

House Education Committee,

As I understand it, HB 2345 is set to be heard by the House Education Committee on Thursday. This bill will prevent anyone employed by a school district or Department of Education from being elected to a school board. It would also prevent relatives of these individuals from running as well.

I don't profess to know how this would effect all the other districts in the state; however, I do know how it would effect Barber County North USD 254 school district. Over the years, we have had some truly amazing board members who care deeply about our school. They did not run for school board to do anything other than help make our school a better learning environment for our students. Most of these individuals have or have had a relative hired by the district. In a small community such as ours, this is almost always the case. Currently we have 6 board members of the 7 that would fit into this category. After looking back over the past 19 years, 3 of the 7 up to 6 of 7 board of education members would have not been able to serve our district.

I can't imagine what we would do if HB 2345 passed! It would definitely not be in the best interest of our students at USD 254.

Read more here:

<http://www.kansas.com/news/local/article11374190.html#storylink=cpy>

Please take the small schools into account when this bill comes up for and vote no.

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