

NORTH DAKOTA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Tentative Agenda

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday and Thursday, October 31-November 1, 2001

Roughrider Room, State Capitol

Bismarck, North Dakota

Wednesday, October 31, 2001

9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call

NORTH DAKOTA SCHOOL DISTRICTS

9:05 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Tom Decker, Director, School Finance and Organization, Department of Public Instruction, regarding the number, size, location, and population of North Dakota school districts

9:20 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Stephen Smith, Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislatures, and Mr. John Myers, Augenblick & Myers, Inc., regarding:

- The number, size, location, and population of North Dakota school districts
- The number, size, location, and population of school districts in other states
- Completed and ongoing efforts by other states to address concerns regarding the number, size, location, and population of their school districts
- Lawsuits in other states regarding education finance, equity, and adequacy

10:15 a.m. Coffee break

COST AND QUALITY OF EDUCATION

10:30 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Jerry Coleman, Assistant Director, School Finance and Organization, Department of Public Instruction, regarding the cost of education per student and per resident in North Dakota

10:45 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Stephen Hiebert, Research Analyst, Department of Public Instruction, regarding the availability of educational offerings and the availability of classroom instructors

11:00 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Greg Gallagher, Director, School Improvement, Department of Public Instruction, regarding the performance of North Dakota students on recent standardized tests

11:10 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Smith and Mr. Myers regarding:

- The cost of education in North Dakota
- The availability of educational offerings in North Dakota
- Cost and availability variations between small, medium, and large school districts
- Benefits and detriments resulting from alternative approaches to education delivery

12:00 noon Luncheon recess

SCHOOL DISTRICT PERSONNEL

- 1:00 p.m. Presentation by Ms. Anita Decker, Director, School District Approval and Accreditation, Department of Public Instruction, regarding qualifications of school district personnel
- 1:15 p.m. Presentation by Ms. Fay Kopp, North Dakota Retirement and Investment Office, regarding retirement of school district personnel
- 1:30 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Smith and Mr. Myers regarding:
- State and local responses to a reduction in the number of school district personnel
 - Opportunities to examine the potential for changes to the traditional roles of school district personnel
 - Compensation of school district personnel

SCHOOL DISTRICT TRANSPORTATION

- 2:10 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Decker regarding school district transportation
- 2:15 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Smith and Mr. Myers regarding the effectiveness of and alternatives to the current school district transportation system
- 2:45 p.m. Coffee break

PURCHASING OF SERVICES BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS

- 3:00 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Decker regarding the purchasing of services by school districts
- 3:15 p.m. Presentation by Mr. Smith and Mr. Myers regarding the practical and financial consequences of school districts purchasing services
- 4:00 p.m. Recess

Thursday, November 1, 2001

- 9:00 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Smith and Mr. Myers regarding alternatives to the current method of delivering kindergarten through grade 12 education in North Dakota
- Comments by interested parties
- Committee discussion
- 12:00 noon Luncheon recess
- 1:00 p.m. Continuation of committee discussion
- Staff directives
- 4:00 p.m. Adjourn

Committee Members

Senators Dwight Cook (Chairman), Tim Flakoll, Layton Freborg, Jerome Kelsh, David O'Connell, Terry M. Wanzek

Representatives Larry Bellew, James Boehm, Thomas T. Brusegaard, Lois Delmore, Howard Grumbo, C. B. Haas, Lyle Hanson, Kathy Hawken, Bob Hunskor, Dennis E. Johnson, RaeAnn G. Kelsch, Lisa Meier, David Monson, Phillip Mueller, Darrell D. Nottestad, Dorvan Solberg, Laurel Thoreson