

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Dwayne Umbarger at 1:30 p.m. on February 21, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

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

Conferees appearing before the committee: Steve Nilhas, USD 281, Hill City

Others attending: See Attached List

Chairman Umbarger recognized Jim Weis, Wolfe River Leadership Academy, and his group of about twenty who were visiting the Senate Education Committee today.

**SB551--School finance; consolidation and reorganization of districts**

Hearings were continued on **SB551**. Steve Nilhas, USD 281, Hill City addressed the Committee on the consolidation of his district with USD 280, West Graham-Morland. The two districts have worked together for several years and have had cooperative sports teams and programs, with both boards working together trying to figure out how to best educate kids and serve the community. They came to the decision to consolidate and the process that USD 280 chose was to disorganize and to request that district be attached to another district which would be USD 281. They had a hearing and there was no opposition locally. They knew of the provision in the law that the remaining district would receive the total funding of the two schools involved for two years and that legislation would be required for them to receive this funding under disorganization. Steve feels that extending the provisions of **SB551** to five years will encourage districts to come together and do the right thing.

Chairman Umbarger explained a supplemental note on **SB551** with changes that were proposed in the Committee meeting on February 20, 2002. The current law provides for a consolidated school to receive the total amount of State Financial Aid to which both districts were entitled, for the current year and the following year. **SB551** originally extended the time to the current year plus four years. The proposed amendment would reduce the time to the current year plus the next three school years. The bill will include both consolidation and disorganization and attachment effective with the 2001-2002 school year to include the proceedings which have begun in USD280 and USD 281. (Attachment 1)

Senator Vratil made a motion to amend **SB551** in accordance with the attached balloon, but in addition, on Line 26 and on Line 43 to strike the words and *for the next succeeding school year*. The balloon will read "For the next succeeding three school years, the state financial aid shall be the greater of: (1) The amount received in the preceding school year; or (2) The amount the district would receive under the school district finance and quality performance act prior to amendment by this section." (Attachment 1) Seconded by Senator Teichman. After discussion, it was determined that the motion would include that this provision would only apply when all of the territory of the district being disorganized is attached to one other district because of the problem of splitting the budget to more than one school. Motion carried. (Attachment 2)

Senator Teichman made a motion to recommend favorably **SB551** as amended. Seconded by Senator Schodorf. Motion carried.

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION at on February 21, 2002 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

**SB526--School finance; increases base state aid per pupil by \$20.**

Chairman Umbarger explained that this bill was written on the Governor's recommendation to add \$20 to the base state aid per pupil. The fiscal note on this bill would be approximately \$11 million, but the bill does not include funding. Chairman Umbarger states that this bill will make a statement that education is a priority. The Committee does not believe that \$20 is a sufficient increase, but it is a start and it is something to build on.

Senator Corbin made a motion to pass SB526 favorably. Seconded by Senator Emler. Motion carried with one no vote.

**SB533-- School finance; base state aid per pupil, annual adjustments based on CPI-U**

Theresa Kiernan, Revisor's office, explained that **SB533** included provisions for a \$20 increase in base state aid, tied to the inflation factor and an increase the correlation weighting from 1725 to 1700. After discussion, Chairman Umbarger stated it was not his desire to work the bill today. The Committee should think about the bill for possible discussion at a later date.

Meeting adjourned 2:30 p.m.

**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST**

DATE - 2/21/02

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Kristina Wright	Labette County School to Career
Debra Swenson	Labette County School to Career
Amber Hull	Labette County School to Career
Ashley Myers	Labette County School to Career
Arlean McKinney	Labette County School to Career
Cherie M Thomas	Labette Co School to Career Initiative
Bill Brady	SFFF
MARY STESSMAN	USD 321
STEVE PERHAM	USD 372
Brad Womack	USD 372
Patty Gray	USD 321
Julie Dick	USD 321 Rossville
Steve Spade	Educ Soc Ctr @ Greenbush.
Don Thomas	USA
Bob Seymour	USD 383
Fred Kaufman	Way 489
RICHARD SOETAERT	USD 486
Joyce Soetaert	" "
Alan L Drake	USD 234
Jacque Oakes	SQE
Theresa Davidson	USD 253 - Emporia
Travis Sawyer	Rep. Bill McCreary
David Wynn	City



Draft  
2/21/02

SESSION OF 2002

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 551**

As Amended by Senate Committee on  
Education

**Brief\***

SB 551 provides, effective commencing with the 2001-02 school year, that a school district which is enlarged due to disorganization of one district and its attachment to the enlarged district will be entitled to State Financial Aid (school district general fund budget) in the current school year equal to the State Financial Aid of the districts as they were defined in the year preceding the disorganization and attachment. For the next three school years, the district will be entitled to the amount of State Financial Aid it received the first year under this provision or the amount of State Financial Aid the district would receive under operation of the school finance formula in that year, whichever is greater. Amendments also apply this method of determining State Financial Aid to districts which consolidate.

**Background**

SB 551, as introduced, was proposed by Senator Dwayne Umbarger. Testimony submitted by Schools for Quality Education (SQE) endorsed the bill. There were no other conferees.

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <http://www.accesskansas.org/legislature/>

Senate Education  
2-21-02  
Attachment 1

The concept contained in SB 551 was enacted by the 1999 Legislature and applied to districts that merge through consolidation. Under the law, the consolidated school district receives the sum of the State Financial Aid to which the individual districts were entitled in the year before consolidation for the year the consolidation becomes effective and for the next succeeding school year. SB 551 extends this concept to a school district which is enlarged due to disorganization of a district and attachment of the territory to another district and extends the guarantee of State Financial Aid to three years, except that, after the first year, if State Financial Aid computed under the formula is greater than the amount in the year preceding disorganization or consolidation, the current year formula amount is what the district will receive.

The amendments which ensure that the bill applies to disorganization or consolidation actions taken during the 2001-02 school year is intended to apply to the disorganization of West Graham-Moreland (USD 280) and its attachment to Hill City (USD 281) effective July 1, 2002.

The fiscal note on SB 551, as introduced, indicated that the bill would have negligible effect.

SENATE BILL No. 551

By Committee on Education

2-8

Senate Education  
2-21-02  
Attachment 2

9 AN ACT concerning certain school districts; relating to the computation  
10 of state financial aid; amending K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 72-6445 and re-  
11 pealing the existing section.  
12

13 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

14 Section 1. K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 72-6445 is hereby amended to read as  
15 follows: 72-6445. (a) For the purposes of the school district finance and  
16 quality performance act, and notwithstanding any provision of the act, to  
17 the contrary, state financial aid for any district formed by consolidation  
18 in accordance with the statutory provisions contained in article 87 of chap-  
19 ter 72 of Kansas Statutes Annotated shall be computed by the state board  
20 of education as follows:

21 ~~(a)~~ (1) Determine the amount in the school year preceding the school  
22 year in which the consolidation is effectuated of the state financial aid of  
23 each of the former districts of which the consolidated district is composed;

24 ~~(b)~~ (2) add the amounts determined under ~~(a)~~ subsection (a)(1). The  
25 sum is the state financial aid of the consolidated district for the school  
26 year in which the consolidation is effectuated and for the next succeeding  
27 school year ~~four school years~~.

28 (b) *The provisions of this subsection shall apply only if a school dis-*  
29 *trict is disorganized in accordance with K.S.A. 72-7301, and amendments*  
30 *thereto, and if all the territory which comprised such disorganized district*  
31 *is attached to one school district.*

32 *For the purposes of the school district finance and quality performance*  
33 *act, and notwithstanding any provision of the act to the contrary, state*  
34 *financial aid for any district to which territory has been attached in ac-*  
35 *cordance with K.S.A. 72-7301, and amendments thereto, shall be com-*  
36 *puted by the state board of education as follows:*

37 (1) *Determine the amount in the school year preceding the school year*  
38 *in which the attachment of territory is effectuated of the state financial*  
39 *aid of each of the former districts of which the enlarged district is*  
40 *composed;*

41 (2) *add the amounts determined under subsection (b)(1). The sum is*  
42 *the state financial aid of the district for the school year in which the*  
43 *attachment is effectuated and for the next succeeding ~~four school years~~.*

school year. For the next succeeding three school years, the state financial aid shall be the greater of:

- (1) The amount received in the preceding school year; or
- (2) The amount the district would receive under the school district finance and quality performance act prior to amendment by this section.

school year. For the next succeeding three school years, the state financial aid shall be the greater of:

- (1) The amount received in the preceding school year; or
- (2) The amount the district would receive under the school district finance and quality performance act prior to amendment by this section.

- 1 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2001 Supp. 72-6445 is hereby repealed.
- 2 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
- 3 publication in the statute book.

The provisions of this subsection shall apply to any school district to which territory has been attached pursuant to an order issued by the state board of education during school year 2001-2002 or any time thereafter.

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