

(Draft - Awaiting Formal Approval)  
**MINUTES OF THE  
PUBLIC EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**  
Room 210, Senate Building  
October 10, 2012

Members Present: Sen. Howard A. Stephenson, Co-Chair  
Rep. Merlynn T. Newbold, Co-Chair  
Sen. Stuart Adams  
Sen. Daniel Thatcher  
Rep. LaVar Christensen  
Rep. Francis Gibson  
Rep. Stephen G. Handy  
Rep. Ken Ivory  
Rep. Carol Spackman Moss  
Rep. Jim Nielson  
Rep. Marie H. Poulson

Members Excused: Sen. Lyle W. Hillyard  
Sen. Karen W. Morgan

Members Absent: Sen. Mark B. Madsen  
Sen. Aaron Osmond  
Rep. Kenneth W. Sumsion, House Vice Chair  
Rep. Tim M. Cosgrove  
Rep. Steven Eliason  
Rep. Gregory H. Hughes

Staff Present: Mr. Ben Leishman, Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
Dr. Thomas Young, Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
Ms. Wendy Hill, Secretary

**Note:** A copy of related materials and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

Co-Chair Howard A. Stephenson called the meeting to order at 8:20 am.

## **1. Career & Technical Education**

### ***a. CTE Add-on Program Formula***

Mr. Ben Leishman, Fiscal Analyst, reviewed the Minimum School Program: Career and Technical Education Add-on brief. The brief was distributed to the committee and made available to the public. Career and Technical Education (CTE) funding is determined by prior school year enrollment and growth in grades nine through twelve. The committee discussed the allocation of funds. Mr. Leishman explained the distribution of funding and the history of CTE appropriations.

Ms. Mary Shumway, State Director, Career & Technical Education, Utah State Office of Education (USOE), said that duplication of classes was not an issue. Classes are chosen by cost and enrollment. Online options should be considered.

Ms. Shumway said CTE courses are chosen by determining cost, class size, demands of the work force, and wages. Analysis is made to ensure course content is pertinent to the work force. Some courses have been removed. New courses must meet a set of criteria that includes high wages and high demand. An onsite review of each program gives the USOE information it needs for evaluations. About 14,000 certification tests are given with about a 50 percent pass rate.

***b. Federal Funding***

Dr. Martell Menlove, Deputy State Superintendent, USOE said federal cuts in education money will occur after this school year and start in July 2013. The USOE is examining the impact to Utah.

Ms. Shumway discussed comprehensive guidance funds. She said the costs for CTE programs continue rise. She indicated that about \$12 million is awarded to Utah from the Perkins CTE Federal Education Act, which equals eight percent of the CTE funds in Utah.

***c. State Board of Education Response to 2012 General Session Intent Language***

Ms. Shumway asked for guidance from the Legislature in regards to the intent language and pledged to look at irregularities in funding distribution and the Average Daily Membership (ADM). Co-Chair Stephenson and Co-Chair Newbold were concerned about funding effective programs.

***d. CTE Online Testing Update***

Ms. Shumway reported on the data about online education. This economical instruction tool, gives teachers and students instant feedback, and has been successful in Utah.

***e. Utah Futures***

Mr. Jon Pierpont, Executive Director, Department of Workforce Services (DWS), reported to the committee about Utah Futures. The partnership between Higher Education and the DWS began in 2009.

Mr. Dave Buhler, Commissioner, Utah System of Higher Education, said that improvement is needed for this online tool to work, but it has a good start. Co-Chair Stephenson expressed concern about the website and the costs involved. Dr. Menlove mentioned concerns about student confidentiality.

**2. New Education Technologies**

***a. Introduction and Demonstration of New Programs***

**i.** Ms. Sydnee Dickson, Director, Teaching & Learning, USOE, explained a program used for professional development. Ms. Kimberly Tafiti, Director of Client Services at Truenorthlogic, joined her at the speaker's table. A power point presentation demonstrated the product, OnTrack.

**ii.** Mr. Jason Lange, CEO and founder of BloomBoard, explained the teacher evaluation program developed by his company. The program uses free observation tools and feedback to help educators improve. Data is collected and analyzed to assist teachers. A power point presentation was showed to the committee. Members of the committee commented about the evaluation program.

iii. Mr. Carl Swartz, Executive Director of the Learning Science of Technology of MetaMetrics, talked about Learning Oasis, a tool to improve literacy. This tool provides immediate feedback for reading and writing.

### **3. Implementation Updates on Technology Programs**

Dr. Menlove distributed a report about the Request for Proposal (RFP) process.

Mr. Kent Beers, Director, State Division of Purchasing, distributed a handout and explained the difference between the State Agency Contracts and State Cooperative Contracts and the time required to award contracts to vendors. He indicated that the average time for the RFP is three months, but if the RFP is technology-based, the average time is four months.

Ms. Brenda Hales, Associate Superintendent, USOE, told the committee the USOE spent time negotiating the price of software with vendors.

### **4. Lunch Break**

Lunch was provided by the ProStart students from West High School. Ms. Melva Sine, CEO, Utah Restaurant Association, introduced the students and explained the program to the committee. Several students spoke to the committee about their positive experience with ProStart.

### **5. Meeting Resumes**

Co-Chair Merlynn T. Newbold reconvened the meeting at 1:39 pm.

### **6. Presentation**

Mr. Swartz continued his presentation about Learning Oasis.

### **7. Review of Nontraditional Schools & Programs**

#### ***a. Utah Statewide Online Education Program***

Ms. Cory Kanth, Statewide Online Education Program Specialist, USOE, gave an overview of the online education program, its implementation and funding. About 75 percent of school districts participate and about 50 percent of charter schools participate. Prices of courses vary with content. Average pass rate is 80 percent. Co-Chair Stephenson complimented Ms. Kanth on her work. Ms. Kanth said more students should know the Online Education program is available.

#### ***b. Legislative Audit on Corrections Education***

Mr. Darin Underwood, Audit Manager, Legislative Auditor General, presented the audit on inmate education. Inmate education is provided through the Adult Education program administered by USOE. The total number of enrolled inmates for 2010- 2011 was 5,268. The current distribution of funds favors prison programs in comparison to jail programs. It was recommended that USOE modify the distribution formula. USOE was also asked to gather more data on employment. It was

recommended USOE make contact hours with the inmates more efficient. Ms. Hales referred to the USOE report in response to the audit. The USOE is implementing changes in the program.

***c. Education Contracts for Students in State Custody***

**i. Corrections Education**

Ms. Hales referred to the handout. There were 775 high school diplomas and 294 GED diplomas earned for the year 2011-2012 for all Correction Facilities in Utah.

**ii. Youth Center at the Utah State Hospital**

Ms. Hales spoke of the challenges teachers face at the youth center. She mentioned a signed contract was now in place between USOE and the Youth Center.

***d. Carson Smith Special Needs Scholarships***

Ms. Glenna Gallo, Director, Special Education, USOE, reported. This scholarship helps students with disabilities. The amount of the scholarship depends on the level of service the student needs. The scholarship provides funds to a small percentage of students.

**e. Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind**

Mr. Michael Sears, Utah Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (USDB), said the USDB for Fiscal Year 2012 is in a strong fiscal position. Funds are being raised for an early education center. There is a need for more funds to help the increase in students. Dr. Menlove commented on the improvement of the USDB budget.

**f. Thanksgiving Point – Update on New Museums & Education Program**

Mr. Mike Washburn, CEO, Thanksgiving Point, stated that \$24 million has been raised for the new Museum of Natural Curiosity. There will be indoor and outdoor exhibits. He would like the “Tulips Journey North” program to be part of the iSEE outreach program.

**8. Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Rep. Handy moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

Co-Chair Stephenson adjourned the meeting at 3:50 pm.

Minutes were reported by Ms. Wendy Hill, Senate Secretary

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