

Approved: 2-9-2000
Date

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Senator Barbara Lawrence at 9:00 a.m. on January 24, 2000 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Committee staff present: Avis Swartzman, Revisor of Statutes
 Ben Barrett, Legislative Research Department
 Jackie Breymeyer, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee: Dr. Scott Hills, Principal of Sedan Elementary School
 Sedan Elementary Students

Others attending: See Attached Sheet

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lawrence who welcomed students from Sedan, Kansas, present to give a presentation on the Schurley English program. Representative Long was present to share her enthusiasm for this program and speak a few words to the committee. Chairperson Lawrence called on Dr. Scott Hills, Principal of the school, to introduce the students.

Students from two classes in the school sang jingles and diagramed sentences, identifying the subject (noun) and predicate (verb), the prepositional phrases, and all the adjectives, adverbs, intransitive verbs and any other parts of speech contained in the sentences.

After the presentation, several comments were made by the committee on the good job the students had done with the presentation. The Chairperson thanked the students and told them to enjoy their day at the capitol.

SB 368 requiring adoption of dress code policies by boards of education

Chairperson Lawrence called on Senator Emert to present his amendment to the bill. The amendment would require school boards to conduct a public hearing on the matter of adoption of a dress code policy. The school districts' adoption of such a policy would be optional rather than mandatory.

Senator Emert moved his amendment, with a second by Senator Hensley. The motion carried. Senator Emert moved to pass SB 368 favorably as amended. Senator Langworthy seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairperson Lawrence announced that two subcommittees were to be named today to address two issues of education. The first subcommittee was appointed to compare and put together a plan that uses any or all elements of the Bond, O'Connor and Glasscock-Tanner education plans; a plan that would be workable for this year, if possible, or in future years. This plan would grasp where education is going and where it is wanted to be. She appointed Senator Umbarger, Chairman, with Senators Kerr and Downey serving on the subcommittee.

The second subcommittee will focus on special education funding, using information from the legislative post audit of the recent past that will address the gross inequities in the formula, as well as other areas of concern. Senator Oleen will chair this subcommittee, with Senators Langworthy and Hensley serving on the subcommittee.

The Chairperson stated that she would not call a standing committee meeting on the days the subcommittees meet to allow them to have that time to work on those issues. Any member of the standing committee is invited to attend the subcommittees while they are at work.

The meeting was adjourned.