

**MINUTES OF THE  
EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, October 20, 2010 – 2:00 p.m. – Room 445 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Senate Chair  
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes, House Chair  
Sen. Curtis S. Bramble  
Sen. Margaret Dayton  
Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard  
Sen. Karen W. Morgan  
Rep. Johnny Anderson  
Rep. Laura Black  
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards  
Rep. Wayne A. Harper  
Rep. Don L. Ipson  
Rep. Rebecca D. Lockhart  
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss  
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold  
Rep. Curtis Oda

Rep. Marie H. Poulson  
Rep. Kraig Powell  
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion  
Rep. Mark A. Wheatley  
Rep. Carl Wimmer

**Members Absent:**

Rep. Christine F. Watkins

**Staff Present:**

Ms. Constance C. Steffen, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Allison M. Nicholson, Policy Analyst  
Ms. Angela Oakes Stallings, 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**

Rep. Newbold called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m. Rep. Watkins was excused from attending the meeting.

Sen. Dayton noted that Dr. Mike Peterson, Executive Director, Utah Education Network, was recognized in the September minutes as Mr. instead of Dr. and asked that the minutes be amended.

**MOTION:** Rep. Newbold moved to approve the amended minutes of the September 15, 2010 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Dayton, Rep. Hughes, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Lockhart, and Rep. Wimmer absent for the vote.

**2. Annual Reports**

Ms. Nicholson and Ms. Steffen gave a brief summary of each of the following six reports required by statute. The reports were submitted from various agencies and sent to committee members before the meeting.

- A. Regents' and New Century Scholarships - State Board of Regents
- B. Foreign Gifts to Higher Education Institutions - State Board of Regents
- C. State School Fund - Office of State Treasurer
- D. Use of Capitol Outlay Increment Monies/Plans to Expand Student Capacity of Schools - Jordan School District
- E. Teacher Quality - Utah State Office of Education
- F. High-Ability Student Initiative - Utah State Office of Education

The authors of the reports were available to answer committee members' questions.

Ms. Brenda Hales, Associate Superintendent, and Dr. Sydnee Dickson, Director, Teaching and Learning, Utah State Office of Education, responded to committee members' questions regarding state policy on attaining a teaching or coaching license for a coaching position at a local school.

### **3. Sunset Review of Voluntary Extended-Day Kindergarten**

Chair Stephenson turned the chair over to Sen. Dayton.

Sen. Dayton noted that unless reauthorized by the Legislature, the Voluntary Extended-Day Kindergarten Program (Program) will terminate on July 1, 2011. She explained that this agenda item was discussed at the September committee meeting and this was a continuation of that discussion.

Ms. Hales reported on the results achieved by the Program and submitted additional data that were requested at the September meeting. She said the State Board of Education voted to recommend reauthorization of the Program.

Ms. Janis Dubno, Voices for Utah Children, distributed a handout "Optional Extended-Day Kindergarten Highlights from Longitudinal Data from Jordan, Granite and Salt Lake School Districts" and spoke in support of reauthorization of the Program.

Mr. Peter Cannon, citizen, spoke against reauthorization of the Program.

Mr. Lane Beattie, President, Salt Lake Chamber, submitted written comments supporting the Program, and recommended reauthorizing the Program.

### **4. Sunset Review of Performance-Based Compensation Pilot Program**

Dr. Dickson gave a brief overview of the performance-based compensation pilot program that will terminate on July 1, 2011, unless reauthorized by the Legislature. She noted that 2009 General Session H.B. 328, "Teacher Quality Amendments," created a performance-based compensation pilot program for classroom-related staff and established an ongoing appropriation of \$300,000 to the State Board of Education to award grants to selected schools to implement the plans.

Dr. Dickson and Ms. Hale reported that five elementary schools were chosen to participate in the two-year program. The first year of the program was a planning phase, and the second year was designed to be an implementation phase, where the schools would implement the plans approved during the first year. The schools are currently in the implementation phase, and therefore the State Board of Education does not have a recommendation for the Committee on the reauthorization of the program. They reported that they would like to report back after they have data from the second year.

### **5. Discussion of School Funding Equalization**

Mr. Dave Thomas, member, State Board of Education, gave a presentation on "School Equalization" and distributed a copy of the presentation. He discussed concepts regarding public school funding equalization

that the State Board of Education recently adopted. He noted that Utah's funding of public schools is highly equalized, and that the Board is discussing principles to enhance equalization.

Mr. Todd Hauber, State Board of Education, responded to committee members' questions regarding the receiving of revenues.

#### **6. A Proposal for Increased Efficiency in the Public Education System**

Mr. Ralph Knudsen, citizen, distributed three handouts "Proposal," "Comments about the 2010-2011 Sample Calendar Provided," and "Sample Calendar 2011." He gave an overview of a proposal on how an extended school schedule could use school buildings more efficiently and reduce costs for the education system.

#### **7. Other Items / Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Oda moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Stephenson, Sen. Bramble, Sen. Hillyard, Rep. Anderson, Rep. Black, Rep. Harper, Rep. Hughes, Rep. Ipson, Rep. Lockhart, Rep. Poulson, and Rep. Wimmer absent for the vote.

Sen. Dayton adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.