

MINUTES OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON SCHOOL FINANCE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kathe Decker at 9:00 on January 28, 2005 in Room 313-S of the Capitol.

Representative Merrick - excused absence

Committee staff present:

Kathie Sparks, Kansas Legislative Research

Theresa Kiernan, Revisor of Statutes Office

Art Griggs, Revisor of Statutes Office

Ann Deitcher, Committee Secretary

Representative O'Neal gave some history of the Augenblick and Meyers findings from their 2001 study, in coordination with the State Department of Education, saying that it changed the Legislative definition of a "suitable education".

Copies of the qualified admissions and state scholarship program were distributed. This also included the high school graduation requirements. ([Attachment 1](#)).

In KSA 4612.5, it is defined what the Legislature meant by "suitable education" and directed that the study be based on that for its definition. That statute said that "for the purpose of the professional valuation of school district finance, the term 'suitable education' means a curricular program consisting of required subjects and courses.

A list naming the members of Kansas Commission on Education Restructuring and accountability was distributed. ([Attachment 2](#)).

Representative O'Neal ended by saying he felt they needed a working definition of "suitable" that does not involve every single thing that the schools choose to offer. The question was asked as to whether the contents of "Requirements for a Suitable Education" would not be referred to, ([Attachment 3](#)), Representative O'Neal said they would be pulled together with those other statutes that pertained to suitable education requirements.

Questions and answers followed.

It was decided that a sub-committee be formed to come up with a piece of legislation that could be tied in with a formula for suitable education requirements. The Chair asked Representatives O'Neal and Larkin share that responsibility with her.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. The next meeting of the select committee is scheduled for Monday, January 31, 2005.