

Approved: 1/25/99  
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Barbara Lawrence at 9:00 a.m. on January 19, 1999 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senator Hensley

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman - Revisor  
Ben Barrett - Legislative Research  
Carolyn Rampey - Legislative Research

Conferees appearing before the committee: Kansas Teacher of the Year, Carol Strickland  
Teacher of the Year Finalists:  
Shirley A. Stein - USD - 214  
Sandra N. Morris - USD 337  
Alicia Jackson - USD 235  
Sherry J. Nelson - USD 497  
Cynthia C. Schaker - USD 375  
Sue Wilson - USD 260  
Dale Dennis, Deputy Education Commissioner

Others attending: See Attached List

The Joint House and Senate Education Committees, chaired by Representative Ralph Tanner and Senator Barbara Lawrence, met in the Old Supreme Court Chamber to honor the Kansas Teacher of the Year and Finalists.

House Chairman Tanner welcomed all committee members and teachers to the meeting. He called on Dale Dennis, Deputy Education Commissioner, who made a few brief opening remarks and told how the selection process takes place. He introduced the Kansas Teacher of the Year, Carol Strickland.

Ms. Strickland stated that one of the teacher finalists, Mr. F. Gene Hampton, USD 512, could not be present because of a medical emergency in the family. She told of the process and events that took place that led up this point in time and asked each of the six finalists present to introduce themselves and make a few brief comments. Each finalists gave a short background and history, as well as the strategy involved that makes her classroom a success.

Chairperson Lawrence expressed her concerns about the teacher in the classroom and how those teachers that go from college to the classroom are prepared.

Several responses were shared by the finalists as they spoke of the standards today and how teachers apply approaches that work in a diversified and multi-cultural society. They spoke of strategic delivery techniques and mentorship to help those who are starting out in the real world situation who need support and guidance.

One of the joint committee members asked what the teachers needed most and how the legislators could help to address education needs. The response was that two of the most apparent needs are technology and staff development.

Discussion of the part the media plays in education was discussed; something good about education might be buried in the back pages of the newspaper, whereas a certain teacher situation might make front page headlines. Also how the disparity in schools and test scores is given a 'spin' by the media.

One of the joint committee questioned Andy Tompkins, Education Commissioner about the Jason Project. The member stated that to learn more about this important education project, it can be found on the World Wide Web at WWW.JASON.COM.

Chairperson Lawrence stated her concern for the gifted students and the motivation factor. The response was that the accountability factor has to be put back on the student.

Several further comments were made, touching on teacher shortages, test scores, school comparisons and mobile versus stationary population.

Chairman Tanner asked Mr. Dennis if he had any further comments.

Mr. Dennis responded by stating that it had been an honor to have been present today with these educators and that he appreciated the joint committee sharing this time with them.

Chairman Tanner thanked all present and adjourned the meeting.

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: January 19, 1999

NAME	REPRESENTING
Aticid Jackson	Kansas Teacher of Year Team
Sherry Nelson	Kansas Teacher Year
Sue Wilson	Kansas Teacher of Year team
Sandra Morris	Kansas Teacher of Year Team
Casey Strickland	Kansas Teacher of the Year Team
Shirley Green	No " " " " " "
Sherry Bukovsky	KSDE
Carol Johnson	SW Plain Reg. Service Center
Wendell Swain	SW Plain
Bob Davidson	DOB
Denise Aft	U.S.A.
Brilla Scott	USA
Katharine Wickett	USA
Bob Vancouver	USD 229
Don Reynolds	USD 321
John Walker	Senate Member's Office
Jim Allen	KFLC - REC
Jacqueline Jones	SOE