

Approved February 4, 1992
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

The meeting was called to order by SENATOR JOSEPH C. HARDER at
Chairperson

1:30 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on Thursday, January 30, 1992 in room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present:

Mr. Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Ms. Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
Mr. Dale Dennis, Assistant Commissioner of Education
Mrs. Millie Randell, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

SB 468 - School districts, building-based education plans.

Proponents:

Mr. Gerry Henderson, Executive Director, United School Administrators of
Kansas
Ms. Peg Dunlap, Kansas National Education Association

Opponents:

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

Following a call to order by Chairman Joseph C. Harder, Senator Kerr moved that minutes of the Committee meeting of January 29 be approved. Senator Montgomery seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

SB 468 - School districts, building-based education plans.

The Chair recognized Mr. Gerry Henderson, Executive Director, United School Administrators of Kansas, who said he speaks in support of the concepts contained in SB 468. He noted that all research indicates that decisions should be made closest to the point of delivery for more effective results. Mr. Henderson stated that those schools which have implemented the concept of building-based education have been very satisfied with it. (Attachment 1)

The Chairman called upon the next proponent of SB 468, Ms. Peg Dunlap of the Kansas National Education Association. Ms. Dunlap stated that her organization has continued to support the concept of building-based education since its implementation by the 1988 session of the Legislature. Ms. Dunlap related that many positive things have transpired to improve the quality of education due to the effectiveness of this concept. (Attachment 2)

Responding to a question, Ms. Dunlap said she felt that probably there is some building-based education taking place in all of the 135 pilot school buildings which are officially part of the PTA process this year. Ms. Dunlap replied that most of the current programs are being funded by the school districts with money obtained from staff development and reallocation from other resources made available to them. She said, however, that the Amanda Arnold Elementary School in Manhattan, which is part of an NEA project on school restructuring, receives some additional money from the NEA.

Ms. Dunlap noted that the original pilot programs on building-based education received state moneys for their first two years of implementation. She also said that KNEA contributed \$10,000 in each of those first two years to help with the original pilot programs.

Ms. Dunlap said it is difficult to describe a building-based education

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION,
room 123-S, Statehouse, at 1:30 ~~xxx~~ p.m. on Thursday, January 30, 1992

plan, because there is no one way to accomplish this objective. Ms. Dunlap, responding to a question, said the plan would change job functions rather than eliminate jobs.

At the request of the Chairman Ms. Dunlap agreed to share with the Committee at a future date information on evaluation statistics of the building-based education plans from schools in the original pilot program and from Amanda Arnold Elementary School in Manhattan.

Hearing no response when the Chair called for additional proponents of SB 468, the Chair recognized Mr. Mark Tallman, Coordinator of Public Relations, Kansas Association of School Boards.

Mr. Tallman stated that his organization's concerns and reason for its opposition to SB 468 are based upon the lack of clarity in Section 1. (a). It appears, he said, that there is a range of interpretations of the language contained therein. Additional reasons for opposition by KASB are found in Attachment 3.

Mr. Tallman emphasized that KASB agrees with the concept of building-based education but has concerns regarding mandating the program. Responding to a question, Mr. Tallman said he felt KASB could support a bill which continues to encourage the concept of building-based education.

Responding to another question, Mr. Tallman said he felt that a bill relating to building-based education might be more acceptable to KASB if the paramaters were defined. He pointed out, however, that districts already have implemented such programs without a mandate.

The Committee requested Mr. Tallman to return at a later time to submit language for a bill which his organization might support, and Mr. Tallman responded that he would do so.

Following a call for additional conferees, the Chairman announced that the hearing on SB 468 is concluded, and he adjourned the meeting.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

TIME: 1:30 p.m. PLACE: 123-S DATE: Thursday, January 30, 1992

GUEST LIST

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>
Peggy Mungert	33920 W. 84th. Lt. Desoto, KS	Page
Brian Heinon	9620 Sunflower Rd Desoto, KS	Page
Richard G. Sierol	34675 W 95th St Desoto, KS	Page
Peg Dunlap	Topeka	KNEA
Tony Coles	Topeka	KNEA
Brian Sief	Wichita	none
Jim Gaudley	Shawnee Mission	USD #512
Mark Tallman	Topeka	KASB
Gerald Henderson	Topeka	USA of KS
Chun C. Barnett	Topeka	USD #60 #11
Connie H. Hessel	Topeka	SLB of Ed
Kathleen White	Rainie Village.	St. Bd. of Ed.
Ethel Steichen	Manhattan (KSU)	Acc. Practicum/HDFS
Debbie Ault	Topeka	USD #500
TED D. AVILES	TOPEKA	BOARD OF REGENTS
DAVID HERMES		DOT
Amy Plugar	O.P.	Intern
Robin Nichols	USD 259 Wichita	



SB 468

January 30, 1992

Testimony presented before the Senate 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 continues to support efforts to establish building based education plans in Kansas schools. Essentially all research in the effective schools movement calls for decision making closest to the point of delivery. Kansas schools which have established site based management will over time demonstrate a significant difference in student learning, if these research conclusions continue to hold true.

We support the concepts of **SB 468** and will reserve our concerns about the funding mechanism for the more complicated discussions on school finance which will follow during the 1992 Session.

Thank you for this opportunity to be heard.

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

Testimony before the Senate Education Committee
Peg Dunlap, Kansas NEA
SB 468
Thursday, January 30, 1991

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 SB 468, 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 SB 468 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 SB 468 favorably for passage.

KANSAS
ASSOCIATION



OF
SCHOOL
BOARDS



5401 S. W. 7th Avenue Topeka, Kansas 66606
913-273-3600

Testimony on S.B. 468
before the
Senate Committee on Education

by

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

January 30, 1992

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

We appreciate the opportunity to address you on S.B. 468. Although KASB has supported the building-based education grant program that this bill amends, we oppose S.B. 468 for two reasons. First, because we are unclear about what this bill would require. Second, because we believe the concept of building-based education can be better encouraged through alternative means.

We are unsure of the meaning of section 1 (a), which is the key part of the bill. If it means that boards of education must authorize the development of building-based education plans if a building employees unit so requests, but is not obligated to approve such plans, then the bill is unneeded. Employee units may currently develop such plans.

But if the bill requires boards to implement any plan requested by any building unit, without any definition or limitation on the scope of these plans, this is a clear usurpation of the authority of the officials elected by, and accountable to, the people of each district.

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It is our position that a clear distinction must be drawn between means and ends. KASB believes the state should determine clear educational goals or outcomes as the "ends" of education reform. At our request, you introduced S.C.R. 1631, which proposes those goals. But we believe that local school districts - not state mandates - should determine the means to achieve those goals.

If districts are held accountable for meeting state goals, they will have to determine strategies that are appropriate for their unique circumstances. Building-based education is one strategy, but it is a decision each community should make on its own.

To help districts develop such strategies, KASB believes that the state educational grant program should be restructured and expanded into a school restructuring program. Such a program would allow districts to apply for grant support for a range of school improvement strategies. We believe building-based education should be one area within this program.

Thank you for your consideration.

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