

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on January 14, 2009 in Room 545-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Reagan Cussimano, Kansas Legislative Research  
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research  
Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research  
Theresa Kiernan, Kansas Legislative Revisor  
Matt Sterling, Kansas Legislative Revisor  
Dorothy Gerhardt, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Darin Headrick, Superintendent, USD 422, Greensburg School District  
Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education  
Diane Gjerstad, Wichita Public Schools

Others attending:

See attached list.

Darin Headrick, Superintendent, USD 422, Greensburg School District, appeared informally before the committee. Mr. Headrick reported on the advances the school district has made in reconstructing buildings since the devastating tornado which destroyed a large portion of the community.

### **Introduction of Bills**

Senator John Vratil requested the introduction of three different bills . The first, 9rs0025, deals with the repeal of six statutes, each one of which related to an individual school district and authorizes that school district to purchase or sell real estate, the transaction of which has long been consummated. The second, 9rs0024, was recommended by the attorney for the Department of Education. It repeals two statutes dealing with the At Risk Education Council which no longer exists. The third, 9rs0201, a bill actually introduced last year, would give school districts the same authority to invest their idle funds in certain types of investments as cities and counties.

As there were no objections to the introduction of these bills, they were accepted as read.

Diane Gjerstad, Wichita Public Schools, requested the introduction of a bill which would change current requirements regarding the disclosure of initiative campaign income and expenses to be the same rules as legislators must follow.

Senator Vratil moved to ask the Revisors to write a bill regarding this, seconded by Senator Umbarger. The motion carried.

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education, spoke before the Committee regarding Fiscal Year 2010 Potential Reductions for school districts (Attachment 1)

The next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.