

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dwayne Umbarger at 1:30 p.m. on February 12, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Senators Hensley, Jenkins & Lee (excused)

Committee staff present: Ben Barrett, Legislative Research  
Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research  
Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes  
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner of Education  
Judy Steinlicht, Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Mark Desetti, KNEA  
Christy Levings, KNEA  
Deloyce McKee, Director of Special Services, USD 383, Manhattan  
Gary Norris, Superintendent, Salina Public Schools

Others attending: See Attached List

Mark Desetti and Christy Levings presented the Read Across American program sponsored by KNEA. KNEA provided each Senator with a children's book and asked that they take the book home to one of their schools, read the book to a group of kids and donate the book to the school library. KNEA publishes a book, Kansas State Reading Circle which lists recommended books to read for each age group. These books are distributed to all of the school libraries, school principals, public libraries, State Board of Education and Legislators.

**SB483--School finance; reimbursement of special education and related services**

Dee McKee, Director of Special Services, USD 383, Manhattan presented her views on the funding of special education in Kansas. She believes that the Legislature made an operational error when moving special education money into the general fund of the single districts and the cooperative districts last session. She believes that one must understand the three governance structures that exist in Kansas for service to special education to discuss the finance of special education. School districts were allowed to collaborate and to co-develop programs so that children could receive the required service in the least restrictive environment with the least amount of investment of money. This resulted in the three governance structures; the first is a single district service provider, the second a cooperative service provider and the third an interlocal service provider. Each group is set up differently, receives and distributes their funds differently. Dee explained how each structure is set up and how funds are received and distributed. Dee then explained the background of school funding that was to establish equity in all schools for the educational services of all children. Her recommendation would be to continue to send the special education dollars directly to the entity that is legally responsible for the management accounting and auditing of the funds. (Attachment 1)

Gary Norris, Superintendent of Salina Public Schools, testified on **SB483** stating that he supported distribution of the funds provided for in the bill, but stated that it would have a devastating effect on the children in Salina Public Schools and a number of other school districts in Kansas if implemented as currently written. Dr. Norris asked that the Legislature amend **SB483** to include some sort of "hold harmless" language for those school districts that are home to the state's 23 special education cooperatives. Many of these districts have already accessed the additional dollars by using the state's required calculation during the current budget year (FY2002) and could be left with no additional budget authority to compensate for this loss. (Attachment 2)

Mark Tallman, KASB, provided written testimony supporting the intent of **SB483**. This bill makes the

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION at on February 12, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

system more equitable, but some districts that sponsor special education coops might be disadvantaged by this change. KASB believes that whenever districts lose budget authority due to a change in the school finance system, there should be some mechanism to hold those districts harmless or provide for a reduction in that authority over time. (Attachment 3)

Jacque Oakes, Schools for Quality Education, offered written testimony in favor of **SB483**. This bill would allow special education money to flow through the general fund of all school districts in a special education cooperative rather than just one host district. SQE appreciates that the flaw in the bill is being corrected, because in the order of fairness each district should receive the extra funding due particularly to them rather than just the acting entity of the cooperative. (Attachment 4)

Hearings were closed on **SB483**.

**SB 403—Postsecondary education savings program, elimination of two-year waiting period for withdrawal, elimination of the state penalty on nonqualified withdrawal and exemption from creditors**

John Peterson proposed an amendment to **SB403**. The amendment would eliminate the two year waiting period from the time the account is open until a qualified withdrawal can be made and eliminate the 10% state penalty for tax on non-qualified withdrawals. (Attachment 5)

Senator Emler proposed an amendment that would make an account subject to the claims of creditors and judgements for a 12 month period. After a lengthy discussion by the Committee, Chairman Umbarger asked that the amendment be put on hold for 24 hours to think about the discussion and determine an amendment that would work out all of the concerns.

Senator Oleen made a motion to amend **SB403** reducing the waiting period for withdrawal from 2 years to one year. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

Adjourned 2:30 p.m.

**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST**

DATE - 2-12-02

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Dee McLee	USD 383 Manhattan
Lynell Alen	Topeka, USD 501
Mary R George	Olathe Schools
Bill Brady	SEFF
Gary Norris	Salina Public Schools
Mark Desetti	KNEA
Bralla Scott	USA
Christy Lewing	KNEA
Craig Grant	HWEA
Blanche Park	Treasurer's Office
Begy Nanna	Treasurer's Office
Elizabeth A Rombach	American Century
William Bates	"
Marsha Stralme	Civil of the
PAUL HURLEY	PAT HURLEY & CO. /KEC
Don Rezac	USD 321
KEVIN GANTT	SAINT MARY COLLEGE, Leavenworth
Don Howles	USA.
Derrick Sontag	Treasurer's Office

**Senate Bill 483**  
**Legislative Planning Committee**  
**Feb. 12, 2002**  
**Deloyce "Dee" McKee**  
**Director of Special Services**  
**USD 383 Manhattan, Kansas**

### **FUNDING OF SPECIAL EDUCATION IN KANSAS**

**In the spring of 2001 when the Legislature in the last days decided to move the special ed. money into the general fund of the single districts and the cooperative districts, they made an operational error because they did not understand what was governance of special education in the state of Kansas. At this time the correction that is being proposed is an attempt to justify that particular transfer decision to place special education dollars in the general fund, and attempt to again have some degree of equity among all of the districts in the state. Simplistically, you'd think that a headcount approach would make everything come out right, but, having managed all three of those types of governance agencies, I believe that there will be other management and operational challenges that will occur. The following should be considered by this body before the legislature decides to further raise local property taxes through the Special Education of children of Kansas .**

#### **Structures for Delivering Special Education Services (graphic attached)**

In order to discuss the finance of special education, one must understand the three governance structures that exist in Kansas for service to special education. Over the period of years since special education became a Federal requirement, school districts have been allowed to collaborate and to co-develop programs so that children could receive the required services in the least restrictive environment with the least investment of money. This has resulted in three primary structures

The first one is the **single district service provider**. Many big districts in the state of Kansas determined that they had enough children with diverse needs and special requirements, that they could by themselves, provide the services required or collaborate with community agencies to provide all of the needed support. A single district receives all of the money into its district

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Attachment # 1



program and has a separate account for special education that records all of the funds, isolates them for purposes of accounting for the Federal dollars, isolates the program so that it can account for Medicaid services, and to meet all of the reporting requirements in order for them to be able to audit appropriately. A single district is what the legislature had in mind in the spring of 2001 to move all of the special education dollars into the general education fund. Their understanding was for the most part limited to that concept.

The second structure that the legislature evidently knew of, but did not fully understand, was the **Cooperative service provider** which has a single district within a group of cooperating districts, which take on by legal agreement with approval of the State Board of Education, the bookkeeping, the negotiations, the entire responsibility for service to multiple numbers of school districts. The cooperative has its liability developed through an agreement and it is this district that employees all special Ed teachers in their district. It sends out to all of the surrounding districts and it's board maintains the staff for records, finance, and all of the information, and data required for audit.

The third service provider is an **Interlocal Service Provider**. The interlocal stands and operates independently as its own district and is counted a local education agency (LEA). The LEA, as a method of efficiency and management, receives all of the state and Federal money, and develops its own negotiated agreement, has its own teachers, and provides service to all of the districts that participate. In the cooperative and the interlocal there is an assessment that is given to each of the districts, usually based on its September 20 head count and that particular money is used to serve all of the children in all of the boundary lines of all of the school districts together. It becomes a single umbrella group over the top of the separate school districts. All of the liability, all of the ownership is agreed upon by the interagency group in an agreement that is approved by the state board of Education. (K.S.A. 7382-30). The interlocal is responsible for the records and audit of special education for the members of the participating schools. If something goes wrong, that interlocal will be the group that does the negotiations, pursues the litigation, and solves the problems.

some serious considerations that must also be given to such a proposal.

Point #1) In an interlocal the money has always gone to that agency and they have budgeted the money and have a cash flow problem and their own set of personnel. If the money flows to

the school districts, there is no provision for quick transfer of the funds or, at this moment in the reading of the bill, I see no dedicated transfer of the funds. This could result in a significant interruption of special education services to children in the state of Kansas. It is also important to note that in the various participating school districts a number of diverse attitudes exist toward serving special education, a number of different levels of experience exist. I think it is fair to suggest that in some districts, absent a directive to transfer immediately, punitive and derisive issues might occur. This bill cannot stand without that.

## **II. Fundamental Issues of Taxation**

In 1992, the state legislature, in order to achieve equity in funding of education, prompted by legal pressure in the decision of Judge Bullock created a major redesign of the funding of education in the schools of Kansas. The purpose of the change was to establish equity in all schools for the educational services of all children. This was based on the very obvious difference of valuation that existed in school districts using Galena as one example where one mill might generate (\$35,000) and Hugoton, where one mill on the gas fields might generate (\$500,000). When mill levies were assessed in these districts to hire teachers based on the local valuation of property, Galena could not provide education for the students to any level or quality equal to the districts that had much wealth in property taxes. The change was made so that all property taxes flowed to Topeka and then were to be dispersed based on the ability of the local districts in their valuation to provide effort and input and income. The balance was to be made up by the state.

Not too many years after that, the state legislature took the position that the tax base that provided for education should be reduced. From 35mills down to 20 mills in 2000. Concomitant with that, they voted to allow the Local Option Budget (LOB) to become the local source of school funding for variations and differences. Problematically, inequities have continued to increase as the LOB has increased, again going back to the differences generated by the local valuations of each district.

In the spring of 2002, in order to generate more for districts who had met their 25 mills and wanted to generate yet more money for the benefit of their own children, the legislature in the very final days took an approach of dumping all of the special ed. money into the general ed. Fund. There were, to my knowledge, no hearings or discussion to discover the existing

problems and realities. The mechanism did serve fairly the operations of special education in the schools of Kansas, The single districts operated as expected, but the cooperatives... those units that serve multiple districts, received all of the money from multiple schools, and their local tax payers were literally raped by being taxed for funds that were not generated in their district. If I was still a county commissioner and the locations were Clay Center, Hays, Larned, Leavenworth, Lyons, McPherson, Olathe, Paola, Pittsburg, Salina, Winfield, ElDorado, Beloit, Great Bend, or other cooperative service providers and my tax payers had received in my single district to dish out taxes based on the special ed. funds for the entire area, we would have been in court then. I believe that this body is today sitting to discuss the action they took and trying to correct it. Problematically, it looks like taking the head count and moving it, might be the answer, however, your solution does not account for the governance differences that exist in an cooperatives and interlocals.

Simply moving the money to the districts without regard for the fact that the cooperatives and interlocals have always received the money, provided the audit trail, anticipated the flow to pay for staff and management, creates and a political situation management a time lapse that is functional not asdequately addressed in the proposed bill.

It is time to look at what is appropriate for the long term needs of the children of Kansas, and to develop a tax base on stable grounds, a tax base not generated artificially by a flow through of state and Federal funds to local homeowners, local farmers, local businessmen and then for the Legislature to say we've given you the opportunity to do this locally. I marvel at the rhetoric that I have heard over the last couple of years about maintaining a property tax lid and how significant it was for tax payers to have a vote about the increases and then to see this body to collectively increase the property taxes through, what I view as a slight-of-hand maneuver.

I think this funding by head count mechanism in leiu of the exisiting agreements and contracts and should not be implimented without a close review of the impacts it will further cause. It is filled with opportunities for future error and diversions and it is certainly one of those “Emperor’s Clothes” situations when a governing body tells the tax payers they are not raising their taxes and then contrives to do it in a method that exacerbates the inequity in educational funding.

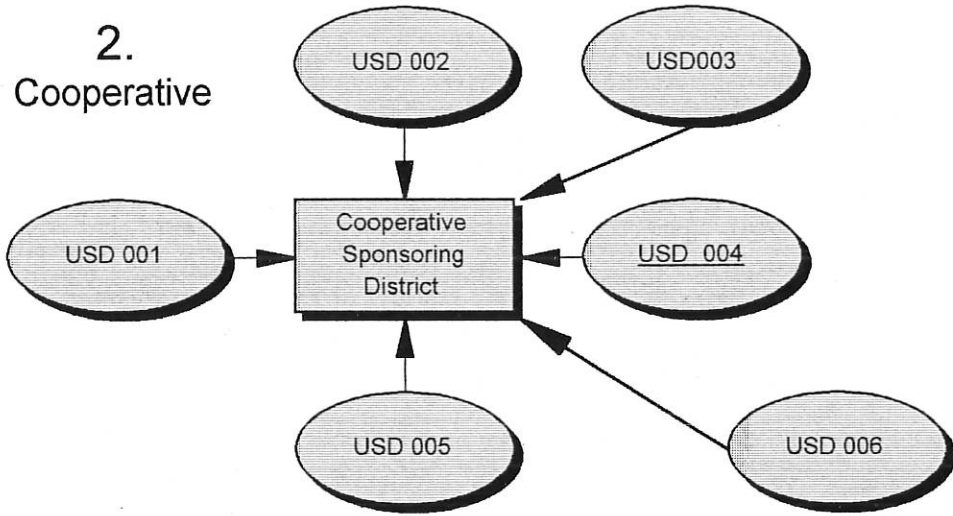
My recommendation--- for management purposes, continue to send the special education dollars directly to the entity that is legally responsible for the management accounting and auditing of the funds. Send a "Property Tax Increase Voucher" to every district with some devised value for each or simply insert it into the bugeting for education computer formula and allow the local boards to appear to be responsible for the resulting tax increases.

Three Governance Styles in Kansas Special Education

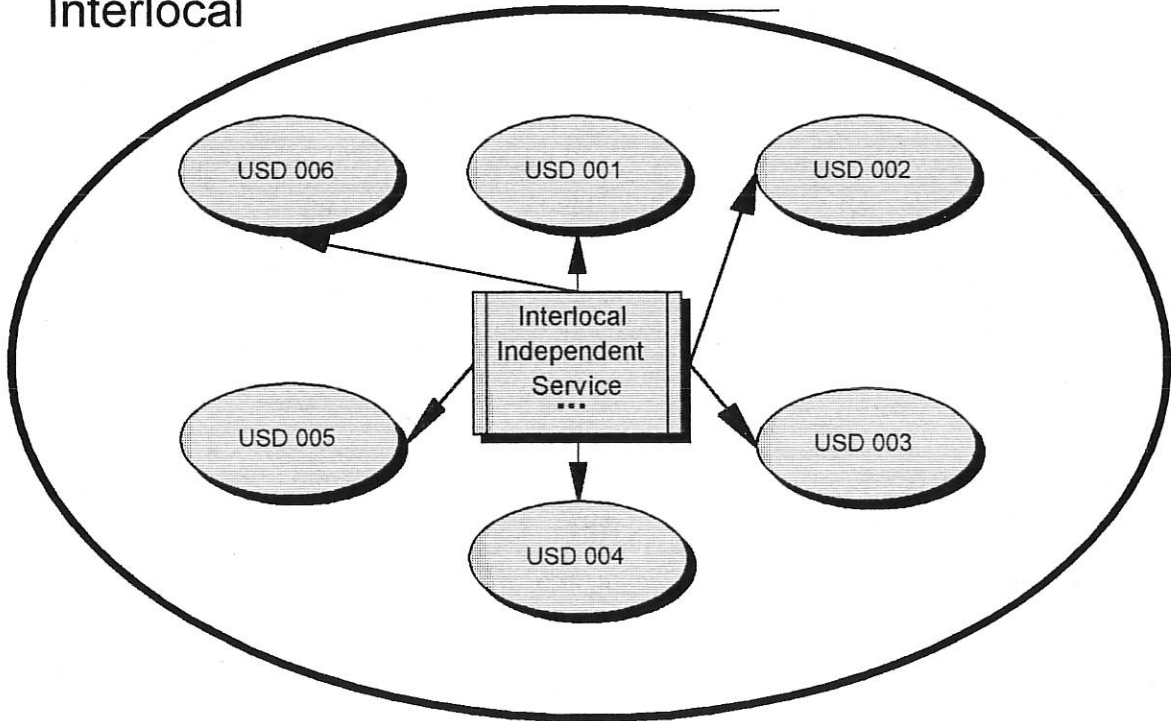
1. Single District



2. Cooperative



3. Interlocal





## INTERLOCALS

- 603 **ANW Special Education Cooperative**  
Robert Scott, Director, 710 Bridge, Box 207, Humboldt 66748 (316) 473-2257; FAX (316) 473-2159  
School Districts Involved: USD 101-Erie-St. Paul, USD 256-Marmaton Valley, USD 257-Iola, USD 258-Humboldt, USD 366-Yates Center, USD 387-Altoona-Midway, USD 413-Chanute Public Schools, USD 479-Crest
- 605 **South Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative**  
Bruce Givens, Director, Steve Mead, Assistant Director, Box 177, Iuka 67066 (316) 546-2227; FAX (316) 546-2229; E-mail: smead@socenc.com.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 254-Barber County North, USD 255-South Barber, USD 331-Kingman, USD 332-Cunningham, USD 349-Stafford, USD 350-St. John-Hudson, USD 351-Macksville, USD 361-Anthony-Harper, USD 382-Pratt, USD 438-Skyline Schools, USD 511-Attica
- 607 **Tri-County Special Education Cooperative**  
Curt Schmitz, Director, Box 668, Independence 67301 (316) 331-6303; FAX (316) 331-7016  
School Districts Involved: USD 436-Caney Valley, USD 445-Coffeyville, USD 446-Independence, USD 447-Cherryvale, USD 461-Neodesha, USD 484-Fredonia, USD 503-Parsons
- 610 **Reno County Education Cooperative**  
Chet Johnson, Director, 2500 East 30th Ave., Hutchinson 67502-1240 (316) 663-7178; FAX (316) 663-1275; E-mail: rcec@midusa.net; Homepage: www.rcec.k12.ks.us  
School Districts Involved: USD 309-Nickerson, USD 310-Fairfield, USD 311-Pretty Prairie, USD 312-Haven Public Schools USD 313-Buhler
- 611 **High Plains Educational Cooperative District**  
Gary Burkhart, Director, 621 East Oklahoma, Ulysses 67880 (316) 356-5577; FAX (316) 356-5522; E-mail: hpec@pld.com; Homepage: http://users.pld.com/hpec  
School Districts Involved: USD 200-Greeley County, USD 209-Moscow Public Schools, USD 210-Hugoton Public Schools, USD 214-Ulysses, USD 215-Lakin, USD 216-Deerfield, USD 217-Rolla, USD 218-Elkhart, USD 363-Holcomb, USD 371-Montezuma, USD 374-Sublette, USD 452-Stanton County, USD 466-Scott County, USD 467-Leoti, USD 476-Copeland, USD 494-Syracuse, USD 507-Satanta
- 613 **Southwest Kansas Area Cooperative District**  
Howard H. "Hamp" Smith, Director; Keith Reimer, Assistant Director; Lem Marsh, Assistant Director; P.O. Box 70, Ensign KS 67841  
(316) 865-2054; FAX (316) 865-2055; E-mail: skacd@midusa.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 102-Cimarron-Ensign, USD 219-Minneola, USD 220-Ashland, USD 225-Fowler, USD 226-Meade, USD 227-Jetmore, USD 301-Nes Tre La Go, USD 302-Smoky Hill, USD 303-Ness City, USD 304-Bazine, USD 381-Spearville, USD 443-Dodge City, USD 459-Bucklin, USD 477-Ingalls, USD 482-Dighton, USD 483-Kismet-Plains
- 614 **East Central Kansas Cooperative in Education**  
Caren Lowe, Director, Box 41, Baldwin City 66006 (785) 594-2737; FAX (785) 594-6815; E-mail: carnlowe@ixks.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 289-Wellsville, USD 348-Baldwin City, USD 491-Eudora
- 615 **Brown County Kansas Special Education Cooperative**  
Dr. Steven J. Davies, Director, 301 S. 1st, Hiawatha 66434 (785) 742-7108; Fax (785) 742-3234  
School Districts Involved: USD 415-Hiawatha, USD 430-South Brown County
- 616 **Doniphan County Education Cooperative**  
Dwayne Scott, Director, Box 218, Bendena 66008 (785) 988-4204; FAX (785) 988-4206; E-mail: dcec@midusa.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 406-Wathena, USD 425-Highland, USD 429-Troy Public Schools, USD 433-Midway Schools, USD 486-Elwood
- 617 **Marion County Special Education Cooperative**  
Barry Stanley, Director, Fred Miller, Assistant Director, 111 N. Thorp Street, Marion 66861-1125 (316) 382-3705; FAX (316) 382-2118; e-mail: bstanley@southwind.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 397-Centre, USD 398-Peabody-Burns, USD 408-Marion, USD 410-Durham-Hillsboro-Lehigh, USD 411-Goessel
- 618 **Sedgwick County Area Educational Services Interlocal Cooperative**  
Larry Clark, Director, 620 Industrial, Box 760, Goddard 67052 (316) 794-8641; FAX (316) 794-2439; E-mail: scaesic@dtc.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 262-Valley Center Public Schools, USD 264-Clearwater, USD 265-Goddard, USD 266-Maize, USD 267-Renwick, USD 268-Cheney, USD 356-Conway Springs, USD 369-Burrton, USD 439-Sedgwick Public Schools

## INTERLOCALS (Cont.)

- 619 **Sumner County Educational Services Interlocal**  
Pamela Chilson, Director, 1002 East Harvey, Wellington 67152 (316) 326-8935; FAX (316) 326-6496  
School Districts Involved: USD 357-Belle Plaine, USD 358-Oxford, USD 359-Argonia Public Schools, USD 360-Caldwell, USD 509-South Haven, Crossroads Academy, Alternative School
- 620 **Three Lakes Educational Cooperative**  
Dr. Jennifer Barnhart, Director, Ms. Kim Bodensteiner, Assistant Director, 1318 Topeka Avenue, Box 627, Lyndon 66451  
(785) 828-3113; FAX (785) 828-3671; E-mail: jbam@kanza.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 287-West Franklin, USD 420-Osage City, USD 421-Lyndon, USD 434-Santa Fe Trail, USD 454-Burlingame Public Schools, USD 456-Marais Des Cygnes Valley
- 625 **Southwest Kansas Educational Consortium**  
Eddie L. Goble, Director, 407 School Addition, P.O. Box Box 400, Meade 67864-0400 (316) 873-2524; FAX (316) 873-2391;  
E-mail: a\_plus625@hotmail.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 219-Minneola, USD 220-Ashland, USD 225-Fowler, USD 226-Meade, USD 300-Comanche County USD 422-Greensburg, USD 424-Mullinville, USD 459 Bucklin, USD 474-Haviland, USD 483-Kismet-Plains
- 631 **The Learning Consortium Educational Cooperative**  
Jeanette Roberts, Director, Box 610, Moundridge 67107 (316) 345-2816; FAX (316) 345-8617;  
Homepage: <http://www2.southwind.net/~mndridge/>  
School Districts Involved: USD 411-Goessel, USD 419-Canton-Galva, USD 423-Moundridge, USD 460-Hesston
- 632 **Technology Excellence in Education Network (TEEN)**  
Dr. Sharon Tatge, Executive Director, 19 N. Broadway, Herington 67449-9801 (785) 258-2288; FAX (785) 258-3552; E-mail: tatge@teen.k12.ks.us; Homepage: <http://www.teen.k12.ks.us>  
School Districts Involved: USD 397-Lost Springs, USD 398-Peabody, USD 408-Marion, USD 410-Hillsboro, USD 487-Herington
- 634 **Johnson County Technical Education**  
Richard Tremain, Assistant Director, 311 E. Park, Olathe 66061 (913) 780-7026; FAX (913) 780-8339  
School Districts Involved: USD 229-Blue Valley, USD 230-Spring Hill, USD 231-Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch, USD 232-DeSoto, USD 233-Olathe
- 635 **Prairie Hills Interlocal**  
Deloyce "Dee" McKee, Director, 100 N. Main, P.O. Box 21, Mullinville, KS 67109 (316) 548-2208; FAX (316) 548-2210  
School Districts Involved: USD 300-Comanche County; USD 422-Greensburg; USD 424-Mullinville

## SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVES

### **Beloit USD 273, Special Education Cooperative**

Keith Williams, Director, 116 West Main, Box 547, Beloit 67420 (785) 738-3261; FAX (785) 738-4103  
School Districts Involved: USD 104-White Rock, USD 272-Waconda, USD 273-Beloit, USD 278-Mankato, USD 279-Jewell, USD 298-Lincoln, USD 299-Sylvan Grove

### **Burlington USD 244, Coffey County Cooperative Program for Special Services**

Derald Hurt, Director, 200 South 6th, Burlington 66839 (316) 364-5151; FAX (316) 364-8548; E-mail: dchurt@mail.kans.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 243-Lebo-Waverly, USD 244-Burlington, USD 245-LeRoy-Gridley

### **Clay Center USD 379, Twin Lakes Educational Cooperative**

Edwin Koehler, Director, Box 97, Clay Center 67432 (785) 632-3176; FAX (785) 632-5020; E-mail: ekoehler@kansas.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 222-Washington Schools, USD 223-Barnes, USD 334-Southern Cloud, USD 378-Riley County, USD 379-Clay Center, USD 384-Blue Valley (Randolph)

### **Concordia USD 333, Learning Cooperative of North Central Kansas**

Marilyn Ross, Director, Sheryl Brotton, Assistant Director, 803 Valley, Concordia 66901 (785) 243-3294; FAX (785) 243-8822;  
E-mail: mjross@dustdevil.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 221-North Central, USD 224-Clifton-Clyde, USD 333-Concordia, USD 426-Pike Valley, USD 427-Belleville, USD 455-Hillcrest Rural Schools

### **El Dorado USD 490, Butler County School Board Council Special Education Cooperative**

Greg Buster, Director, Karen Howell, Assistant Director, 1518 West 6th, El Dorado 67042 (316) 321-2780; FAX (316) 321-3087; E-mail: gbuster@southwind.net; Homepage: <http://www2.southwind.net/~kwright>  
School Districts Involved: USD 205-Bluestem, USD 206-Remington, USD 375-Circle, USD 385-Andover, USD 394-Rose Hill, USD 396-Douglass, USD 402-Augusta, USD 490-El Dorado, USD 492-Flinthills

### **Emporia USD 253, Flint Hills Special Education Cooperative**

Dr. Claudia Dempsey, Director, 216 West 6th, Box 459, Emporia 66801 (316) 341-2325; FAX (316) 341-2331; E-mail: fhsec@mail.valu-line.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 251-North Lyon County, USD 252-Southern Lyon County, USD 253-Emporia, USD 284-Chase County, USD 386-Madison-Virgil, USD 390-Hamilton, USD 417-Morris County

### **Great Bend USD 428, Barton County Cooperative Program of Special Services**

Jill Vsetecka, Director, 150 SW 40th Avenue, Great Bend 67530 (316) 793-1550; FAX (316) 793-1551; E-mail: jill.vsetecka@greatbend.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 354-Clafin, USD 355-Ellinwood Public Schools, USD 403-Otis-Bison, USD 428-Great Bend, USD 431-Hoisington

### **Hays USD 489, Hays West Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative**

Mark Hauptman, Assistant Superintendent, 323 West 12th, Hays 67601 (785) 623-2400; FAX (785) 623-2409  
School Districts Involved: USD 388-Ellis, USD 395-LaCrosse, USD 432-Victoria, USD 489-Hays

### **Holton USD 336, Holton Special Education Cooperative**

Mark B. Wilson, Director, 515 Pennsylvania, Box 230, Holton 66436 (785) 364-3463; FAX: (785) 364-3975; E-mail: mbwilson@mail.holton.k12.ks.us  
School Districts Involved: USD 322-Onaga-Havensville, USD 335-North Jackson, USD 336-Holton, USD 337-Royal Valley, USD 441-Sabetha

### **Howard USD 282, Chautauqua and Elk County Special Education Services**

Bert Moore, Director, Box 607, Howard 67349 (316) 374-2113; FAX (316) 374-2414  
School Districts Involved: USD 282-West Elk, USD 283-Elk Valley, USD 286-Chautauqua County Community

### **Kansas City USD 500, Wyandotte Comprehensive Special Education Cooperative**

Dr. Laura Balthazor, Director, 600 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City 66101-2806 (913) 551-3700; FAX (913) 551-3706; E-mail: laclark@gw.kckps.k12.ks.us  
School Districts Involved: USD 203-Piper, USD 204-Bonner Springs, USD 500-Kansas City

## SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVES (Cont.)

### **Larned USD 495, Tri-County Special Services Cooperative**

Lora Rozeboom, Director, 1022 Kansas Avenue, Larned, KS 67550 (316) 285-3119; FAX (316) 285-2521; E-mail: tricount@larned.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 228-Hanston, USD 347-Kinsley-Offerle, USD 495-Ft. Larned, USD 496-Pawnee Heights, USD 502-Lewis

### **Leavenworth USD 453, Leavenworth County Special Education Cooperative**

Dr. Lynn Ahrens, Director, 730 First Terrace, Lansing 66043 (913) 727-1755; FAX (913) 727-1602; E-mail: lahrens@lcsec.org  
School Districts Involved: USD 207-Ft. Leavenworth, USD 449-Easton, USD 453-Leavenworth, USD 458-Basehor-Linwood, USD 464-Tonganoxie, USD 469-Lansing

### **Lyons USD 405, Rice County Special Services Cooperative**

Edwin Church, Co-Director, 510 West Lincoln, Lyons 67554 (316) 257-7002; FAX (316) 257-5197; E-mail: echurch@lyons.usd405.k12.ks.us  
Gladys Ritterhouse, Co-Director, 501 East Avenue South, Lyons 67554 (316) 257-5612; FAX (316) 257-7032; E-mail: gritterhouse@lyons.usd405.k12.ks.us; Homepage: <http://familyeducation.com/ks/lyons.405> and <http://lyons.usd405.k12.ks.us>  
School Districts Involved: USD 376-Sterling, USD 401-Chase, USD 405-Lyons, USD 444-Little River

### **McPherson USD 418, McPherson County Special Education Cooperative**

Dr. John Black, Director, 514 North Main, McPherson 67460 (316) 241-9420; FAX (316) 241-9410; ; E-mail: john.black@mcpherson.com; Home page: <http://www.mcpherson.com/418>  
School Districts Involved: USD 400-Lindsborg, USD 418-McPherson, USD 419-Canton-Galva, USD 423-Moundridge, USD 448-Inman

### **Marysville USD 364, Marshall County Special Education Cooperative**

Mary Sinker, Director, 405 North 4th, Marysville 66508 (785) 562-2943; FAX (785) 562-5215; E-mail: msinker@mvleadvocate.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 364-Marysville, USD 498-Valley Heights

### **Nemaha Valley USD 442, Marshall-Nemaha County Educational Services Cooperative**

Wanda Hartman, Director, 316 Main, Seneca 66538 (785) 336-2181; FAX (785) 336-2268  
School Districts Involved: USD 380-Vermillion, USD 442-Nemaha Valley Schools, USD 451-B & B, USD 488-Axtell

### **Newton USD 373, Harvey County Special Education Cooperative**

Sherri Buss, Director, 725 N. Main, Newton 67114-1805 (316) 284-6580; FAX (316) 284-6589; E-mail: hcsec@southwind.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 373-Newton, USD 440-Halstead, USD 460-Hesston

### **Olathe USD 233, Comprehensive Special Services Cooperative (CSSC)**

Gerald Reynaud, Executive Director-Special Services, Olathe District Schools, West Dennis Support Center, 1005 S. Pitt, P.O. Box 2000, Olathe 66063-2000 (913) 780-7024; FAX (913) 780-8209; E-mail: reynaud@mail.olathe.k12.ks.us  
School Districts Involved: USD 230-Spring Hill, USD 231-Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch, USD 232-DeSoto, USD 233-Olathe

### **Paola USD 368, East Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative**

Dr. Michael Hughes, Director, 10 South Silver, P.O. Box 268, Paola 66071 (913) 294-2303; E-mail: mhughes@edu.gte.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 288-Central Heights, USD 344-Pleasanton, USD 346-Jayhawk, USD 362-Prairie View, USD 365-Garnett, USD 367-Osawatomie, USD 368-Paola, USD 416-Louisburg

### **Phillipsburg USD 325, North Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative**

Garry Baxter, Director, R.R. 1, Box 43G, Glade 67639 (785) 543-2149; FAX (785) 543-6654; E-mail: gbaxter@ruraltel.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 211-Norton Community Schools, USD 212-Northern Valley, USD 213-West Solomon Valley Schools, USD 237-Smith Center, USD 238-West Smith County, USD 269-Palco, USD 270-Plainville, USD 271-Stockton, USD 295-Prairie Heights, USD 324-Eastern Heights, USD 325-Phillipsburg, USD 326-Logan, USD 392-Osborne County, USD 399-Paradise

### **Pittsburg USD 250, Southeast Kansas Special Education Cooperative**

Pennie Province, Director, 824 East 4th, Suite #1, Pittsburg 66762 (316) 235-3180 or (800) 281-2749; FAX (316) 235-3184  
School Districts Involved: USD 235-Uniontown, USD 246-Northeast, USD 247-Cherokee, USD 248-Girard, USD 249-Frontenac Public Schools, USD 250-Pittsburg, USD 404-Riverton, USD 493-Columbus, USD 499-Galena, USD 504-Oswego, USD 505-Chetopa, USD 506-Labette County, USD 508-Baxter Springs

## SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVES (Cont.)

### **Salina USD 305, Central Kansas Cooperative in Education**

Roger Allen, Director, 3023 Canterbury Drive, Salina 67401 (785) 827-0301; FAX (785) 827-5446; E-mail: roger.allen@usd305.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 239-North Ottawa County, USD 240-Twin Valley, USD 305-Salina, USD 306-Southeast of Saline, USD 307-Ell-Saline, USD 327-Ellsworth, USD 328-Lorraine, USD 393-Solomon, USD 435-Abilene, USD 473-Chapman, USD 481-Rural Vista, USD 487-Herington

### **Topeka USD 501, Shawnee County Special Education Cooperative**

Dennis Hasson, Director, Topeka Public Schools USD 501, Administrative Center, 624 West 24th, Topeka 66611-1294  
(785) 575-6112; FAX (785) 575-6112  
School Districts Involved: USD 345-Seaman, USD 372-Silver Lake, USD 437-Auburn-Washburn, USD 450-Shawnee Heights, USD 501-Topeka Public Schools

### **Wamego USD 320, Special Services Cooperative of Wamego**

Nancy Olson, Director, 510 Highway 24 East, Wamego 66547 (785) 456-9195; FAX (785) 456-8125  
School Districts Involved: USD 320-Wamego, USD 323-Rock Creek, USD 329-Mill Creek Valley

### **Winfield USD 465, Cowley County Special Services Cooperative**

Dr. Ron Sarnacki, Director, Nancy Juhlin, Assistant Director, 1321 East 7th, Winfield 67156 (316) 221-7021; FAX (316) 221-2977  
School Districts Involved: USD 285-Cedar Vale, USD 462-Central, USD 463-Udall, USD 465-Winfield, USD 470-Arkansas City, USD 471-Dexter



**H**e has commanded armies and headed government agencies—and now as U.S. Secretary of State, Colin Powell is in every sense a world leader. Through the years, in each position of growing authority, he has followed a code of leadership that inspires confidence, trust, and admiration.

Powell and I became friends after we both spoke at an IBM-sponsored conference in 1996. Over time and from our many discussions, I formulated a point-by-point guide to Powell's style, a kind of Leadership 101. Surprisingly, for a lifelong Army man, many of his strategies seem to fly in the face of traditional military thinking. As I began developing these principles into a book about Powell's innate management skills, I at first viewed the project as primarily for business leaders. But in the days following the September attacks in New York and Washington—as Powell displayed his assured, dignified, and well-prepared style—it became clear to me that everyone has a vital interest in having a clear understanding of the Powell Way. What's more, I firmly believe that Powell's insights are of immense practical value for anyone faced with important decisions, whether business or personal. Here are seven of his key principles.

1. *Dare To Be the Skunk* "Every organization," says Powell, "should tolerate rebels who tell the emperor he has no clothes ... and this particular emperor expects to be told when he is naked." As a young officer out of the ROTC program at New York's City College, Powell headed a platoon in Viet-

nam—where he learned something about how not to lead others. "We accepted that we had been sent to pursue a policy that had become bankrupt," he wrote in his best-selling autobiography. "The top leadership never went to the Secretary of Defense or the President and said, 'This war is unwinnable the way we are fighting it.'... They bowed to group-think pressures and kept up pretenses."

spread, and people would understand that when they came into my office I really wanted to hear what they thought." And that he trusted their opinions.

Leaders who ask for straight talk from the trenches must graciously accept information and diverse opinions—even ideas they don't want to hear. "The day soldiers stop bringing you their problems is the day you have stopped leading them," says Powell. Such encouragement can be nonverbal. The first time I walked into his office, Powell came around his vast desk and warmly ushered me into an alcove, where we sat, almost touching, at a far smaller, round table. He explained that the table sends a message of intimacy and trust. He wants visitors to

BY OREN HARARI



**FROM THE TOP**  
**Aboard the U.S.S.**  
**Wisconsin in 1990,**  
**Powell shares his**  
**vision with sailors.**



know that he genuinely wants to hear what they have to say.

**3. Share the Power** “Plans don’t accomplish work,” says Powell. “It is people who get things done.” He adheres to two basic leadership premises: 1) People are competent and 2) Every job is important.

“Everybody has a vital role to play,” he told his State Department staff when he took over as Secretary. “And it is my job to convey down through every layer to the last person in the organization the valuable role they perform.”

The flip side to that leadership style is more responsibility on the part of those being led. The day he was promoted to lieutenant general and placed in command of V Corps in Germany, Powell received this letter from the Chief of Staff of the Army: “If in two years you have not heard from me offering you a second position or promoting you to four stars, I expect you to have your resignation on my desk.” Two years later, four-star General Powell was in the White House as National Security Adviser.

“He expected me to retire if he couldn’t use me anymore,” Powell explains simply.

**4. Know When To Ignore Your Advisers** Experts, advisers, and consultants will only get you so far. Eventually a leader must make the final decisions. In Vietnam, Powell recalls asking a Vietnamese army officer why an outpost had been put in such a vulnerable spot. The officer explained

that some military experts wanted it there to supply a nearby airfield. So then, asked Powell, why was the airfield there? The officer replied, “To resupply the outpost.”

“Experts often possess more data than judgment,” says Powell. “Elites can become so inbred that they produce hemophiliacs who bleed to death as soon as they are nicked by the real world.” The best leaders, he believes, should never ignore their own hard-won experience.

**5. Develop Selective Amnesia** Too many leaders get so trapped in fixed ways of seeing things that they can’t cope when the world changes. In the spring of 1988, Powell flew to Moscow to prepare for a presidential summit. Sitting across the table, Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev delivered momentous news, saying, in effect: “I’m ending the Cold War, and you’re going to have to find a new enemy.”

As Powell recalls it, his initial mental reaction was, “But I don’t want to!” After investing 28 years in seeing the Soviet Union as an enemy, he realized that “everything I had worked against no longer mattered.” But he regained his footing, adjusted to the new world order, and helped guide modern U.S. foreign policy.

While we all have preconceived notions, Powell says, “Never let ego get so close to your position that when your position goes, your ego goes with it.”

**6. Come Up For Air** Powell demands excellence from his staff, but he also insists they have lives outside the office. Again, he leads by example: He has always devoted as much time as possible to Alma, his wife of 39 years, and their children, Mike, Linda, and Annemarie. “I don’t have to prove to anybody that I can work sixteen hours a day if I can get it done in eight,” he told his State Department staff. “If I’m looking for you at 7:30 at night and you are not in your office, I’ll consider you a wise person. Anybody who is logging hours to impress me, you are wasting time.”

**7. Declare Victory and Quit** “Command is lonely,” says Powell. And so is the decision to withdraw from the position of authority—a choice he says not every leader makes soon enough. His own retirement from the military was, in his word, “traumatic.”

“One of the saddest figures in all of Christendom,” he says, “is the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, once removed, driving around with a baseball cap pulled over his eyes, making his strategic choice as to whether it’s going to be McDonald’s or Taco Bell.”

Powell didn’t stay retired in 1993. Now in civilian clothes, he helps lead not only the military but the nation itself. He is equal to the task in no small measure because of the lessons he has learned and the principles he lives by.

“Leadership,” he says, “is not rank, privilege, titles, or money. It’s responsibility.”

*Oren Harari, author of The Leadership Secrets of Colin Powell (McGraw-Hill, February 2002), is professor of management at the University of San Francisco’s McLaren Graduate School of Business.*

Is Colin Powell succeeding as Secretary of State? Rate his job performance at [www.modernmaturity.org](http://www.modernmaturity.org).

PHOTO LEFT: SCOTT ALLEN/CORBIS; PHOTO RIGHT: DAVID HUME KENNERLY @ KENNERLY.COM

Testimony S.B. <sup>83</sup>4~~36~~

Dr. Gary W. Norris, Superintendent  
USD #305, Salina Public Schools  
Chair, Schools For Fair Funding

Senate Education Committee  
February 12, 2002  
1:30 PM, Room 123 South

We support the distribution of funds provided for in S.B. <sup>83</sup>4~~36~~...but we wish you had enacted it last year! **If you implement it as it is currently written, it will have a devastating effect on the children in the Salina Public Schools and a number of the other school districts in Kansas.**

In the 2001 Session, the legislature directed that special education state aid should be included in the calculation of the general fund budget (K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 72-978) This, in effect, provided additional local option budget authority because the calculation for the LOB was made on a larger general fund budget for some districts.

The Salina Board of Education, desiring to remain competitive in hiring teachers and also wanting to access “**new facilities weighting**” funds, increased our local option budget for the final year of the five-year catch-up provision from 21% to 25%. We would have preferred NOT to utilize our entire Special Ed. Cooperative’s state aid in this calculation, as this action caused our mill levy to increase 10 mills.

Senate Education Committee  
Date: 2-12-02

Attachment # 2

U.S.D. #305 is the sponsoring district of the twelve-member Central Kansas Cooperative In Education. This year's C.K.C.I.E. state special education aid that was used in determining the General Fund Budget was estimated at \$6,750,000. Even though USD 305's share of the CKCIE budget is only about half of that, the state's budget documents required that we use the entire \$6.75 million for the calculation of our district's LOB. Consequently, our local option budget authority included approximately \$1,687,500 more than if the 72-978 had not passed at all last year and \$843,750 more than if the calculation included only USD #305's share.

We understand that some school districts have complained that they did not have access to this additional LOB authority, and that S.B. 436 as it currently written revises this part of the computation of Legal Maximum Budget. This "fix" would have a devastating effect on the U.S.D. #305 because of the budget authority and subsequent local option dollars we would lose. This would be a **reduction of approximately \$843,750**. Since a large part of the local option dollars was allocated to continue the improvement of teacher salaries (due to the nationwide shortage of teachers), you can imagine what a problem Salina would have. Our beginning teacher's salary was 278<sup>th</sup> of 304 districts in 1997-98 before we started using authority created under the five-year L.O.B. catch up provision.

We certainly understand and can support other districts' desire to have additional budget authority. However, I am here today to ask you to amend S.B. 436 to include some sort of "hold harmless" language for those school districts that are home to the State's 23



Special Education Cooperatives. Many of these districts have already accessed the additional dollars by using the state's required calculation during the current budget year (FY 2002) and could be stuck with NO additional budget authority to compensate for this loss.

I am confident that the legislature is unlikely to support much in the way of new funding for schools in the 2002 session. If there is a reduction in state funding for FY2003 coupled with a loss of local option budget authority, the devastating effect on the children of the Salina Public Schools and other districts will be felt for years.

In summary, we cannot afford to lose any of our 2001-02 budget authority!

We need your help to amend S.B. ~~436~~<sup>433</sup>.



## SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVES

### **Beloit USD 273, Special Education Cooperative**

Keith Williams, Director, 116 West Main, Box 547, Beloit 67420 (785) 738-3261; FAX (785) 738-4103; e-mail: williams@usd273.k12.ks.us

School Districts Involved: USD 104 White Rock, USD 272 Waconda, USD 273 Beloit, USD 278 Mankato, USD 279 Jewell, USD 298 Lincoln, USD 299 Sylvan Grove

### \* **Burlington USD 244, Coffey County Cooperative Program for Special Services**

Robert Scott, Director, 200 South 6th, Burlington 66839 (620) 364-5151; FAX (620) 364-8548; e-mail: bscott@usd244.ks.org

School Districts Involved: USD 243 Lebo-Waverly, USD 244 Burlington, USD 245 LeRoy-Gridley

### **Clay Center USD 379, Twin Lakes Educational Cooperative**

Edwin Koehler, Director, Box 97, Clay Center 67432 (785) 632-3176; FAX (785) 632-5020; e-mail: ekoehler@kansas.net

School Districts Involved: USD 222 Washington Schools, USD 223 Barnes, USD 334 Southern Cloud, USD 378 Riley County, USD 379 Clay Center, USD 384 Blue Valley (Randolph)

### **Concordia USD 333, Learning Cooperative of North Central Kansas**

Marilyn Ross, Director, Beth Lechlitter, Assistant Director, 803 Valley, Concordia 66901 (785) 243-3294; FAX (785) 243-8822; e-mail: mross@usd33.com

School Districts Involved: USD 221 North Central, USD 224 Clifton-Clyde, USD 333 Concordia, USD 426 Pike Valley, USD 427 Belleville, USD 455 Hillcrest Rural Schools

### **El Dorado USD 490, Butler County School Board Council Special Education Cooperative**

Greg Buster, Director, Karen Wright, Assistant Director, 124 West Central, El Dorado, KS 67042 (316) 322-4800; FAX (316) 322-4801; e-mail: gbuster@eldoradoschools.org

School Districts Involved: USD 205 Bluestem, USD 206 Remington, USD 375 Circle, USD 385 Andover, USD 394 Rose Hill, USD 396 Douglass, USD 402 Augusta, USD 490 El Dorado, USD 492 Flinthills

### \* **Emporia USD 253, Flint Hills Special Education Cooperative**

Claudia Dempsey, Director, 216 West 6th, Emporia 66801 (620) 341-2325; FAX (620) 341-2331; e-mail: fhsec@mail.valu line.com

School Districts Involved: USD 251 North Lyon County, USD 252 Southern Lyon County, USD 253 Emporia, USD 284 Chase County, USD 386 Madison-Virgil, USD 390 Hamilton, USD 417 Morris County

### **Great Bend USD 428, Barton County Cooperative Program of Special Services**

Jill Vsetecka, Director, 150 SW 40th Avenue, Great Bend 67530 (620) 793-1550; FAX (620) 793-1551; e-mail: sped@midusa.net

School Districts Involved: USD 354 Claflin, USD 355 Ellinwood Public Schools, USD 403 Otis-Bison, USD 428 Great Bend, USD 431 Hoisington

### \* **Hays USD 489, Hays West Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative**

Mark Hauptman, Assistant Superintendent, 323 West 12th, Hays 67601 (785) 623-2400; FAX (785) 623-2409

School Districts Involved: USD 388 Ellis, USD 395 LaCrosse, USD 432 Victoria, USD 489 Hays

### **Holton USD 336, Holton Special Education Cooperative**

Mark B. Wilson, Director, Susan Sipe, Assistant Director, 515 Pennsylvania, Box 230, Holton 66436 (785) 364-3463; FAX: (785) 364-3975; e-mail: mbwilson@holtonks.net

School Districts Involved: USD 322 Onaga-Havensville, USD 335 North Jackson, USD 336 Holton, USD 337 Royal Valley, USD 441 Sabetha

### **Howard USD 282, Chautauqua and Elk County Special Education Services**

Bert Moore, Director, Box 607, Howard 67349 (620) 374-2113; FAX (620) 374-2414

School Districts Involved: USD 282 West Elk, USD 283 Elk Valley, USD 286 Chautauqua County Community

### \* **Kansas City USD 500, Wyandotte Comprehensive Special Education Cooperative**

Joe Vander Velde, Director, 600 Minnesota Ave., Kansas City 66101-2806 (913) 627-5600; FAX (913) 627-5688; e-mail: jovande@gw.kckps.k12.ks.us

School Districts Involved: USD 203 Piper, USD 204 Bonner Springs, USD 500 Kansas City

## SPECIAL EDUCATION COOPERATIVES (Cont.)

### **Larned USD 495, Tri County Special Services Cooperative**

Jim Benoit, Director, 1022 Kansas Avenue, Larned, KS 67550 (620) 285-3119; FAX (620) 285-2521; e-mail: tricount@larned.net  
School Districts Involved: USD 228 Hanston, USD 347 Kinsley-Offerle, USD 495 Ft. Larned, USD 496 Pawnee Heights, USD 502 Lewis

### **Leavenworth USD 453, Leavenworth County Special Education Cooperative**

Dr. Lynn Ahrens, Director, 730 First Terrace, Lansing 66043 (913) 727-1755; FAX (913) 727-1602; e-mail: lahrens@lcsec.org  
School Districts Involved: USD 207 Ft. Leavenworth, USD 449 Easton, USD 453 Leavenworth, USD 458 Basehor Linwood, USD 464 Tonganoxie, USD 469 Lansing

### **Lyons USD 405, Rice County Special Services Cooperative**

Dr. Edwin Church, Director, 510 East Avenue South, Lyons 67554 (620) 257-5196 Ext. 124; FAX (620) 257-5197; e-mail: echurch@usd405.com; Homepage: www.usd405.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 376 Sterling, USD 401 Chase, USD 405 Lyons, USD 444 Little River

### \* **McPherson USD 418, McPherson County Special Education Cooperative**

Jim Harshbarger, Director, 514 North Main, McPherson 67460 (620) 241-9420; FAX (620) 241-9410; Homepage: <http://www.mcpherson.com/418>  
School Districts Involved: USD 400 Lindsborg, USD 418 McPherson, USD 419 Canton Galva, USD 423 Moundridge, USD 448 Inman

### **Marysville USD 364, Marshall County Special Education Cooperative**

Mary Sinker, Director, 405 North 4th, Marysville 66508 (785) 562-2943; FAX (785) 562-5215; e-mail: msinker@mvleadvocate.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 364 Marysville, USD 498 Valley Heights

### **Nemaha Valley USD 442, Marshall Nemaha County Educational Services Cooperative**

Wanda Hartman, Director, 316 Main, Seneca 66538 (785) 336-2181; FAX (785) 336-2268  
School Districts Involved: USD 380 Vermillion, USD 442 Nemaha Valley Schools, USD 451 B & B, USD 488 Axtell

### **Newton USD 373, Harvey County Special Education Cooperative**

Sherri Buss, Director, McKinley Administration Center, 308 East 1st Street, Newton 67114-3846 (316) 284-6580; FAX (316) 284-6589; e-mail: sbuss@newton.k12.ks.us  
School Districts Involved: USD 373 Newton, USD 440 Halstead, USD 460 Hesston

### \* **Olathe USD 233, Comprehensive Special Services Cooperative (CSSC)**

Gerald Reynaud, Executive Director Special Services, Olathe District Schools, West Dennis Support Center, 1005 S. Pitt, P.O. Box 2000, Olathe 66063-2000 (913) 780-7024; FAX (913) 780-8209; e-mail: reynaud@mail.olathe.k12.ks.us  
School Districts Involved: USD 230 Spring Hill, USD 231 Gardner-Edgerton-Antioch, USD 232 DeSoto, USD 233 Olathe

### **Paola USD 368, East Central Kansas Special Education Cooperative**

Dr. Michael Hughes, Director, 302 N. Oak, Paola 66071 (913) 294-2303; e-mail: mike\_hughes@usd368.k12.ks.us  
School Districts Involved: USD 288 Central Heights, USD 344 Pleasanton, USD 346 Jayhawk, USD 362 Prairie View, USD 365 Garnett, USD 367 Osawatomie, USD 368 Paola, USD 416 Louisburg

### \* **Salina USD 305, Central Kansas Cooperative in Education**

Linda Lakes, Executive Director, 3023 Canterbury Drive, Salina 67401 (785) 827-0301; FAX (785) 827-5446; e-mail: linda.lakes@usd305.com  
School Districts Involved: USD 239 North Ottawa County, USD 240 Twin Valley, USD 305 Salina, USD 306 Southeast of Saline, USD 307 Ell-Saline, USD 327 Ellsworth, USD 328 Lorraine, USD 393 Solomon, USD 435 Abilene, USD 473 Chapman, USD 481 Rural Vista, USD 487 Herington

### **Wamego USD 320, Special Services Cooperative of Wamego**

Nancy Olson, Director, 510 Highway 24 East, Wamego 66547 (785) 456-9195; FAX (785) 456-8125  
School Districts Involved: USD 320 Wamego, USD 323 Rock Creek, USD 329 Mill Creek Valley

### \* **Winfield USD 465, Cowley County Special Services Cooperative**

Dr. Ron Sarnacki, Director, Nancy Juhlin, Assistant Director, 1321 East 7th, Winfield 67156 (620) 221-7021; FAX (620) 221-2977  
School Districts Involved: USD 285 Cedar Vale, USD 462 Central, USD 463 Udall, USD 465 Winfield, USD 470 Arkansas City, USD 471 Dexter

KANSAS  
ASSOCIATION



OF  
SCHOOL  
BOARDS



1420 SW Arrowhead Road • Topeka, Kansas 66604-4024  
785-273-3600

Testimony on  
**SB 483 – Special Education Aid**  
Before the  
**Senate Committee on Education**

By  
Mark Tallman, Assistant Executive Director/Advocacy  
Kansas Association of School Boards

February 12, 2002

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written remarks on SB 483. KASB supports the intent of this bill as recommended by the Legislative Educational Planning Committee. Under legislation passed last year, districts that receive direct special education aid can add those funds to their general fund budget for the purpose of calculating their local option budget. SB 483 would extend that principle to districts that participate in special education cooperatives and interlocals.

This proposal simply makes the system more equitable, and we support the change. We also understand that some districts that sponsor special education coops might be disadvantaged by this change, resulting in a loss of local option budget authority. KASB believes that whenever districts lose budget authority due to a change in the school finance system, there should be some mechanism to hold those districts harmless or provide for a reduction in that authority over time.

Thank you for your consideration.

Senate Education Committee

Date: 2-12-02

Attachment # 3



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## Schools for Quality Education

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Bluemont Hall Manhattan, KS 66506 (913) 532-5886

February 12, 2002

TO: Senate Education Committee

FROM: Schools for Quality Education – Jacque Oakes

SUBJECT: SB 483 – School finance; reimbursement of special education and related services.

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

Schools For Quality Education is an organization of 108 small school districts, and we are submitting written testimony in favor of SB 483.

This bill would allow special education money to flow through the general fund of all school districts in a special education cooperative rather than just the host district.

We appreciate that this flaw of last year's bill is being corrected, because in the order of fairness each district should receive the extra funding due particularly to them rather than just the acting entity of the cooperative.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 483, and we would ask your support of this bill.

---

**"Rural is Quality"**

Senate Education Committee

Date: 2-12-

Attachment # 4





# SCHOOLS FOR QUALITY EDUCATION

## 2001-2002 MEMBERS



### NORTHEAST REGION

- 221 North Central-Haddam
- 223 Barnes
- 321 Kaw Valley
- 329 Mill Creek Valley
- 337 Royal Valley
- 341 Oskaloosa Public
- 372 Silver Lake
- 377 Atchison County
- 384 Blue Valley
- 415 Hiawatha
- 425 Highland
- \*429 Troy
- 430 South Brown County
- 433 Midway Schools
- 442 Nemaha Valley
- 481 Rural Vista
- 498 Valley Heights

### NORTH CENTRAL REGION

- 237 Smith Center
- \*238 West Smith County
- \*239 North Ottawa
- 240 Twin Valley
- 269 Palco
- 270 Plainville
- 272 Waconda
- 273 Beloit
- 298 Lincoln
- 307 Ell-Saline
- 311 Pretty Prairie
- 326 Logan
- 388 Ellis
- 395 LaCrosse
- 403 Otis-Bison
- 426 Pike Valley
- \*455 Hillcrest

### NORTHWEST REGION

- 208 Wakeeney
- 211 Norton
- 212 Northern Valley
- 213 West Solomon Valley
- 241 Wallace County
- 242 Weskan
- 274 Oakley
- 291 Grinnell
- 292 Wheatland
- 293 Quinter Public Schools
- 302 Smoky Hill
- 303 Ness City
- 304 Bazine Schools
- 316 Golden Plains
- 467 Leoti
- \*468 Healy

### SOUTHEAST REGION

- 206 Remington
- 243 Lebo-Waverly
- 245 LeRoy-Gridley
- 252 Southern Lyon County
- 258 Humboldt
- 283 Elk Valley
- 284 Chase County
- 286 Chautauqua Co.-Sedan
- 288 Central Heights
- 366 Yates Center
- 386 Madison-Virgil
- 387 Altoona-Midway
- 397 Centre
- 398 Peabody-Burns
- 411 Goessel
- \*436 Caney Valley
- 447 Cherryvale
- \*454 Burlingame
- 456 Marals Des Cygnes
- 461 Neodesha
- 471 Dexter
- 479 Crest
- 492 Flinthills

### SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

- 300 Commanche
- 327 Ellsworth-Kanopolis-Geneseo
- 332 Cunningham
- 354 Claflin
- 357 Belle Plaine
- 358 Oxford
- 369 Burrton
- 382 Pratt County
- \*401 Chase
- 422 Greensburg
- 423 Moundridge
- 424 Mullinville
- \*431 Hoisington
- 438 Skyline
- 474 Haviland
- 495 Ft. Larned
- 496 Pawnee Heights
- 509 South Haven
- 511 Attica

### SOUTHWEST REGION

- 209 Moscow
- 210 Hugoton
- 217 Rolla
- 218 Elkhart
- 219 Minneola
- 220 Ashland
- 225 Fowler
- 228 Hanston
- 371 Montezuma
- 381 Spearville
- 452 Stanton County
- 476 Copeland
- 477 Ingalls
- 483 Plains-Kismet
- 494 Syracuse
- 507 Satanta

For more information contact:  
 Schools for Quality Education Inc.  
 124 Bluemont Hall  
 Kansas State University  
 Manhattan, KS 66506  
 (785)532-5886

(108 members)  
 Current as of January 18, 2002  
 \*Denotes new members



1 terms "alternate payee" and "qualified domestic relations order" have  
2 the meaning ascribed to them in section 414(p) of the federal internal  
3 revenue code of 1986 and amendments thereto.

4 (d) The provisions of subsections (b) and (c) shall apply to any pro-  
5 ceeding which: (1) Is filed on or after July 1, 1986; or (2) was filed on or  
6 after January 1, 1986, and is pending or on appeal July 1, 1986.

7 (e) Money held by the central unit for collection and disbursement  
8 of support payments designated pursuant to K.S.A. 23-4,118, and amend-  
9 ments thereto, the state department of social and rehabilitation services,  
0 any clerk of a district court or any district court trustee in connection  
1 with a court order for the support of any person, whether the money is  
2 identified as child support, spousal support, alimony or maintenance, shall  
3 be exempt from execution, attachment or garnishment process.

4 (f) ~~Any money or other assets payable to an account owner or desig-~~  
5 ~~gnated beneficiary from, or any interest of any account owner or desig-~~  
6 ~~nated beneficiary in, a family postsecondary education savings account~~  
7 ~~established in accordance with the provisions of K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-~~  
8 ~~640 to 75-648, and amendments thereto, shall be exempt from any and~~  
9 ~~all claims of creditors of the account owner or designated beneficiary.~~

0 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-646 is hereby amended to read as fol-  
1 lows: 75-646. (a) Family postsecondary education savings accounts estab-  
2 lished pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 75-640 to 75-648,  
3 and amendments thereto shall be governed by the provisions of this  
4 section.

5 (b) A family postsecondary education savings account may be opened  
6 by any person or persons who desire to save money for the payment of  
7 the qualified higher education expenses of the designated beneficiary.  
8 Such persons shall be considered the account owner.

9 (1) An application for such account shall be in the form prescribed  
0 by the state treasurer and contain the following:

1 (A) The name, address and social security number or employer iden-  
2 tification number of the account owner or owners;

3 (B) the designation of a designated beneficiary;

4 (C) the name, address and social security number of the designated  
5 beneficiary;

6 (D) the certification relating to no excess contributions; and

7 (E) such other information as the state treasurer may require.

8 (2) The state treasurer may establish a nominal nonrefundable ap-  
9 plication fee for such application.

0 (c) Only the account owner or owners may make contributions to the  
1 nt after the account is opened.

2 (d) Contributions to accounts may be made only in cash.

3 (e) An account owner may withdraw all or part of the balance from

(1) Except as provided by paragraph (2) of this sub-  
section, any

(2) The provisions of this subsection shall not apply  
to:

(A) Claims of creditors of an account owner, as to  
amounts deposited within a twelve-month period  
preceding the date of the filing of a bankruptcy petition  
under 11 USC section 101 et seq.; or

(B) claims of any creditor of an account owner, as  
to amounts deposited within a twelve-month period  
preceding an execution on judgment against the  
account owner.