

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Ron Highland at 1:35pm on Thursday, January 28, 2016, 112-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Marc Rhoades – Absent

Committee staff present:

Tamera Lawrence, Office of Revisor of Statutes
Sue Mollenkamp, Kansas Legislative Committee Assistant
Sharon Wenger, Legislative Research Department
Edward Penner, Legislative Research Department
Nick Myers, Office of Revisor of Statutes

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Brad Neuenswander, Deputy Commissioner, Kansas Department of Education (KSDE)
Scott Myers, Director of Teacher Licensure and Accreditation, Kansas Department of Education (KSDE)
Frank Attkisson, Chairman, American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)

Others in attendance:

[See Attached List](#)

Possible bill introductions

Chairman Highland asked for bill introductions; there were none.

Presentation on: School District Accreditation

The Chairman invited Brad Neuenswander to address the committee on school district accreditation. Mr. Neuenswander provided a history of school accreditation in Kansas and made clear that accreditation is a state event which is not connected to federal initiatives. The State Board of Education has been working on the development of a new model for accreditation and hopes to approve it in the spring. Mr. Neuenswander answered questions from the committee. ([Attachment 1](#))

Chairman Highland introduced audience member Pastor Tony Matia, who provided prayer during the opening of the House session.

Presentation on: Teacher Licensure

Scott Myers presented historical background on teacher licensure in Kansas. Mr. Myers introduced Susan Helbert, KSDE Assistant Director of Teacher Licensure and Accreditation, who provided information on current options available for obtaining teacher credentials in Kansas. Mr. Myers also spoke about options being considered for the future. ([Attachment 2](#))

CONTINUATION SHEET

MINUTES of the Committee on Education at 1:35pm on Thursday, January 28, 2016 in Room 112-N of the Capitol.

Presentation on: American Board for the Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE)

Chairman Highland asked Frank Attkisson to address the committee about his organization. ABCTE was founded in 2001 under the auspices of the U.S. Department of Education as part of the No Child Left Behind grant program. Mr. Attkisson commented on their work in helping people translate work and life experience into certification for teaching. Mr. Attkisson introduced Shawn McCullough, ABCTE President and CEO, who provided information on their online tutorial and testing program. ([Attachment 3](#))

Mr. Attkisson and Mr. McCullough answered questions from committee members. Scott Myers also answered questions from the committee.

The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

The House Education Committee will meet next on Monday, February 1, at 1:30 p.m. in Room 112-N of the Capitol.