

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on March 8, 2011, in Room 152-S of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Sharon Wenger, 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 State Department of Education  
Dorothy Gerhardt, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Colleen Riley, Director, Special Education Services, Kansas State Department of Education  
Neil Guthrie, Division Director, Special Education Services, USD #259  
Jeanine Phillips, Executive Director, Fundamental Learning Center, Wichita

Others attending:

See attached list.

Hearing on **SB 51 - School districts; requiring only parental consent to dispense over-the-counter medication to students**

Discussion of **SB 51** began with Senator Abrams offering a balloon amendment replacing wording in Section 1(a) and (e) which stated school districts “shall consider adopting a policy regarding the administration of over-the-counter.....”. Included in (e) was the statement that any policy adopted shall be reviewed by the board of education at least once every three years.

It was moved by Senator Abrams that **SB 51** be amended by adopting the proposed balloon, deleting the first sentence in Section 1(a), and changing the words “dispense” and “dispensing”, where used, to “administer”. The motion was seconded by Senator Hensley. Motion carried on a voice vote.

It was moved by Senator Abrams that the committee recommend **SB 51**, as amended, favorable for passage; seconded by Senator Hensley. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Hearing re-opened on **SB 75-Dyslexia and other reading problems; requiring certain testing**

The hearing on **SB 75** was opened with a statement by the Chair regarding the limitations being placed on funding for education and the fact there will be cuts in spending.

Committee discussion included questions from Senator Abrams and others, of Colleen Riley, Director, Special Education Services, Kansas State Department of Education; Neil Guthrie, Division Director, Special Education Services, USD #259; and Jeanine Phillips, Executive Director, Fundamental Learning Center in Wichita. Senator Abrams suggested that perhaps the opposing groups regarding the screening and testing necessary to identify those with reading disabilities, including dyslexia, in the schools, and services provided, should meet with the idea of developing a solution.

The hearing on **SB 75** was closed.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2011.

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