

(Draft – Awaiting Approval)

**MINUTES OF THE
EDUCATION INTERIM COMMITTEE**

Wednesday, November 16, 2016 – 1:15 p.m. – Room 30 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Ann Millner, Senate Chair
Rep. Bradley G. Last, House Chair
Sen. Jim Dabakis
Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
Sen. Don L. Ipson
Sen. Howard A. Stephenson
Rep. LaVar Christensen
Rep. Bruce R. Cutler
Rep. Steve Eliason
Rep. Justin L. Fawson
Rep. Francis D. Gibson
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings
Rep. David E. Lifferth
Rep. Daniel McCay
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss

Rep. Marie H. Poulson
Rep. V. Lowry Snow

Members Absent:

Rep. Michael E. Noel

Staff Present:

Mr. Nathan W. Brady, Policy Analyst
Ms. Allyson R. Goldstein, Policy Analyst
Ms. Victoria Ashby, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Rebekah Bradway, Associate General Counsel
Mr. Michael E. Curtis, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Amy L. West, Associate General Counsel
Ms. Debra Hale, Legislative Assistant

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 Millner called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m.

MOTION: Rep. Moss moved to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2016, meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Hutchings, Rep. McCay, and Rep. Snow were absent for the vote.

2. Competency-Based Education (Draft Legislation)

Ms. Ashby distributed and spoke to draft legislation "Competency-Based Education" (2017FL-0641/004), which would authorize the Utah State Board of Education to reimburse a local education agency for a student who graduates early from a competency-based education program.

MOTION: Sen. Stephenson moved that draft legislation "Competency-Based Education" be approved as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Hutchings, Rep. McCay, and Rep. Snow were absent for the vote.

After discussing Item 3, Assessment and Accountability, the committee received a motion to reconsider the action to approve draft legislation "Competency-Based Education" as a committee bill.

MOTION: Rep. Lifferth moved that the committee reconsider its motion to approve draft legislation "Competency-Based Education" as a committee bill in order to make a technical correction. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Ipson, Rep. Cutler, Rep. Eliason, Rep. Gibson, Rep. McCay, and Rep. Poulson were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Lifferth moved that the committee amend draft legislation "Competency-Based Education," by changing the word "measurement" on Line 50 to the word "membership." The motion

passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Ipson, Rep. Cutler, Rep. Eliason, Rep. Gibson, Rep. McCay, and Rep. Poulson were absent for the vote.

MOTION: Rep. Lifferth moved that the committee approve, as amended, draft legislation "Competency-Based Legislation" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Ipson, Rep. Eliason, Rep. Gibson, Rep. Poulson, and Rep. Snow were absent for the vote.

3. Assessment and Accountability

Chair Millner gave a status report on proposed draft legislation "Education Assessment and Accountability Amendments" (2017FL-0624/003) that would establish a framework for assessment and accountability to be implemented in the 2017-2018 school year. Note: This language was discussed at the October interim meeting, and the sponsor agreed to work with stakeholders on revisions to the draft language.

Ms. Angie Stallings, Deputy Superintendent for Policy and Communications, Utah State Board of Education, reviewed the work the board has been doing to update its assessment and accountability policies.

Ms. Tiffany Stanley, Policy Advisor, Utah State Board of Education, reviewed some of the feedback the board has received on the issues.

Ms. Brittney Cummins, District 6 representative, Utah State Board of Education, described the board's intent to look with a more holistic view at its accountability system.

4. Report on the 15-Year Look Back and 10-Year Plan

Dr. Sydnee Dickson, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Ms. Stallings reviewed "Excellence for Each Student" (strategic plan), "Education Elevated" (summary), and "Education Elevated" (detailed information).

Superintendent Dickson discussed the work accomplished as a result of 2015 General Session H.B. 360, "Utah Education Amendments," which required the board to provide the following to the committee: (1) a report that summarizes the policies, programs, and performance history of the state's public education system over the past 15 years; and (2) a formal 10-year plan for the state's public education system.

Superintendent Dickson addressed the guiding principles behind the bill and how reviewing policy history is advantageous to the board and the Legislature in creating a strategic plan moving forward. She explained the goal-setting or accountability portion of the strategic plan, which contains five-year goals for the education system.

Ms. Stallings gave an overview of the two elements of the report: (1) a 15-year look back requirement, which is a 15-year summary of the policies passed by the Legislature and the board, and (2) the two components of a 10-year strategic plan looking forward that the board has been working on.

Ms. Allison Nicholson, Research Associate, Utah Education Policy Center, summarized the look back, which was contracted by the board to be performed by the center, referring to a report, "Utah Education Policy History (1997-2015)," and a presentation, "Utah Education Policy History, HB 360, 2015 General Session (1997-2015)."

Rep. Christensen described 2015 General Session H.B. 360, "Utah Education Amendments."

5. Student Leadership Skills Evaluation Report

Mr. Robert Austin, K-12 Social Studies Specialist, Utah State Board of Education, described the Student Leadership Skills Evaluation Report, which provides a detailed analysis of the survey responses provided by the schools that received funding through the pilot program.

Dr. Stacy Eddings, Evaluation Team Lead, Utah Education Policy Center, and Dr. Cori Groth, Associate Director, Utah Education Policy Center, presented "Student Leadership Skills Grant: 2016 Evaluation," which summarizes the findings of the evaluation.

6. Minimum School Program Amendments (Draft Legislation)

Rep. Cutler distributed and reviewed draft legislation "Minimum School Program Amendments" (2017FL-0503/006), which would amend the methodology for funding tuition for a student who necessarily attends school in another state.

Mr. Ben Leishman, Product Manager, Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, clarified details of the bill.

MOTION: Sen. Fillmore moved that the committee approve draft legislation "Minimum School Program Amendments" as a committee bill. The motion passed unanimously. Rep. Hutchings, Rep. McCay, and Rep. Snow were absent for the vote.

7. Special Education Assessment Amendments (Draft Legislation)

Mr. Curtis distributed "Overview of Special Education Bill Files," which described three special education bill files sponsored by Sen. Davis. Mr. Curtis spoke to draft legislation "Special Education Evaluation Amendments" (2017FL-0421/004), which would require a school or local education agency to communicate certain information with a parent or legal guardian of a student who may have a disability.

8. School District Amendments (Draft Legislation)

Continuing with the handout, Mr. Curtis described proposed draft legislation "School District Amendments" (2017FL-0422), which would address communication between private schools and school districts regarding students enrolled in the private school who may qualify for special education services, in order to aid school districts in finding and evaluating these children as required by the Individual with Disabilities Education Act. Mr. Curtis did not distribute a draft bill to the committee.

9. Special Education Program Communication Amendments (Draft Legislation)

Continuing with the handout, Mr. Curtis spoke to draft legislation "Special Education Accommodations Funding" (2017FL-0423/003), which would address the distribution of any appropriations to the board for reimbursements of certain services rendered to a student with an autism spectrum disorder.

10. Other Items/Adjourn

MOTION: Sen. Fillmore moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Dabakis, Sen. Ipson, Rep. Eliason, Rep. Gibson, Rep. Poulson, and Rep. Snow were absent for the vote.

Chair Millner adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m.