

**MINUTES OF THE  
EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, October 15, 2008 – 2:33 p.m. – Room C445 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Senate Chair  
Sen. Margaret Dayton, Senate Vice Chair  
Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard  
Sen. Patricia W. Jones  
Sen. Mark B. Madsen  
Sen. Ross I. Romero  
Rep. Craig A. Frank  
Rep. James R. Gowans  
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway  
Rep. Bradley G. Last  
Rep. Rebecca D. Lockhart  
Rep. Ronda Rudd Menlove  
Rep. Michael T. Morley  
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Curtis S. Bramble  
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes, House Chair  
Rep. Sylvia S. Andersen  
Rep. Brad L. Dee  
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss  
Rep. LaWanna "Lou" Shurtliff  
Rep. Stephen H. Urquhart

**Staff Present:**

Ms. Constance C. Steffen, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Phillip V. Dean, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Dee S Larsen, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Glenda S. Whitney, Legislative Secretary

**Note:** A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Dayton called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. Rep. Moss, Rep. Shurtliff, and Rep. Urquhart were excused from attending the meeting.

**MOTION:** Rep. Morley moved to approve the minutes of the September 17, September 18, and September 25, 2008 meetings. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Hillyard, Sen. Jones, Sen. Madsen, Rep. Gowans, and Rep. Lockhart were absent for the vote.

**2. Consider Proposed Legislation, "Math Education Initiative"**

Sen. Stephenson distributed and reviewed 2009 General Session draft legislation, "Math Education Initiative." He noted the bill creates a program that awards grants to school districts or charter schools that offer Singapore Math in grades kindergarten through eight and meet specified math curriculum requirements.

Mr. Steve Peterson, Utah School Boards Association and Utah School Superintendents Association, commented on the proposed legislation. He indicated that the priority of the boards and superintendents was the need to have money from the weighted pupil unit to meet local needs at schools. He also commented on the difficulty of balancing the budget and pupil transportation costs.

Ms. Kim Coleman, Monticello Academy, distributed and reviewed the handout, "Monticello Academy Singapore Math Results." She spoke in support of Singapore Math and offered Monticello Academy as a laboratory for the state.

### **3. Consider Proposed Legislation, "Student-centric Learning Centers"**

Ms. Steffen distributed and reviewed a working draft of the 2009 General Session legislation, "Student-centric Learning Centers." She noted the bill provides for the establishment of student-centric learning centers.

Sen. Stephenson thanked Ms. Steffen for taking verbal thoughts and drafting the legislation. He gave an overview of the proposed legislation which is designed to promote student engagement in learning by allowing the student to assemble customized courses tailored to the student's learning style. He asked committee members for input to the bill in preparing the final draft.

### **4. Annual Reports**

#### **A. State School Fund**

Mr. Ed Alter, State Treasurer, distributed and reviewed the annual report, "State School Fund Report - Fiscal Year 2008."

#### **B. Regents Scholarship**

Mr. David Buhler, State Board of Regents, distributed and reviewed the report, "Regents' Scholarship - Annual Report Education Interim Committee October 15, 2008."

#### **C. Teacher Quality**

Superintendent Patti Harrington, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Dr. Sydnee Dickson, Director, Educator Quality and Licensing, State Board of Education, distributed and reviewed the report, "Teacher Quality Report."

#### **D. Extended Day Kindergarten**

Superintendent Harrington and Mr. Reed Spencer, Curriculum Coordinator, State Board of Education, distributed and reviewed the report, "Optional Extended Day Kindergarten - Report of Activity and Practices for the 2007-2008 School Year."

### **5. Other Items / Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Morley moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Hillyard, Sen. Jones, Sen. Madsen, Rep. Gowans, and Rep. Lockhart absent for the vote.

Chair Dayton adjourned the meeting at 4:06 p.m.