

**MINUTES OF THE  
EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, October 23, 2002 – 2:00 p.m.– Room 303 State Capitol

**Members Present:**

Sen. Howard Stephenson, Senate Chair  
Rep. Marda Dillree, House Chair  
Sen. D. Chris Butters  
Sen. Karen Hale  
Sen. David H. Steele  
Sen. Michael G. Waddoups  
Sen. Bill Wright  
Rep. Afton B. Bradshaw  
Rep. Judy Ann Buffmire  
Rep. Margaret Dayton  
Rep. James A. Ferrin  
Rep. James R. Gowans  
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold  
Rep. Loraine T. Pace

Rep. LaWanna Shurtliff  
Rep. Matt Throckmorton  
Rep. A. Lamont Tyler

**Members Absent:**

Sen. Alicia L. Suazo  
Rep. Jeff Alexander  
Rep. Duane E. Bourdeaux  
Rep. Bradley T. Johnson  
Rep. J. Morgan Philpot

**Staff Present:**

Ms. Constance C. Steffen, Research Analyst  
Mr. Dee S Larsen, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. Wendy L. Bangerter, 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, Wendy Bangerter, at 538-1032.

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Dillree called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Buffmire moved to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2002 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Wright and Rep. Tyler absent for the vote.

**2. Trends in Education Legislation**

Rep. Loraine T. Pace distributed "Utah Education Bills and Resolutions – 1990 to 2002 General Session," which shows the number of education bills introduced and passed during that time period. She noted that education legislation is a major portion of legislation considered and enacted by the Legislature. Rep. Pace suggested that education may better succeed if the Legislature made fewer changes. She noted that more and more responsibility is being delegated to the State Office of Education without adding more staff or resources with which to do the job.

**3. Utah College of Applied Technology (UCAT) Report**

Dr. Gregory Fitch, President, Utah College of Applied Technology, joined by Ms. Linda Fife, Assistant Commissioner for Programs, Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, distributed and presented the first annual report of UCAT. Enrollment of secondary school students and adults in applied technology programs has continued to expand. The College has developed AAT (Associate of Applied Technology) degrees that may be transferred to bachelor's degree programs at four-year institutions. Dr. Fitch noted that, at a later date, the UCAT Board of Trustees may make recommendations for changes in the law governing the College.

**4. State School Fund Report**

Mr. Richard Ellis, Chief Deputy State Treasurer, discussed the first annual performance report of the State School Fund, which was previously distributed to the Committee. The State School Fund receives revenue from the sale and lease of school and institutional trust lands. He reviewed the State School Fund income and distributions, investments, fees, and expenses. He stated that the State Treasurer's Office is committed to the long-term investment performance of the Fund and is comfortable with that performance.

#### **5. Charter School Evaluation**

Mr. Phillip Rodgers, Center for the School of the Future, distributed and reviewed "Utah Charter School Evaluation." He recommended that charters schools: (1) establish measurable goals; (2) track student performance longitudinally; and (3) ensure that all current teacher information is in CACTUS (Computer Accessed Credentials for Teachers in Utah Schools) and that teachers are qualified and receive authorization to teach. Mr. Rodgers also recommended that a charter school handbook be created.

Mr. Kim Burningham, Chair, State Board of Education, distributed and reviewed recommendations for legislative consideration regarding charter schools. He stated charter schools function best when aligned with local school districts, so disincentives for locally chartered schools need to be eliminated. The Board encourages cautious expansion of the charter school program. The Board recognizes the need to establish a resource center and other ways and means to improve charter schools within the state. Rep. Dillree invited interested parties to attend a meeting on charter schools on November 21, 2002.

#### **6. Textbook Report**

Mr. Patrick Ogden, USOE (Utah State Office of Education), distributed and reviewed "2002 Annual Textbook Report to the Legislature." He noted that 93.6 percent of the \$24 million supplemental textbook appropriation made in fiscal year 2001 was spent by the end of fiscal year 2002. He emphasized that districts did not supplant, but instead supplemented, their textbook expenditures. He stated that the USOE recommends the current law on textbook spending be repealed, because it runs counter to the direction of more local control and the intent of the Legislature to allow local districts to address their most critical needs.

#### **7. Substitute Teacher Report**

Mr. Geoffrey Smith, Substitute Teaching Institute, Utah State University, distributed and reviewed "Management of Substitute Teachers in Utah: Current Practices and Recommendations for the Future." He said that nine percent of substitute teachers have received training in basic classroom skills, and the Institute recommends that all substitutes receive 12 hours or more of training. He stated that moderate training resulted in higher ranking of substitutes by teachers and principals. The Institute further recommends that schools districts: (1) tighten screening practices, especially age requirements and the minimum number of hours of college completed; and (2) establish and maintain a substitute pool of 18 - 20 percent of the teacher workforce.

#### **8. Other Items/Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Bradshaw moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Butters, Sen. Waddoups, Sen. Wright, Rep. Gowans, and Rep. Throckmorton absent for the vote.

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Chair Dillree adjourned the meeting at 5:25 p.m.