

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC EDUCATION LEGISLATIVE TASK FORCE**
Thursday, August 21, 2003 – 1:00 p.m. – Room 129 State Capitol

Members Present:

Sen. Thomas Hatch, Senate Chair
Rep. Kory M. Holdaway, House Chair
Sen. Ron Allen
Sen. Karen Hale
Sen. Bill Wright
Rep. David N. Cox
Rep. Margaret Dayton
Rep. James R. Gowans
Rep. LaWanna "Lou" Shurtliff
Rep. Gordon E. Snow

Members Absent:

Sen. Parley G. Hellewell
Rep. Karen W. Morgan

Staff Present:

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

Note: A list of others present and a copy of materials can be found at <http://www.image.le.state.ut.us/imaging/history.asp> or by contacting the committee secretary, Glenda Whitney, at 538-1032.

1. Task Force Business

Chair Hatch called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m. He excused Sen. Hellewell and Rep. Morgan from attending the meeting.

MOTION: Rep. Cox moved to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2003 meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Allen and Sen. Hale were absent for the vote.

2. Consider Proposed Legislation, "Public Education Testing Amendments"

Chair Hatch explained that the proposed legislation eliminates the tenth grade basic skills competency test and makes other changes to U-PASS (Utah Performance Assessment System for Students).

Mr. Larsen distributed and reviewed draft legislation, "Public Education Testing Amendments."

Dr. Louise R. Moulding, Director, Evaluation and Assessment, Utah State Office of Education, discussed the costs involved in developing the tenth grade basic skills competency test.

MOTION: Sen. Wright moved to request legislative leadership and the governor to consider eliminating the tenth grade basic skills competency test in a special session.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION: Rep. Cox moved to wait until after the Education Summit meetings and then consider this issue at the September task force meeting. The motion passed, with Rep. Holdaway voting in opposition.

3. Education Summit Preview

Chair Hatch explained that S.B. 154, "Public Education Amendments," enacted by the Legislature in the

2003 General Session, directs the governor to organize a State Education Summit Meeting to discuss issues related to the act and develop plans to implement the act.

Dr. Rich Kendell, Deputy for Education, Governor's Office, briefed the Task Force on the agenda for the Education Summit meetings to be held in five regions of the state.

Ms. Lynn Trenbeath, Davis School District, distributed a packet of information, "Governor's Summits on Competency-Measured Education, September/October 2003," and reviewed the schedule for the Summit meetings.

Ms. Patti Harrington, Utah State Office of Education, explained who is invited to participate in the Education Summit.

MOTION: Rep. Dayton moved that the Public Education Task Force would like more public input at the Education Summit. The motion failed, with Sen. Hatch, Sen. Wright, Rep. Dayton, and Rep. Snow voting in favor of the motion.

4. S.B. 154 and "No Child Left Behind" Implementation Costs

Mr. Patrick Ogden, Utah State Office of Education, distributed a handout, "Performance Plus, Investing in Educational Performance," and discussed the estimated costs of implementing S.B. 154, "Public Education Amendments," and federal legislation, "No Child Left Behind."

Ms. Patti Harrington, Utah State Office of Education, explained the foundation for the Performance Plus proposal.

Rep. Cox requested information about whether school districts are still using a career ladder program.

5. Other Items / Adjourn

Chair Hatch indicated that the next meeting of the task force is scheduled for Thursday, September 18, 2003 at 1:00 p.m.

MOTION: Sen. Hale moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously, with Sen. Allen absent for the vote. Chair Hatch adjourned the meeting at 3:41 p.m.