

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on January 31, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Tim Owens – excused

Senator Susan Wagle - excused

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department\

Laura Younker, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education

Dorothy Gerhardt, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Jack E. Walker, Deputy to the Garrison Commander, Fort Leavenworth, KS

Dr. Rob Edleston, President, Kansas Association of Technical Colleges (written only)

Dr. Blake Flanders, Vice President Workforce Development, Kansas Board of Regents

Others attending:

See attached list.

Hearing on SB 11 – Authorizing transportation of students residing on Fort Leavenworth military reservation

Eunice Peters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, appeared before the committee regarding **SB 11**. This legislation would authorize USD #207, Fort Leavenworth, to provide transportation for any student in grades ten through 12 who reside on the Fort Leavenworth military reservation, but who are enrolled and attend high school in USD #453, Leavenworth. This bill was brought about because Federal funds for this transportation will no longer be available starting September 2011.

Senator Kelly Kultala appeared before the committee as a proponent. She stated she had introduced the bill on behalf of USD #207, the Ft. Leavenworth School District, and USD #453, Leavenworth School District. She stated Mr. Keith Mispagel, superintendent of USD #207, as well as Jack Walker, Deputy to the Garrison Commander of Ft. Leavenworth were also present as proponents of the legislation.

Jack E. Walker, Deputy to the Garrison Commander, Fort Leavenworth, spoke before the committee in support of the legislation (Attachment 1). He emphasized the legislation would allow funding to be provided to USD #207, which would then allow them to bus Fort Leavenworth 10th thru 12th grade students to Leavenworth High School, USD #453. He stated there were approximately 100 students living on the post.

A short committee discussion followed.

The hearing on **SB 11** was closed.

Senator Teichman moved the committee recommend **SB 11** favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Senator Vratil. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Hearing on SB 13 - Career and technical education; amendments

Jason Long, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, appeared before the committee with a brief summary of provisions of **SB 13**. The bill makes technical corrections and updates related to postsecondary technical education. It updates terminology, removes definitions for terms no longer used, eliminates vocational school references, adds individual institution-specific references, updates and removes obsolete sections of identified statutes, and repeals statutes no longer needed.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Education Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 31, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

Dr. Robert J. Edleston, President, Kansas Association of Technical Colleges, provided written testimony for the committee in support of the legislation (Attachment 2).

Dr. Blake Flanders, Vice President Workforce Development, Kansas Board of Regents, also appeared in support of **SB 13** (Attachment 3). He stated the legislation would update terminology, removing definitions for terms no longer used, and eliminate area vocational school and area-vocational technical school references. Area vocational and area vocational-technical schools no longer exist as independent legal entities in Kansas. All former schools are now merged with or otherwise incorporated into community colleges, established as independent technical colleges, or affiliated with a university. Updating terminology and including specific institutional references will add clarity and increase the specificity of the statutes and reduce potential variations in interpretations.

There being no further comments, the Hearing on **SB 13** was closed.

Senator Umbarger moved the committee recommend **SB 13** favorable for passage. The motion was seconded by Senator Vratil. Motion carried on a voice vote.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 3, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 01:50 p.m.

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE GUEST LIST

DATE: January 31, 2011

[illegible]



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT LEAVENWORTH
290 GRANT AVENUE UNIT 1
FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS 66027-1292

January 26, 2011

Office of the Garrison Commander

The Honorable Senator Jean Schodorf
Chairperson, Senate Education Committee

Dear Senator Schodorf:

I am Jack E. Walker, Deputy to the Garrison Commander, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Thank you very much for the opportunity you have afforded me to represent Fort Leavenworth as you consider Senate Bill 11. We would also like to thank Senator Kultala for sponsoring this legislation.

The passage of this bill is of great importance to the high school children of Fort Leavenworth as it will allow funding to be provided to Unified School District 207, which, in-turn, will allow for them to bus our Fort Leavenworth 10th thru 12th grade students to Leavenworth High School in Unified School District 453. Along with the 10th - 12th grade students, some of our 9th grade students may begin high school, based upon parental decision. Unified School District 207 is a Kansas School District rather than a Department of Defense School. Kansas Statutes do not allow a high school to be operated within USD 207.

The distance of this movement is approximately five miles from the Fort's front gate to the high school in Leavenworth. If one considers the various pick-up points on the installation that distance is increased. For many years the funding for the busses that transported our children from the Fort to Leavenworth High School was provided by the Department of Defense Educational Activity.

A year and one-half ago, they notified us that they were no longer going to fund the transportation for these children. We have approximately 100 high school age children who reside on Fort Leavenworth in Unified School District 207 who have Unified School District 453 as their regular attendance center. We have the transportation arrangements covered until the end of SY 2010-2011.

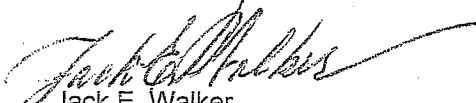
Beginning in September 2011, with the start of school and short of the passage of this bill, we will have no way of transporting these children to their authorized attendance center in USD 453, Leavenworth. We have checked the Kansas Statute (72-8302) and the USD 453 Transportation of Students Policy and believe this legislation will allow the dictates of that legislation to be met and our children afforded transportation to and from their normal attendance center.

If this legislation passes, it will allow funds to flow from the state to Unified School District 207, that will develop the plans for moving the Fort Leavenworth students, who reside in USD 207, across the district lines to their regular attendance center at USD 453.

We very much appreciate your favorable consideration of this bill on behalf of the children at Fort Leavenworth. I will be happy to attempt to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you again for your courtesy in allowing me to present this information.

Very Respectfully,


Jack E. Walker
Deputy to the Garrison Commander
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

Senate Education
1-31-11
Attachment 1



January 31, 2011

Honorable members;

There has been a great deal of progress made in the efforts to strengthen and improve the professional operations of Kansas Two-Year institutions. The actions taken to transfer higher education operations, other than Regents Universities, from the Department of Education to the Kansas Board of Regents, the creation of technical colleges and the transformation of technical schools into a variety of effective operational entities have been laudable.

Additionally, the acknowledgement of the value of career, technical, and transfer education has begun to awaken the Kansas population to the fact that this potent arm of the Board of Regents is one of the most viable means to create sustainable economic development within our borders.

A legislative history rife with adapting to change related to the operation of these institutions has provided the need to "clean-up" a number of Kansas' statutes such as were brought forth last session and again this year in Senate Bill No. 13.

The Kansas Association of Technical Colleges endorses the recommended changes and lauds the Kansas Board of Regents and the Kansas Revisors for their work in this area. We therefore respectfully request approval of this Bill.

Respectfully,

Robert J. Edleston, Ed.D.
President, Kansas Association of Technical Colleges

*Senate Education
1-31-11
Attachment 2*



KANSAS BOARD OF REGENTS

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

January 31, 2011

Testimony In Support of Senate Bill 13

Blake Flanders, Ph.D.

Vice President Workforce Development

Good afternoon Madam Chair and members of the Committee. My name is Blake Flanders and I serve as Vice President of Workforce Development for the Kansas Board of Regents and provide executive support to the Kansas Postsecondary Technical Education Authority (Authority). I am here on behalf of the Board of Regents and the Authority to express support for Senate Bill 13.

The proposed legislation is requested to continue the process that was started in 2008 by the Authority. This is an effort to review and identify statutes needing revision or repeal in order to reflect current practice and terminology.

If enacted, Senate Bill 13 will update terminology, removing definitions for terms no longer used, and eliminate area vocational school and area-vocational technical school references. Area vocational and area vocational-technical schools no longer exist as independent legal entities in Kansas. All former schools are now merged with or otherwise incorporated into community colleges, established as independent technical colleges, or affiliated with a university.

Updating terminology and including specific institutional references will add clarity and increase the specificity of the statutes and reduce potential variations in interpretations. The removal of obsolete sections and repeal of statutes no longer needed simplifies operation and statutory review.

In summary, we support Senate Bill 13, proposed by the Authority and recommended by the Board of Regents.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I will be happy to answer any questions.