

MINUTES OF THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dwayne Umbarger at 1:35 p.m. on January 27, 2004 in Room 123-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Anthony Hensley- excused
Senator David Corbin- excused

Committee staff present:

Carolyn Rampey, Legislative Research
Kathie Sparks, Legislative Research
Theresa Kiernan, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Judy Steinlicht, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, State Department of Education

Others attending:

See Attached List

Briefing on State Department of Education Funding

Dale Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, State Department of Education, addressed the committee on the estimated effects of the Governor's revised school finance plan. Under the revised proposal, special education will remain as currently funded and \$6.5 million will be added to the appropriation. The printouts provided do not include the increase in special education because of the complexities of allocating such funds. The printout reflects increases in BSAPP by \$100 for 2004-05 school year; increases at-risk weighting from 10 to 15 percent; decreases correlation weighting from 1725 to 1700 students; increases bilingual education weighting from 20-22 percent; equalizes capital outlay mill rate (utilizing 2003 data) up to four mills; implements all-day kindergarten for attendance centers that have 60 percent or more free and reduced price lunch students. (Attachment 1)

Mr. Dennis provided the Committee with a hand-out showing a comparison of the Governor's recommendation and the State Board of Education recommendation for the school finance plans for 2004-2005. (Attachment 2) A second handout outlines the Governor's Education First Plan. (Attachment 3) Discussion followed.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2004.