

Approved: 4-25-96
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Barbara Lawrence at 1:30 p.m. on February 8, 1996 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
Jennifer Bishop, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Guest Speaker, Dr. Larry Vaughn, Superintendent of Wichita Public Schools

Others attending: See attached list

Senator Langworthy made a motion to approve the minutes. Senator Harrington seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dr. Vaughn advocated the privatization of schools for several reasons. The first, and most important of which is the resulting increase in competition which would stimulate improved education. If there are several schools competing for students to attend, and funding from these schools come from different sources, the objectives of all schools will be to provide an education that is unique just as students themselves are unique. The Edison project is a small step in the overall privatization of the school system, although the Edison school in Wichita is not private in itself. Edison can be used as leverage to improve public schools, and privatization would extend the benefits of the Edison schools. The benchmark tests that Dr. Vaughn mentioned as part of his testimony were presented as essential for the success of the Edison schools. Students would be assessed at grades 2, 5, 8 and 11 to determine if previously decided outcomes are met. This form of assessment would probably be advocated for privatization as well, since this would provide some form of accountability for all schools either being private, public or those similar to the Edison school.

Discussion followed.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13, 1996.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: February 8, 1996

NAME	REPRESENTING
Mark Tallman	KASB
Wes Esping	
Jacques Dubois	SQE
Brenda Webb	Sen. Hensley
Lisa Baloun	USD #330
Cathie Best	USD #330
Kelli Finson	USD #330 / USD #501
Koralee Thomas	KSNA - Bethel College
Diane Gjerstad	U.S.D. 259
Gerald Henderson	USA OF KS
Oran C. Burkett	USD 501 #
Merle Hee	KACC
Christie Sylvester	KSNA
Barbara Stucky	KSNA - Bethel College
Pauli Lusmer	KSNA - Washburn University
Kathie Tangari	KSNA - Washburn University
Debra L. Sutton	KSNA - WASHBURN UNIVERSITY
Jean Vanderbur	U.S.D. #367 Osawatonic, KS.
Julie Windler	USD #367 Osawatonic, KS.

Tammy Walman USD 367 Osawatonic KS.

Jim Yavelly

USD # 512

(new)

Sue Chase

KNEA

Pat Muir

USD 266

Susan Feeney

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Mike Montanari

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