

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION K-12.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ralph Tanner at 9:00 a.m. on March 13, 2002 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes
Ann Deitcher, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Barbara Hinton, Legislative Post Auditor
Chris Clarke, Legislative Division of Post Audit

The Chair introduced Chris Clarke who spoke to the Committee in explanation of the Performance Audit Report and it's supplement, the Proposed Budget Format: USD 501 Topeka. (Copies available at Office of the Division of Post Audit).

The Chair commended the Division of Post Audit on their report and said he hoped it would move the Legislature, the State Department of Education and the local school boards toward a more comprehensive and a more understandable methodology of budgeting the funds for the schools and then following up and being able to provide what amounts to an audit of the year's business at the year's end.

Chairman Tanner asked how they would proceed towards a standard budget format and he commended this question to the Committee and to the Post Audit Division for their deliberation and advice. He wanted them, before they left this subject, to venture some recommendations along the line that would tend to keep their eyes on that particular goal. He asked the Committee to read the letter from Education Commissioner Andy Tompkins in the report.

The hearing on the Performance Audit Report was closed and would be resumed at the next Committee meeting.

SB 394 - Closing of school buildings in USD 512.

A motion was made by Representative Lloyd and seconded by Representative Benlon to recommend SB 394 for passage. The motion carried on a voice vote. Representative Tomlinson requested his nay vote be recorded.

HB 2865 - Concerning school districts; relating to capital improvements state aid.

The Chair requested that Ben Barrett look into provisions in the law that deals with state matching funds on bond issues.

SB 402 - Charter schools; definitions, rules and regulations, program goals.

Chairman Tanner requested the formation of a sub-committee to study **SB 402**. The sub-committee would be composed of Representatives Faber, Lloyd, Loganbill, and Storm with Representative Tanner as Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14.