

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Steve Morris at 10:35 a.m. on March 20, 2001 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: All Present

Committee staff present:

Alan Conroy, Chief Fiscal Analyst, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Debra Hollon, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Amory Lovin, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Carolyn Rampey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Robert Waller, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Norman Furse, Revisor of Statutes
Michael Corrigan, Assistant Revisor, Revisor of Statutes Office
Julie Weber, Administrative Assistant to the Chairman
Mary Shaw, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: None

Others attending: See attached guest list

Department of Education (Attachment 1)

Senator Kerr reported that the subcommittee concurs with the Governor for FY 2001 with an exception as listed in the Subcommittee budget report.

Senator Kerr reported that the subcommittee concurs with the Governor for FY 2002 with exceptions as listed in the Subcommittee budget report. Committee questions and discussion followed.

Senator Downey moved, with a second by Senator Schodorf, to amend the Subcommittee budget report on the Department of Education, Item 8 regarding mentor teachers, and clarify that the Committee's intent is to fund the law in upcoming years subject to appropriations. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Senator Huelskamp moved, with a second by Senator Jackson, to amend the Subcommittee budget report on the Department of Education to replace the \$30,000 that was inadvertently left out of the FY 2001 budget for the Cultural Heritage Center. Motion carried by a voice vote.

Senator Downey moved, with a second by Senator Adkins, to amend the Subcommittee budget report on the Department of Education to fund \$90,000 State General Fund for the National Board Certified Teacher Program at Emporia State University and fund \$65,000 State General Fund for the Future Teacher Institute at Emporia State University and these items total \$155,000 State General Fund that will be deleted from the \$500,000 under Technical Infrastructure. Motion carried by a voice vote. Senator Downey distributed information from the 2000 Legislative Educational Planning Committee regarding the programs offered by the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence (National Board Certified Teacher Program and the Future Teacher Institute) at Emporia State University (Attachment 2).

Senator Barone asked if an article "Kansas Education Shines" could be attached to the Department of Education Subcommittee budget report. Staff will take care of this.

Senator Barone moved, with a second by Senator Jackson, to adopt the Subcommittee budget report on the Department of Education as amended. Motion carried by a voice vote.


The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon. The next meeting is scheduled for March 21, 2001.

2001-2002 SUBCOMMITTEE

STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



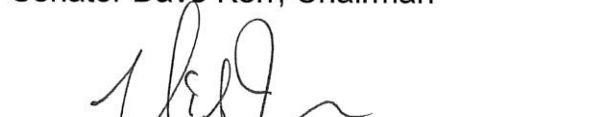
Senator Jim Barone



Senator Larry Salmans



Senator Dave Kerr, Chairman



Senator Nick Jordan



Senator Jean Schodorf

Senate Ways and Means
3-20-01
Attachment 1

House Budget Committee Report

Agency: State Department of Education **Bill No.** _____ **Bill Sec.** _____
Analyst: Rampey **Analysis Pg. No.** 699 **Budget Page No.** 143

Expenditure	Agency Est. FY 01	Gov. Rec. FY 01	House Budget Adjustments
All Funds:			
State Operations	\$ 20,363,136	\$ 20,306,630	\$ 0
Aid to Local Units	2,516,786,730	2,513,590,267	0
Other Assistance	31,438,537	30,600,000	0
Subtotal - Operating	\$ 2,568,588,403	\$ 2,564,496,897	\$ 0
Capital Improvements	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 2,568,588,403	\$ 2,564,496,897	\$ 0
State General Fund:			
State Operations	\$ 9,227,557	\$ 9,324,881	\$ 0
Aid to Local Units	2,263,072,095	2,257,926,095	0
Other Assistance	229,000	229,000	0
Subtotal - Operating	\$ 2,272,528,652	\$ 2,267,479,976	\$ 0
Capital Improvements	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$ 2,272,528,652	\$ 2,267,479,976	\$ 0
FTE Positions	201.5	201.5	0.0
Other Unclass. Positions	43.4	43.4	0.0
TOTAL	244.9	244.9	0.0

AGENCY OVERVIEW

The State Board of Education is a ten-member elected board established by the Kansas Constitution. It is responsible for the general supervision of public schools and all other educational interests of the state that are not under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Regents. Its duties include accrediting elementary and secondary schools; establishing standard courses of study in the public schools; certifying teachers and administrators; approving public and private teacher education programs; and administering a variety of state and federal aid programs.

Agency Estimate/Governor's Recommendation

Current year funding provides for two new initiatives that were enacted by the 2000 Legislature. The first is the mastery of basic skills program that is intended to ensure that students master basic reading skills upon completion of the third grade. The program will not begin in school districts until school year 2002-03, but the State Department will begin to develop a strategy to implement the program in FY 2001 and report on its progress to the 2001 Legislature. The 2000 Legislature appropriated \$25,000 for operating costs related to the program in FY 2001. The second initiative is the Kansas mentor teacher program, for which \$68,753 from the State General Fund was appropriated for operating expenses to implement the program, as well as \$1.0 million to be used in FY 2002 for stipends to mentor teachers. Money includes the salary of a new position to assist in developing rules and regulations and also to establish other criteria and standards for program

implementation. Beginning in the 2001-02 school year, experienced teachers who serve as mentors to probationary teachers would be eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship.

The **Governor recommends** a total of \$2,632,153,478 in the current year. The amount differs from what the 2000 Legislature approved in the following respects:

- The Governor recommends the reappropriation of \$125,569 from the State General Fund for agency operations, as estimated by the State Department, and adds an additional \$35,000 for legal fees for the School for the Deaf, which is under the supervision of the State Board of Education. The fees had been requested by the School for the Deaf for litigation related to the dismissal of a teacher. If the Legislature concurs with the Governor's recommendation, the State Department either could pay the legal bills on behalf of the School for the Deaf or transfer the money to the School.
- The Governor budgets all of the money for the school safety hotline—\$72,324—for expenditure in FY 2001 instead of assuming, as the State Department did, that all but \$10,000 would be reappropriated to FY 2002. (The Governor appropriates an additional \$10,000 for FY 2002.)
- The Governor's recommendation for general and supplemental general state aid conforms to the revised estimates for school finance and reflects savings totaling \$7,546,000 in the current year.
- The Governor recommends an increase of \$2.0 million for inservice education due to reappropriated savings in general state aid, as budgeted by the State Department.
- The Governor concurs with the revised estimate of an increase of \$1.4 million for school district capital improvements, as budgeted by the State Department.
- The Governor does not recommend an additional \$9,372 from the State General Fund requested for the Education Program Consultant salary upgrade.

House Budget Committee Recommendations

The House Budget Committee concurs with the Governor's recommendation.

House Committee Recommendations

The House Committee concurs with the recommendations of the Budget Committee.

House Committee of the Whole Recommendations

The House Committee of the Whole has not considered this budget.

Senate Subcommittee Report

Agency: State Department of Education

Bill No.

Bill Sec.

Analyst: Rampey

Analysis Pg. No. 699 Budget Page No. 143

Expenditure	Agency Est. FY 01	Gov. Rec. FY 01	House Budget Adjustments
All Funds:			
State Operations	\$ 20,363,136	\$ 20,306,630	\$ (100,000)
Aid to Local Units	2,516,786,730	2,513,590,267	0
Other Assistance	31,438,537	30,600,000	0
Subtotal - Operating	\$ 2,568,588,403	\$ 2,564,496,897	\$ (100,000)
Capital Improvements	0	0	0
TOTAL	<u>\$ 2,568,588,403</u>	<u>\$ 2,564,496,897</u>	<u>\$ (100,000)</u>
State General Fund:			
State Operations	\$ 9,227,557	\$ 9,324,881	0
Aid to Local Units	2,263,072,095	2,257,926,095	0
Other Assistance	229,000	229,000	0
Subtotal - Operating	\$ 2,272,528,652	\$ 2,267,479,976	0
Capital Improvements	0	0	0
TOTAL	<u>\$ 2,272,528,652</u>	<u>\$ 2,267,479,976</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
FTE Positions	201.5	201.5	0.0
Other Unclass. Positions	43.4	43.4	0.0
TOTAL	<u>244.9</u>	<u>244.9</u>	<u>0.0</u>

Agency Estimate/Governor's Recommendation

Current year funding provides for two new initiatives that were enacted by the 2000 Legislature. The first is the mastery of basic skills program that is intended to ensure that students master basic reading skills upon completion of the third grade. The program will not begin in school districts until school year 2002-03, but the State Department will begin to develop a strategy to implement the program in FY 2001 and report on its progress to the 2001 Legislature. The 2000 Legislature appropriated \$25,000 for operating costs related to the program in FY 2001. The second initiative is the Kansas mentor teacher program, for which \$68,753 from the State General Fund was appropriated for operating expenses to implement the program, as well as \$1.0 million to be used in FY 2002 for stipends to mentor teachers. Money includes the salary of a new position to assist in developing rules and regulations and also to establish other criteria and standards for program implementation. Beginning in the 2001-02 school year, experienced teachers who serve as mentors to probationary teachers would be eligible for a \$1,000 scholarship.

The **Governor recommends** a total of \$2,632,153,478 in the current year. The amount differs from what the 2000 Legislature approved in the following respects:

- The Governor recommends the reappropriation of \$125,569 from the State General Fund for agency operations, as estimated by the State Department, and adds an additional \$35,000 for

legal fees for the School for the Deaf, which is under the supervision of the State Board of Education. The fees had been requested by the School for the Deaf for litigation related to the dismissal of a teacher. If the Legislature concurs with the Governor's recommendation, the State Department either could pay the legal bills on behalf of the School for the Deaf or transfer the money to the School.

- The Governor budgets all of the money for the school safety hotline—\$72,324—for expenditure in FY 2001 instead of assuming, as the State Department did, that all but \$10,000 would be reappropriated to FY 2002. (The Governor appropriates an additional \$10,000 for FY 2002.)
- The Governor's recommendation for general and supplemental general state aid conforms to the revised estimates for school finance and reflects savings totaling \$7,546,000 in the current year.
- The Governor recommends an increase of \$2.0 million for inservice education due to reappropriated savings in general state aid, as budgeted by the State Department.
- The Governor concurs with the revised estimate of an increase of \$1.4 million for school district capital improvements, as budgeted by the State Department.
- The Governor does not recommend an additional \$9,372 from the State General Fund requested for the Education Program Consultant salary upgrade.

Senate Subcommittee Recommendations

The Senate Subcommittee concurs with the Governor, with the following exception:

1. Delete \$100,000 from the State Highway Fund appropriated to the Kansas Cultural Heritage Center for purposes of renovating the Dodge City Train Depot. The money was appropriated by the 2000 Legislature with the understanding that the Cultural Heritage Center intended to move to the Dodge City Train Depot, which is being renovated as a historical preservation site. Because the Center is not moving, the Subcommittee does not believe the money should be expended.

House Budget Committee Report

Agency: State Department of Education **Bill No.** 2557 **Bill Sec.** 55
Analyst: Rampey **Analysis Pg. No.** 699 **Budget Page No.** 143

Expenditure Summary	Agency Req. FY 02	Gov. Rec. FY 02	House Budget Committee Adjustments
All Funds:			
State Operations	\$ 19,909,424	\$ 19,586,545	\$ (450,000)
Aid to Local Units	2,750,902,533	2,581,786,933	450,000
Other Assistance	<u>31,407,952</u>	<u>30,780,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Subtotal - Operating	\$ 2,802,219,909	\$ 2,632,153,478	\$ 0
Capital Improvements	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>\$ 2,802,219,909</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,632,153,478</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>
State General Fund:			
State Operations	\$ 10,108,674	\$ 9,671,381	\$ (450,000)
Aid to Local Units	2,473,352,340	2,324,853,788	450,000
Other Assistance	<u>375,000</u>	<u>369,000</u>	<u>0</u>
Subtotal - Operating	\$ 2,483,836,014	\$ 2,334,894,169	\$ 0
Capital Improvements	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>\$ 2,483,836,014</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,334,894,169</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 0</u></u>
FTE Positions	201.5	201.5	0.0
Other Unclassified Positions	<u>43.4</u>	<u>43.4</u>	<u>0.0</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>244.9</u></u>	<u><u>244.9</u></u>	<u><u>0.0</u></u>

Agency Request/Governor's Recommendation

Estimated expenditures for agency operations are \$20,363,136 in FY 2001 and \$19,909,424 in FY 2002. Overall, the FY 2002 request is a reduction of \$453,712 from the prior year, the net result of an increase of \$881,117 in estimated expenditures from the State General Fund and a reduction of \$1.3 million in other funds.

The Governor recommends expenditures totaling \$19,586,545, a reduction of \$720,085 from his recommendation for the prior year. Expenditures from the State General Fund total \$9,671,381 for FY 2002, an increase of \$346,500 over FY 2001, and a reduction of \$437,293 from the State Department's request. The Governor's recommendation contains \$11,977,449 for salaries and wages, of which \$6,064,830 (50.6 percent) is from the State General Fund.

The Governor's recommendation also includes \$450,000 from the State General Fund for a study of school finance, intended by the Governor to be an independent assessment of the school finance formula in order to address serious inequities and opportunities for improvement.

The State Department's request for aid and other assistance programs from the State

General Fund, the State School District Finance Fund, and the Children's Initiatives Fund totals \$2,515,077,857 and would fund through the school finance formula several programs that currently are funded as separate categorical aid programs. They are special education, inservice education, parent education, and structured mentoring. Several new programs would be added to the school finance formula, such as funding for all-day kindergarten and other initiatives of the State Board of Education, and existing programs would be expanded.

The Governor recommends a total of \$2,348,466,788 from the State General Fund, the School District Finance Fund, the Children's Initiatives Fund, a reduction of \$116.6 million from the State Department's request. The Governor recommends funding special education through the school finance formula on the basis of special education weights, but does not approve the State Board's request to combine other programs. In addition, the Governor's recommendation for general state aid to school districts would add \$50 to Base State Aid Per Pupil (from \$3,820 to \$3,870), expand the four-year old at-risk program by 436 children, and increase the at-risk weight from 0.09 to 0.10.

House Budget Committee Recommendations

The House Budget Committee prefaces its recommendations by stating that the Legislature currently is operating in a period of uncertainty regarding the condition of state revenues. Preliminary indications are that revenues are not as robust as originally hoped and that it is possible that budgets will have to be adjusted at the end of the Session after consensus estimators meet in April.

With this caution in mind, the Budget Committee makes its recommendations and concurs with the Governor, with the following exceptions:

FY 2002

1. Concur with the Governor's recommendation for general state aid, which includes an increase of \$50 in Base State Aid Per Pupil (BSAPP) (from \$3,820 to \$3,870, at an estimated cost of \$29,907,000 from the State General Fund); funding for special education through the formula on the basis of special education student weights (at a cost of \$256,390,000 from the State General Fund, estimated to fund 85.3 percent of excess costs); an increase of 436 in the number of children in the four-year old at-risk program (from 2,230 to 2,666 children, at a cost of \$1.0 million from the Children's Initiatives Fund); and an increase in the at-risk weight from 0.09 to 0.10 (at an estimated cost of \$4.0 million from the State General Fund). In addition, increase the number of new children in the four-year-old at-risk program by an additional 196 children, by adding \$450,000 from the State General Fund to the Governor's recommendation.

The Committee acknowledges the input it received from subcommittees of the House Education Committee, which were charged with matters directly affecting the budget of the State Department of Education. The Budget Committee received reports from chairs of the subcommittees and was able to incorporate policy initiatives proposed by subcommittees into the budget recommendations for the State Department.

Specifically, the Budget Committee concurs with the recommendation of the House Education Subcommittee on School Finance that BSAPP should increase by at least \$50, that the at-risk weight should be increased from 0.09 to 0.10, and that the number of children in the four-year-old at-risk program should increase by at least 436.

The Budget Committee also supports the recommendation that the level of special education excess costs funding for FY 2002, estimated to be 85.3 percent, serve as a baseline and that, if federal funding for special education increases, it will be used to increase the percentage of excess costs funded, instead of being used to reduce state aid. The Budget Committee supports full funding of special education excess costs and is cautiously optimistic that increased federal funding will help Kansas achieve that goal.

The Budget Committee wishes to call attention to the fact that the Governor's recommendation to fund special education through the school finance formula on the basis of student weights would require a statutory change to repeal the current special education formula. The Budget Committee acknowledges concerns that have been raised about the student weighting proposal, but believes the consideration of a funding alternative will generate meaningful discussion and could result in an improvement in the way the state pays for special education services.

2. Delete \$2.0 million from the Children's Initiatives Fund for the Parent Education Program, for a total of \$6,139,500, the same as the current year.
3. Earmark \$1.95 million from the Children's Initiatives Fund (saved from the Parent Education Program) for services to children, as envisioned by the House Education Accountability Subcommittee. The Subcommittee has developed a series of recommendations intended to target children in kindergarten and grades one through three for assessments and interventions that will lead to the mastery of basic skills upon completion of grade three. The Budget Committee recognizes the value of the Subcommittee's work and encourages it to design its recommendations in such a way that they will be compatible with purposes for which expenditures from the Children's Initiatives Fund may be made—direct services and programs for children. The remaining \$50,000 of Children's Initiatives Fund (saved from the Parent Education Fund) would be for the four-year-old at-risk program, for an additional 22 children. (The total new at-risk pupils added under the Budget Committee's recommendations would be 654.)

The Budget Committee will recommend the appropriation of these earmarked funds when the Committee receives the new plan from the House Education Accountability Subcommittee which will propose spending the Children's Initiative Fund dollars on direct services and programs for children (not on indirect expenditures that benefit children in a tertiary manner).

4. Delete \$450,000 from the State General Fund recommended by the Governor for a study of the school finance formula. (The Budget Committee recommends that the money be used for the four-year-old at-risk program. See item 1 above.)
5. It is the Budget Committee's intention to recommend in the Omnibus Bill that administration of the Infant and Toddler Program be moved from the State

Department of Health and Environment to the State Board of Education. The reason for delaying action until the end of the Session is to give interested parties time to better understand what changes, if any, might occur in program delivery or funding and to work out concerns they may have before the change takes place. The Budget Committee gives notice that it will recommend the change and that interested parties should begin now to address specific issues regarding the transfer.

6. The Budget Committee calls attention to the mentor teacher program enacted by the 2000 Legislature, under which mentor teachers would be eligible for \$1,000 grants for mentoring probationary teachers, beginning in the 2001-02 school year. The \$1.0 million appropriated for the program was based on estimated costs to fund grants only for mentoring first-year teachers, not teachers in the three-year probationary period. The Budget Committee also recommends the addition of proviso language to ensure that the \$1.0 million is for mentoring first-year teachers only and not teachers in the three-year probationary period. The proviso would also include language requiring the State Board of Education to report to the appropriate legislative committees of the 2002 Legislature on the effectiveness of the mentoring program, including any suggested changes for improvements. The legislative committees that would receive the report include the standing Education Committees of the House and Senate, the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and the House Appropriations Committee.
7. The Budget Committee requests that the Legislative Coordinating Council assign to the Legislative Educational Planning Committee the matter of ongoing professional development for teachers, including the possibility of a grant program which would make funding available to teachers to take advantage of university programs that would allow them to continue to advance professionally.
8. The Budget Committee notes the importance of effective early childhood programs. Such programs, particularly birth through third grade, can be one of the keys to the successful development of Kansas' children. The Budget Committee will continue to monitor through Omnibus the progress made in this important area.

House Committee Recommendations

The House Committee concurs with the recommendations of the Budget Committee, with the following exceptions:

1. Add \$30,000 from the State General Fund for operating expenditures for the Kansas Cultural Heritage Center.
2. Regarding item 1 above concerning general state aid, note that the Governor's school finance recommendations are contained in SB 202 and HB 2253.
3. Regarding item 5 above concerning the Infant and Toddler Program, request that the State Department of Education prepare a written plan indicating how it would administer the program, the estimated fiscal impact of transferring and administering the program by the State Department of Education, any estimated cost savings to the state of the transfer, and how the State Department proposes to work with state and local agencies and organizations, including private entities,

to coordinate Infant and Toddler services. The plan is to be available when the transfer is considered in the Omnibus Bill.

House Committee of the Whole

The House Committee of the Whole has not considered this budget.

Senate Subcommittee Report

Agency: State Department of Education **Bill No.** 348 **Bill Sec.** 55

Analyst: Rampey **Analysis Pg. No.** 699 **Budget Page No.** 143

<u>Expenditure Summary</u>	<u>Agency Est. FY 02</u>	<u>Gov. Rec. FY 02</u>	<u>Senate Subcommittee Adjustments</u>
All Funds:			
State Operations	\$ 19,909,424	\$ 19,586,545	\$ (328,301) *
Aid to Local Units	2,750,902,533	2,581,786,933	(2,490,000)
Other Assistance	31,407,952	30,780,000	0
Subtotal - Operating	<u>\$ 2,802,219,909</u>	<u>\$ 2,632,153,478</u>	<u>\$ (2,818,301)</u>
Capital Improvements	0	0	0
TOTAL	<u><u>\$ 2,802,219,909</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,632,153,478</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (2,818,301)</u></u>
State General Fund:			
State Operations	\$ 10,108,674	\$ 9,671,381	\$ (172,541) *
Aid to Local Units	2,473,352,340	2,324,853,788	10,000
Other Assistance	375,000	369,000	0
Subtotal - Operating	<u>\$ 2,483,836,014</u>	<u>\$ 2,334,894,169</u>	<u>\$ (162,541)</u>
Capital Improvements	0	0	0
TOTAL	<u><u>\$ 2,483,836,014</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,334,894,169</u></u>	<u><u>\$ (162,541)</u></u>
FTE Positions	201.5	201.5	0.0
Other Unclassified Positions	<u>43.4</u>	<u>43.4</u>	<u>0.0</u>
TOTAL	<u><u>244.9</u></u>	<u><u>244.9</u></u>	<u><u>0.0</u></u>

* Includes a reduction of \$328,301 (\$172,541 from the State General Fund) for the Governor's salary plan adjustments.

Agency Estimated/Governor's Recommendation

Estimated expenditures for agency operations are \$20,363,136 in FY 2001 and \$19,909,424 in FY 2002. Overall, the FY 2002 request is a reduction of \$453,712 from the prior year, the net result of an increase of \$881,117 in estimated expenditures from the State General Fund and a reduction of \$1.3 million in other funds.

The Governor recommends expenditures totaling \$19,586,545, a reduction of \$720,085 from his recommendation for the prior year. Expenditures from the State General Fund total \$9,671,381 for FY 2002, an increase of \$346,500 over FY 2001, and a reduction of \$437,293 from the State Department's request. The Governor's recommendation contains \$11,977,449 for salaries and wages, of which \$6,064,830 (50.6 percent) is from the State General Fund.

The Governor's recommendation also includes \$450,000 from the State General Fund for a study of school finance, intended by the Governor to be an independent assessment of the school finance formula in order to address serious inequities and opportunities for improvement.

The State Department's request for aid and other assistance programs from the State General Fund, the State School District Finance Fund, and the Children's Initiatives Fund totals \$2,515,077,857 and would fund through the school finance formula several programs that currently are funded as separate categorical aid programs. They are special education, inservice education, parent education, and structured mentoring. Several new programs would be added to the school finance formula, such as funding for all-day kindergarten and other initiatives of the State Board of Education, and existing programs would be expanded.

The Governor recommends a total of \$2,348,466,788 from the State General Fund, the School District Finance Fund, the Children's Initiatives Fund, a reduction of \$116.6 million from the State Department's request. The Governor recommends funding special education through the school finance formula on the basis of special education weights, but does not approve the State Board's request to combine other programs. In addition, the Governor's recommendation for general state aid to school districts would add \$50 to Base State Aid Per Pupil (from \$3,820 to \$3,870), expand the four-year old at-risk program by 436 children, and increase the at-risk weight from 0.09 to 0.10.

Senate Subcommittee Recommendations

The Senate Subcommittee concurs with the Governor, with the following exceptions:

1. Delete \$328,301, of which \$172,541 is from the State General Fund, for the Governor's salary plan adjustments.
2. Add \$225,000 from the State General Fund for the student assessment program for the purpose of paying for approximately 315,000 reports to be given to parents that would summarize their child's individual performance on the state assessments.
3. Concur with the Governor's recommended amount for special education of \$256,390,000, which is estimated to fund 85.3 percent of excess costs, but continue to appropriate the money as a separate categorical aid program, not as a student weight in the school finance formula, as recommended by the Governor. In addition, request that the Chair of the Ways and Means Committee correspond with the Chairs of the Senate and House Education

Committees requesting that, prior to the end of the 2001 Session, they engage their committees in an aggressive consideration of the special education formula, with particular attention given to devising ways to curb the growth of special education costs.

In addition, the Subcommittee recommends the continuation of a policy begun by the 2000 Legislature regarding the Reading Recovery Program. By proviso to the special education appropriation for FY 2001, the Legislature authorized school districts to count fully-trained Reading Recovery Teacher Leaders as special teachers for purposes of receiving special education reimbursement, up to an aggregate limit of \$160,000. That amount of money provided for \$20,000 for each of the eight Reading Recovery Teacher Leaders presently in Kansas. The Subcommittee recommends that a similar proviso be added to the special education appropriation for FY 2002, with an aggregate limit of \$180,000 in recognition of the fact that it is expected there will be one more qualified teacher in FY 2002.

4. Concur with the Governor's recommendation for general and supplemental general state aid, except for the deletion of \$256,390,000 noted above for special education. The resulting total would be \$1,816,275,000 for general state aid (\$1,814,275,000 from the State General Fund and \$2.0 million from the Children's Initiatives Fund) and \$95,383,000 from the State General Fund for supplemental general state aid. The recommended amount would include funding to increase Base State Aid Per Pupil by \$50 (from \$3,820 to \$3,870, at an estimated cost of \$29,907,000 from the State General Fund), expand the at-risk four-year-old program by 436 children (from 2,230 to 2,666 children, at an estimated cost of \$1.0 million from the Children's Initiatives Fund), and increase the at-risk weight from 0.09 to 0.10 (at an estimated cost of \$4.0 million from the State General Fund).

With regard to the Governor's recommendation to increase the weight for at-risk children, it is the Subcommittee's conviction that the highest priority for the additional funding that will be generated by the increase is reading programs in the early grades and that the \$4.0 million should be targeted toward reading programs that help at-risk children perform competently by the end of the third grade. (2001 SB 220 would implement this recommendation.)

With regard to the school finance formula in general, the Subcommittee devoted some of its consideration to problems created by declining enrollments, both in districts in which enrollments fluctuate from year to year and in districts located in parts of the state that are experiencing steady and likely irreversible declines in population. The Subcommittee believes the Standing Education Committees of the Senate and House should incorporate into their consideration of the school finance formula the specific matter of declining enrollment and ways in which the issue could be addressed.

5. Delete \$2.0 million from the Children's Initiatives Fund for the Parent Education Program, for a total of \$6,139,500, the same as the current year. (Of the total, \$4,639,500 would be from the State General Fund and \$1.5 million would be from the Children's Initiatives Fund.) The Subcommittee holds the Parent Education Program in high esteem, but wants to voice its support for the work

of the Children's Cabinet, which has recommended that no additional funding from the Children's Initiatives Fund be allocated to certain programs, including Parent Education, in order to maximize the amount of money from the Children's Initiatives Fund that would be available for programs and initiatives supported by the Cabinet.

6. Delete all funding (\$500,000 from the Children's Initiatives Fund) for structured mentoring. As noted above, the Subcommittee supports the work of the Children's Cabinet and its stewardship of the Children's Initiatives Fund. Structured mentoring is one of several programs currently funded from the Children's Initiatives Fund which the Cabinet has identified as worthy of support, but which should be funded from other revenue sources because they do not fit within the Cabinet's emphasis on programs for children from birth to age five.
7. Concur with the Governor's recommendation of \$500,000 from the Children's Initiatives Fund for School Violence Prevention (collaborative programs between school districts and local mental health centers), but give notice that the Children's Cabinet has identified this program as one of several that should seek other funding sources for FY 2003 because they are not consistent with the Cabinet's recommended use of money from the Children's Initiatives Fund.
8. Concur with the Governor's recommendation of \$1.0 million for grants to mentor teachers pursuant to 2000 SB 432, but recommend the introduction of legislation to make the law apply only to first-year teachers, not probationary teachers. Under current law, beginning in FY 2002 mentor teachers are eligible for \$1,000 grants to mentor new teachers who are in three-year probationary periods, not first-year teachers. It is the Subcommittee's contention that the \$1.0 million appropriation for the program made by the 2000 Legislation was predicated on the fiscal impact of first-year teachers only. (Fully funding the program to include probationary teachers would cost an estimated \$2.5 million.)
9. Add \$10,000 from the State General Fund for National Board Certification Teaching Excellence Awards, for a total of \$66,000. In addition, combine funding for the awards with funding for Teaching Excellence Scholarships (\$54,000) into one line-item appropriation from the State General Fund totaling \$120,000. Teaching excellence awards are annual bonuses of \$1,000 given to teachers who attain National Board certification and teaching excellence scholarships are \$1,000 stipends given to teachers who are enrolled in the program leading to National Board certification. Combining the funding into one line item would give the State Department of Education the flexibility to shift money from one category to the other as the need arises.
10. Add \$110,000 from the State General Fund to the \$250,000 from the Children's Initiatives Fund recommended by the Governor, for a total of \$360,000 for continuation of the Kansas Optometric Vision Study. (The study is funded in the current year with \$250,000 from the Children's Initiatives Fund.) Although final results of activities underway in the current year will not be available until later in the session, preliminary reports indicate that early identification of children with vision disorders has the potential to improve student learning and quite possibly divert children from more costly special education and remedial education programs. The Subcommittee believes the study should be continued and expanded.

11. Delete \$5,000 from the State General Fund for Environmental Education, for a total of \$30,000, the same as the current year.
12. Delete \$5,000 from the State General Fund for Agriculture in the Classroom, for a total of \$30,000, the same as the current year.
13. Delete \$50,000 from the State General Fund for the Sports Hall of Fame. The Subcommittee calls attention to the Kansas Tourist Attraction Matching Grant Development Fund administered by the State Department of Commerce and Housing, which was established for the purpose of providing matching grants to promote tourism and the development of quality tourist attractions within the state. In the Subcommittee's opinion, the Sports Hall of Fame should compete for funding from the Kansas Tourist Attraction Matching Grant Development Fund.
14. Delete \$50,000 from the State General Fund for the Challenger Project. The Subcommittee believes backers of the Challenger Project should seek funding from the Kansas Tourist Attraction Matching Grant Development Fund.
15. The Subcommittee concurs with the Governor's recommendation of \$500,000 from the State General Fund for a technology infrastructure study to clarify the needs of the education community and assess the capacity that currently is available, but adds the condition that the study include a design for implementing the study's findings and recommendations. The Subcommittee notes that committees and task forces have studied the issue in recent years and proposals to develop a state education technology network have been developed. If another study is undertaken, it should result in a specific plan of action to implement an education technology network.
16. Delete \$225,000 of the \$450,000 recommended by the Governor from the State General Fund for a study of the school finance formula and instead use the money for a study to determine what constitutes a suitable education. The Governor's Task Force that was charged with reviewing the school finance formula concluded that the state must determine the cost of a "suitable" education in order to enable students to reach high standards and recommended a professional evaluation to determine the per-pupil cost of a suitable education. SB 134 would require the State Board of Education to secure consultant services to conduct the study.

In making its recommendation, the Subcommittee expresses concern that, worthy though the goal of defining a suitable education may be, determining a per-pupil cost of such an education will require extensive work and attention to detail if it is to be meaningful. The Subcommittee believes a study should be undertaken, but warns that it will not be useful unless it goes beyond generalities and clearly defines those programs and courses that constitute a suitable education and soundly documents the basis on which they should be funded. The Subcommittee further expresses concern if the study is used as a means to justify greater allocations of funds to areas of the state that currently spend more for education. (If they spend more, it must cost more.) There are many potential pitfalls to the study and the Subcommittee urges extreme caution upon those charged with supervising the study.

17. Recommend that an audit be conducted by the Legislative Division of Post Audit of Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), which are written annually and developed jointly by school districts and parents and are intended to describe the special education needs of the student with an exceptionality and the services to be provided to meet those needs.

In conducting the audit, attention should be given to the extent to which school districts may be held accountable for results on the basis of the IEP, such as whether the IEP contains specific and clearly-defined goals for the exceptional child; a concrete plan of action to meet the goals, including timelines for when the goals reasonably might be achieved; and a description of how progress meeting the goals would be measured or evaluated.

The audit should include enough school districts (including cooperatives and interlocals) to assure adequate representation of the range and variety of special education services across the state.

TABLE II
 (Revised to Indicate Senate Subcommittee Adjustments)
State Department of Education Aid and Other Assistance Programs
FY 2000 (Actual) – FY 2002 (Governor's Recommendation)
Total State Funding

Program	Actual FY 2000	Agency Est. FY 2001	Gov. Rec. FY 2001	Senate Subcommittee Adj.	Agency Req.* FY 2002	Gov. Rec.* FY 2002	Senate Subcommittee Adj.
General State Aid	\$ 1,793,441,264	\$ 1,819,288,000	\$ 1,819,288,000	\$	\$ 1,944,084,500	\$ 1,832,644,000	\$
Special Education	228,756,776	248,336,000	248,336,000		300,659,180	256,390,000	
Inservice Education Aid	4,944,495	4,600,000	4,600,000		5,700,000	2,600,000	
Educable Deaf/Blind Aid	108,900	110,000	110,000		110,000	110,000	
Parent Education Program	5,142,593	6,139,500	6,139,500		14,639,500	8,139,500	(2,000,000)***
Juvenile Detention Facilities	4,011,149	5,380,241	5,380,241		6,380,241	5,380,241	
Structured Mentoring	963,624	500,000	500,000		1,500,000	500,000	(500,000)***
Supplemental General State Aid	72,522,893	84,489,000	84,489,000		84,489,000	95,383,000	
USD Capital Improvement Aid	26,176,468	30,900,000	30,900,000		38,000,000	38,000,000	
School Food Assistance	2,510,461	2,510,486	2,510,486		2,510,486	2,510,486	
KPERS-School	87,888,589	88,742,868	88,742,868		108,224,950	105,154,561	
Educational Excellence Grants	1,580,171	0	0		0	0	
Environmental Education	35,000	30,000	30,000		**	35,000	(5,000)****
Communities in Schools	123,750	125,000	125,000		175,000	125,000	
Teaching Excellence Awards	0	44,000	44,000		75,000	56,000	10,000****
Teaching Excell. Scholarships	23,000	54,000	54,000		75,000	54,000	
Mentor Teacher Grants	0	0	1,000,000		1,000,000	0	
Technology Infrastructure Study	0	0	0		0	500,000	
Sports Hall of Fame	0	0	0		0	50,000	(50,000)****
Agriculture in the Classroom	35,000	30,000	30,000		**	35,000	(5,000)****
Challenger Project	0	50,000	50,000		0	50,000	(50,000)****
Kansas Cultural Heritage Center	30,000	0	0		**	0	
Kansas Cultural Heritage—D.C. Depot	0	100,000	100,000	(100,000)	0	0	
School Violence Prevention	500,000	500,000	500,000		500,000	500,000	
Kansas Optometric Vision Study	0	250,000	250,000		0	250,000	110,000****
Nat. Geo. Soc. Ed. Endowment	250,000	0	0		0	0	
Education Technology Network	0	0	0		4,500,000	0	
Student Achievement Recognition	0	0	0		2,000,000	0	
Teacher of the Year Substitutes	0	0	0		25,000	0	
QPA Reimbursement	0	0	0		300,000	0	
TOTAL	\$ 2,229,044,133	\$ 2,292,179,095	\$ 2,293,179,095	\$ (100,000)	\$ 2,515,077,857	\$ 2,348,466,788	\$ (2,490,000)

* Modified to show programs separately, not funded as part of general state aid.

** Specific funding would be allocated by the State Board as part of a discretionary grant. The total for the three programs would be \$130,000.

*** Children's Initiatives Fund.

**** State General Fund.

Note: In addition, in FY 2002, the Senate Subcommittee reduced the State Department's agency operating budget by \$328,301, of which \$172,541 is from the State General Fund.

efforts have to be made to make more teachers available.

The alternative route to certification program offered at Wichita State University impresses the Committee as an important program that should be adequately funded and possibly serve as a model for similar efforts at institutions that presently do not provide a way for persons who have baccalaureate degrees in a non-teaching area to easily meet the requirements they need to become teachers. The success of the Wichita State University program and its acceptance by local school districts should encourage other institutions to develop their own programs or to partner with Wichita State and develop cooperative programs.

The Committee recommends that the State Board of Regents review the status of alternative routes to teacher certification and report to the Legislature on the development of these programs, the need they are meeting, and recommendations for how they could be strengthened. In making its review, the Board is encouraged to recognize that Wichita State University was a pioneer in this area, could serve as a model or partner for other similar programs, and should be a priority of the State Board for adequate financial support.

The Committee also requests that the State Board of Education consider other measures that could allow additional qualified teachers to enter the classroom, including the elimination of any barriers that inhibit full teacher reciprocity with other states such as problems with the portability of retirement plans and limits on what is considered to be an approved teacher preparation program. The State Board also should explore the possibility of allowing retired teachers to return to

the classroom without jeopardizing their retirement benefits.

It is the Committee's intention to continue to monitor teacher preparation and other issues in the upcoming interim.

Programs Offered by the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence

The Committee received several reports concerning activities and programs offered by the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence at Emporia State University. One program is the National Board Certification Program, which is one of six nationally recognized programs in the nation. The program prepares teachers to become certified by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Candidates begin the program with a two-day orientation and spend the rest of their time working on individualized projects, including work with lessons and activities they currently are teaching. The delivery of much of the program is via distance learning. Because the program in Kansas and nationwide has not existed long enough for longitudinal data to be developed, there is little research to indicate its impact. However, national studies of the impact of National Board certification on teachers is underway, which could document changes in attitudes of teachers before and after certification, opportunities for National Board certified teachers to play leadership roles, and the impact of nationally certified teachers on student learning.

Currently, the cost to provide the National Board Certification Program is approximately \$40,000 and is part of the Emporia State University budget. Dr. Leo Pauls, Director of the Jones Institute, told the Committee that current funding for the program is inadequate because it only

pays the salary of the executive director of the program for nine months and does not cover salary expenses during the summer or any other operating expenses. In Dr. Pauls' opinion, an adequate budget would be \$110,000 and would consist of \$20,000 for immediate needs (fall and spring workshops, office materials, and other operating costs); \$30,000 for program growth (inflationary increases in operating costs and expanded support activities); \$50,000 for the executive director's salary for 11 months and part-time staff salaries; and \$10,000 to fund research projects.

Another program conducted by the Institute is the Future Teacher Academy, a summer workshop for high school students who plan to enroll in teacher education programs after high school graduation. Between 500 and 600 students have participated in the Academy over the years and between 100 and 200 applications are received each year for the 50 slots that are available. Between 30 and 40 percent of Academy participants eventually become teachers.

Funding for the Future Teacher Academy has been from the Hubbard Foundation in the amount of about \$65,000. However, that funding has terminated and efforts to secure other private funding have failed. Without additional funding, the Academy no longer will be offered.

Committee Recommendations. The Committee is familiar with the scope and quality of activities of the Jones Institute for Educational Excellence and believes maintaining an adequate supply of highly competent teachers is high on the public education agenda. The fact that a program that helps recruit new teachers to the field is in jeopardy of being unfunded and another program that develops master teachers who can serve as mentors to

other teachers may be underfunded is a matter of concern. It is the Committee's conviction that programs that help recruit new practitioners to the field and help better prepare existing teachers should be nourished during a time of impending teacher shortages and concern about the quality of the teaching workforce.

To raise the visibility of programs offered by the Jones Institute and to highlight the fact that the programs have a statewide application, the Committee recommends that funding for the National Board Certification Program and the Future Teacher Academy, offered by the Jones Institute at Emporia State University, each be a separate line item appropriation in the budget of the Office of the State Board of Regents. Making the funding for both programs separate line items in the Board Office's budget will require the Governor and the Legislature to specifically review and evaluate the financial support the programs receive. The amount of funding recommended by the Committee for the Future Teacher Academy is \$70,000, which would continue the program at its present level. The Committee recommends that the Institute seek private funding to implement its plan to offer a one-day session for eighth graders.

The Committee encourages the Director of the Jones Institute to be forceful in his requests for adequate support for the Institute's activities and notes that its recommendation to move funding to the budget of the Board Office does not signal that the intention of the Committee is that the programs be offered elsewhere. On the contrary, the Committee is impressed with Emporia State University's commitment to teacher preparation and believes the Jones Institute is an important part of that commitment, which deserves greater visibility and financial support.