

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Jean Schodorf at 1:30 p.m. on February 3, 2009, in Room 545-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Martha Dorsey, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Sharon Wenger, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Dorothy Gerhardt, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Shirley Antes, Vice President for External Affairs, Wichita Area Technical College
John Vratil, Senator
Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards
Gary George, Assistant Superintendent, USD #233, Olathe
Diane Gjerstad, Wichita Public Schools
Cheryl L. Semmel, Executive Director, United School Administrators of Kansas
Rob Balsters, Deputy Superintendent, USD #345, Seaman
Dennis Stones, Superintendent, USD #441, Sabetha
Stuart J. Little, USD #512, Shawnee Mission
Robert J. Vancrum, Government Affairs Specialist, USD #229, Blue Valley
Val DeFever, Schools for Quality Education

Others attending:

See attached list.

Approval of Minutes

Senator Vratel moved to approve the minutes of January 29, 2009 as written. The motion was seconded by Senator Umbarger. Motion carried on a voice vote.

Hearing on SB 131 - Technical colleges; change in name or designation

Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, presented a short overview of **SB 131**. This bill would allow all technical colleges to change their designation by adoption of a resolution by the governing body. She also stated line 15 referred to the Northeast Kansas Technical College which was never established. She recommended the bill be amended to strike this reference in line 15.

Shirley Antes, Vice President for External Affairs, Wichita Area Technical College (Attachment 1), presented testimony in support of the bill. She stated the intent of the legislation was not an attempt to change the scope of technical colleges, only the ability for the local governing board of technical colleges to change the name of the institution and to allow the board to determine that designation without having to enter the name into a legislative bill.

There were no other conferees to appear before the Committee.

The hearing on **SB 131** was closed.

Hearing on SB 73 - School districts; special local option budget authority for certain school years

Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes, presented a short overview of **SB 73**. **SB 73** would provide for school years 2009-2010, 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 allowing the board of any school district to adopt a local option budget which does not exceed the local option budget calculated as if the base state aid per pupil was \$4,433, or the amount calculated under 72-6433. She stated it does not apply to this school year. An amendment would be necessary to accomplish this.

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the Senate Education Committee at 1:30 p.m. on February 3, 2009, in Room 545-N of the Capitol.

John Vratil, Senator ([Attachment 2](#)), testified in favor of **SB 73**. He suggested the committee might want to amend the bill to include the current school year. It is an attempt to 'hold harmless' school districts' local option budgets should their state financial aid be reduced.

Mark Tallman, Kansas Association of School Boards ([Attachment 3](#)), testified in favor of **SB 73** with the suggestion that any reduction in Supplemental General State Aid would reduce the LOB authority available for all districts, not just those in the lower percentile of districts based on valuation per pupil.

The following conferees testified in favor of **SB 73** with the suggestion that it be amended to include the current school year or any school year and that it also apply to special education funding.

Gary George, Assistant Superintendent, USD #233, Olathe ([Attachment 4](#))
Diane Gjerstad, Wichita Public Schools ([Attachment 5](#))
Cheryl L. Semmel, Executive Director, United School Administrators of Kansas ([Attachment 6](#))
Rob Balsters, Deputy Superintendent, USD #345, Seaman ([Attachment 7](#))
Dennis Stones, Superintendent, USD #441, Sabetha ([Attachment 8](#))
Stuart J. Little, USD #512, Shawnee Mission ([Attachment 9](#))
Robert J. Vancrum, Government Affairs Specialist, USD #229, Blue Valley ([Attachment 10](#))
Val DeFever, Schools for Quality Education ([Attachment 11](#))
Bill Reardon, USD #500, Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools
Jennifer Crow, USD #501, Topeka

There were no other conferees to appear before the Committee

The hearing on **SB 73** was closed.

Wichita Area Technical College/National Center for Aviation Training

Shirley Antes, Vice President of External Affairs, Wichita Area Technical College, ([Attachment 12](#)) presented a short report on the efforts of the Wichita Area Technical College in cooperation with the National Center for Aviation Training to expand educational opportunities for students, particularly in the field of engineering to meet the ever increasing demands for students.

The next meeting is scheduled for February 4, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.