

**MINUTES OF THE
EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, November 20, 2013 – 9:00 a.m. – Room 30 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Stuart C. Reid, Senate Chair
Rep. Francis D. Gibson, House Chair
Sen. Patricia W. Jones
Sen. Mark B. Madsen
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson
Sen. Jerry W. Stevenson
Sen. Stephen H. Urquhart
Rep. Patrice M. Arent
Rep. Rich Cunningham
Rep. Rebecca P. Edwards
Rep. Steve Eliason
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes
Rep. Bradley G. Last
Rep. David E. Lifferth
Rep. Daniel McCay

Rep. Carol Spackman Moss
Rep. Val L. Peterson
Rep. Jim Nielson
Rep. Marie H. Poulson
Rep. Dean Sanpei
Rep. V. Lowry Snow
Rep. Keven J. Stratton

Staff Present:

Ms. Constance C. Steffen, Policy Analyst
Ms. Tiffany A. Stanley, Policy Analyst
Ms. Angela Oakes Stallings, Associate General
Counsel
Ms. Debra Hale, 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.

1. Committee Business

Chair Gibson called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

MOTION: Rep. McCay moved to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2013, meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Arent, Rep. Eliason, Rep. Hughes, and Rep. Peterson were absent for the vote.

2. Training Provided to School Community Councils

Rep. Cunningham expressed concern with the sufficiency of training provided to school community councils, which are responsible for developing plans for the use of trust land revenues. He discussed potential legislation to ensure the school community councils receive proper training.

Chair Gibson relinquished the chair to Sen. Reid.

Ms. Paula Plant, Program Administrator, School Children's Trust Section, Utah State Office of Education, reviewed a presentation "School Community Council Training." She discussed the complexities of providing training on extensive requirements to busy volunteers. Ms. Plant reviewed the training resources provided through the School Land Trust website and stated that the School Children's Trust Section supports local school boards in their training and responds to requests to provide training around the state.

Mr. Peter Cannon, member, Board of Education, Davis School District, speaking for himself, said that it is important to recognize that local school boards do not have the manpower to personally provide all training. He stressed the importance of local control over the training.

Ms. Karen Peterson, Chair, School Community Council, Clinton Elementary School, Davis School District, stated that a clarified mandate regarding who is responsible for providing training is needed.

Mr. Ben Horsley, Communications Director, Granite School District, stated that the problem is not the quality or source of the training provided to school community councils. Rather, he indicated that the problem is ensuring that all school community council members receive training.

3. Draft Legislation, "Suicide Prevention Revisions"

Rep. Eliason introduced draft legislation "Suicide Prevention Revisions" (2014FL-0407/007), which amends certain student survey and evaluation provisions related to public school suicide prevention.

Mr. Kimball Gardner, Program Manager, Prevention by Design, NAMI Utah, spoke for the bill. He explained that Prevention by Design is a statewide initiative that assists local areas to set up suicide prevention programs. NAMI Utah grant money is available for these programs, he said, but some school districts have chosen not to accept the grant money because they are unsure whether they may intervene and ask a student questions regarding the student's suicidal thoughts.

Rep. Eliason summarized the bill and explained that the bill would allow a school employee or agent, under certain circumstances, to ask a student questions regarding the student's suicidal thoughts, self-harming behavior, or thoughts of harming others.

Dr. Martell Menlove, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, stated that the clarifying language in the bill regarding certain student survey and evaluation provisions is needed.

Mr. Cannon, speaking for himself, raised privacy concerns regarding the words "survey" and "evaluate" on lines 148 and 149 of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Stephenson moved to amend draft legislation "Suicide Prevention Revisions" as follows:

Page 5 Lines 148-149: Delete "survey, evaluate, or".

The motion passed with Rep. Edwards voting in opposition. Sen. Reid, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Arent, Rep. Hughes, and Rep. Peterson were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Chair Gibson moved to approve as a committee bill draft legislation "Suicide Prevention Revisions." The motion passed with Sen. Madsen, Sen. Stephenson, Rep. McCay, Rep. Nielson, and Rep. Stratton voting in opposition. Sen. Reid, Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Hughes, and Rep. Peterson were absent for the vote.

4. Annual Reports

A. Parents Seminar on Youth Protection (not discussed)

B. Financial and Economic Literacy Education

Ms. Mary Shumway, State Director of Career and Technical Education, stated that she chaired the Financial and Economic Literacy Education Task Force. She highlighted the findings and recommendations of the task force's work in the following areas:

- 1) course objective and standards
- 2) teacher endorsement
- 3) assessment
- 4) professional development
- 5) online courses
- 6) demonstrated competency
- 7) course integration
- 8) community partnerships
- 9) additional content recommended by the State Board Graduation Committee
- 10) funding needs

C. Early Intervention Computer Software (not discussed)

D. Class Size Reduction (not discussed)

E. Pilot Online School Survey (not discussed)

F. Reading Program Expenditures

Ms. Tiffany Hall, Literacy Coordinator, Teaching and Learning, Utah State Office of Education, and Ms. Sydnee Dickson, Director, Teaching and Learning, Utah State Office of Education, responded to a question from the committee related to accountability for computer adaptive learning software and technology purchases. Ms. Hall stated that, although data related to the effectiveness of computer adaptive learning reading expenditures was not available for this report, a full report on this topic will be available for the 2014 General Session.

G. Career and Technology Education (not discussed)

5. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Rep. Nielson moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Urquhart, Rep. Cunningham, Rep. Eliason, Rep. McCay, and Rep. Poulson were absent for the vote.

Chair Reid adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.