary to the Committee

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Representative Walker Hendrix
Gerry Henderson, Executive Director - USA
Mark Tallman, KASB
Peg Dunlap, KNEA

The meeting was called to order by Representative Sandy Praeger.

Hearing on HB 2685 and HB 2686:

Representative Walker Hendrix. Representative Walker said that HB 2685 requires each school district to introduce building-based educational plans and a corresponding grant program accompanies the mandate. With HB 2686 an award program acknowledges those schools which have developed exemplary building-based educational plans. Representative Walker added that this program is consistent with *America 2000* and should be considered on a nonpartisan basis and urges the committee's support. (See Attachment #1.)

Gerry Henderson. Mr. Henderson said USA supports the concepts incorporated in HB 2685 and HB 2686. He said that USA appreciates the attempt to improve Kansas education, but believes that building-based education plans and any system designed to reward good performance needs to be a part of a larger focused whole. (See Attachment #2)

Mark Tallman. Mr. Tallman said that KASB can support HB 2685 if the word "shall" in line 13 is changed back to "may," making clear that both the board of education and the building employees unit must agree on the development of a building-based plan.

On HB 2685, Mr. Tallman said KASB supports elements in this plan, extending the provisions of a grant program to assist districts and buildings in establishing such a plan. (See Attachment #3.)

Peg Dunlap. Ms. Dunlap said KNEA supports HB 2685, believing that one of the most effective ways to improve the education system in Kansas is to support building-level planning and decision making by the adults who work in each school building.

Ms. Dunlap said they support the amendments outlined in HB 2685 and agree that employee involvement in planning and implementing decisions is critical for school improvement and for enhanced educational quality. (See Attachment #4.)

Chairman Bowden announced that the committee will work school finance next week and there are two school finance bills on this week's agenda.

Action on HB 2655:

Representative Crumbaker moved that the date be changed from July 1 to May 1 on HB 2655 and to include board of trustees of community colleges with local boards; seconded by Representative Harder. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, Room 519-S Statehouse, at 3:30 p.m. on February 17, 1992.

A conceptual motion by Representative Hensley was made to amend HB 2655 to change the date when school board members take office from May 1 to the next regularly scheduled school board meeting immediately following certification of the election; seconded by Representative Pottorff. Motion carried.

Representative Hensley moved to pass HB 2655 out favorably, as amended; seconded by Representative Pottorff. Motion carried.

In response to an inquiry regarding the lawyers visit with the committee relevant to the standing of the state law suits. Chairman Bowden said the decision was made not to invite the lawyers, given the sensitive position of the litigation. Dale Dennis and Ben Barrett are asked to give their interpretation of Judge Bullock's opinion in lieu of any presentation by the lawyers.

The next scheduled meeting is scheduled for February 18, 3:30 p.m. in Room 519-S.

Upon completion of its business, the meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.



GUEST LIST

COMMITTEE: House Education

Date: February 17, 1992

Name (Please Print)	COMPANY ORGANIZATION	ADDRESS
Peg Dunlap	KNEA	Topeka
Gerald Henderson	USA of K's	Topeka
Jim Alley	Pat & McGill Assoc	"
Ken Baker	4th Enrollment USD's	"
Kriste Wardell	WFO ASK	" "
Conie Huerbel	B & J	Topeka
Jim Edwards	KCCI	Topeka
Jim Yareally	USD #512	Shawnee Mission
Bob Elliott	WFT	Wichita
Mark Tallman	KASB	Topeka
Robin Nickels	USD 259	Wichita

#1



STATE OF KANSAS



WALKER HENDRIX
REPRESENTATIVE, 10TH DISTRICT
FRANKLIN COUNTY
121 W. 3RD
P.O. BOX 787
OTTAWA, KANSAS 66067
(913) 242-8568



TOPEKA

HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS
MEMBER: ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES
LEGISLATIVE, JUDICIAL AND
CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
PENSIONS, INVESTMENTS AND BENEFITS

SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING (H.B. 2685 AND 2686)

With the advent of *America 2000*, educators in the State have focused on site-based management as a way to increase student performance and to stimulate learning. In 1988, the Kansas Legislature, with the assistance of the KNEA, set up a trial program for the implementation of building-based education or site-based management. This program has proved successful and has focused attention on school management at the individual school building. This school reform is based on local control and the need for parents and educators to get involved in the development of an effective school program.

Many schools have already embarked on converting their programs to a building-based format. The experimental programs at New Stanley in the Kansas City, Kansas School District #500 and the Blue Valley School District have been developed using a site-based management approach. The focus of site-based management is decentralization. It is a process of shared decisionmaking which gives principals and teachers more control over the use of resources and the freedom to make organizational changes. At New Stanley, for example, the school year has been extended. Teachers are given time to plan, but their involvement in the school program has been increased. Team teaching has been emphasized. Staff development training and collaboration have been instituted. A mission for the school has been adopted and greater involvement with the community at large has been achieved.

Although great excitement has been raised with the development of site-based programs, many schools have not made the positive changes that these programs offer. For those school districts which fear change, site-based management has been considered to radical. One reason site-based management has not been more broadly adopted is that injects a considerable degree of freedom into the educational process. Administrators are reluctant to give up the authority they have had. Unfamiliar with the process, principals also find that too much responsibility has been entrusted to the school site. Many teachers are at a loss about how to proceed.

For this reason, it may be necessary to accelerate site-based management with legislation. H.B. 2685, in its draft stage, was the model for the interim committee's recommendation for building based programs. H.B. 2685 requires each school district

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Attachment #1
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SCHOOL RESTRUCTURING

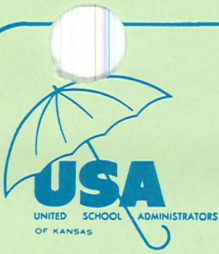
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to introduce building based educational plans. A corresponding grant program accompanies the mandate.

H.B. 2686 is a reward program that acknowledges those schools which have developed exemplary building-based educational plans. This reward system will promote competition between schools on the basis of their site-based management concepts. Those schools identified as K-STAR will receive a cash distribution to be based on appropriation and the number of pupils. The professional employees at the school can determine how the cash reward is to be spent. The State Board shall develop the K-STAR program taking into account such factors as the nature of the mission statement, support of the parents, the mastery of essential skills, achievement, availability of advanced courses in mathematics and increases in the graduation rate.

This program is consistent with *America 2000* and should be considered on a nonpartisan basis. Your support will be appreciated.

Attach #1-2



HB 2685 & HB 2686

Testimony presented before the House Committee on Education
by Gerald W. Henderson, Executive Director
United School Administrators of Kansas

Mister Chairman and Members of the Committee:

United School Administrators of Kansas rises in support of the concepts incorporated in **HB 2685 and HB 2686**, which would authorize the development and implementation of building-based education plans in Kansas schools and then reward those which demonstrate consistent improvement as a result.

There is no longer any doubt that the decisions affecting the teaching/learning process which bring about the greatest amount of gain in student performance are made by the people closest to the point of contact. Teachers simply must be empowered to make instructional decisions. Building-based education plans or site-based management plans are the vehicle for such empowerment.

Our concern with the number of bills being introduced which address education reform is that we lose the focus on what we are about. The Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) program currently underway in Kansas is just now beginning to reach points of agreement on what Kansas students should know, be able to do, and in fact be like as a result of being involved in our schools. Once those agreements have been reached and assessments are in place which will tell us whether or not students are making progress toward whatever we have agreed upon, then teachers and administrators can together make the decisions needed to ensure that all students are learning.

We appreciate the author's interest in improving Kansas education, but believe that building-based education plans and any system designed to reward good performance needs to be a part of a larger focused whole. We further believe that the QPA project is that whole on which we ought to focus.

We thank the committee for this opportunity to be heard.

GWHLEG/HB2685-2686

*Education
Attachment #2
2/17/92*



Testimony on H.B. 2685 and H.B. 2686
before the
House Committee on Education

by

Mark Tallman, Coordinator of Governmental Relations
Kansas Association of School Boards

February 17, 1992

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee:

With your permission, KASB would like to comment on both of these House bills dealing with building-based education.

KASB can support H.B. 2685 if the word "shall" in line 13 is changed back to "may." We believe this would make clear that both the board of education and the building employees unit must agree on the development of a building-based education plan. Such agreement is vital to the success of such plans.

Without this change, the bill would seem to imply that a school board must approve any plan, proposed by any building unit, without modification, even if that plan runs counter to district policies and strategies. If the board must authorize any plan put in front of it, then this step is meaningless. The board must have a real role to play in the development of such a plan, because the board, not the employees unit, is accountable to the district patrons and the State Board for accreditation.

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Attachment # 3
2/17/92



#4

KANSAS NATIONAL EDUCATION ASSOCIATION / 715 W. 10TH STREET / TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-1686

Testimony before the House Education Committee
Peg Dunlap, Kansas NEA
HB 2685
Monday, February 17, 1992

Thank you Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee. My name is Peg Dunlap and I am here today representing the 24,000 members of KNEA to speak in support of HB 2685, Building based education.

During the 1988 Legislative session, when KSA 72-9801 through 9805, Building-based Education, became law, I spoke as one of its few, if not only, proponents. KNEA believed then that one of the most effective ways to improve the education system in Kansas was to support building-level planning and decisionmaking by the adults who work in each school building.

Our position has not changed. And since those hearings, others, inside and outside the education establishment, have come to support the concepts of building-based education embodied in KSA 72-9801 et. seq.

We support the amendments outlined in HB 2685 and agree that employee involvement in planning and implementing decisions is critical for school improvement and for enhanced educational quality. We believe that a building-by-building focus on the processes of teaching and learning will achieve just those results: improved schools and higher quality education for all Kansas students.

Kansas NEA urges you to recommend HB 2685 favorably for passage.

Education
Attachment #4
2/17/92