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2001 HOUSE EDUCATION

HB 1292

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB1292

House Education Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 02/12/01

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter#
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Minutes:

Chairman R. Kelsch, Vice-Chair T. Brusegaard, Rep. Bellew, Rep. Grumbo, Rep. Haas, Rep.

Hanson, Rep. Hawken, Rep. Hunskor, Rep. Johnson, Rep. Meier, Rep. Mueller, Rep. Nelson,

Rep. Nottestad, Rep. Solberg, Rep. Thoreson

Chairman Kelsch: We will now open the hearing on HB1292.

Rep. Brandenburg: (District 26) *Please refer to attached clippings*

Rep. Hawken: This is just within your school district, this is not sharing with other school districts?

Rep. Brandenburg: This particular case just dealt with the school district of Edgily.

Rep. Hawken: Are there not currently school districts currently that are sharing superintendents?

Rep. Brandenburg: Yes, there are a number of schools that are doing that.

Chairman Kelsch: Is there anyone who wishes to appear in opposition to HB1292?

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House Education Committee
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Larry Klundt: (NI) Council of Educational Leaders) We are in opposition to HB1292. We've hashed this concept over a few times already this session. There's a couple of things that are Important to remember. Accreditation is important to maintain a quality educational system. We kind of accreditation as our seal of approval. It doesn't guarantee that it's quality, but the likelihood of quality existence because of the standards does exist. We separate superintendents. secondary and elementary principals into a couple of categories. Superintendents are hard educational leaders, a person who has the responsibility for the planning and the developing of everything that goes on in a school district to provide quality education. Principals are less noble in nature. They look at their schools and they become the instructional leaders in their school and identify effective and ineffective teaching. Quality leadership results in quality schools. Whenever you start taking small pieces out of accreditation, after that, whenever one piece gets washed out, it endangers the strength of the entire system, so we have to be very careful. The waiver committee exists for waiving rules and regulations of things that get in the way of providing innovative, experimental programs, not for the purpose of getting around qualification. If we could be shown that by changing the qualifications would enhance the quality of education. I think we'd take a serious look at that. We have resisted doing things just to get around qualifications. It's not whether or not they can share, it's whether or not they should be qualified to share, and that's where the difference is. We support sharing of positions as long as they're qualified. There's nothing that disallows school districts to share.

Rep. Brusegaard: 1292 seems to be specific in talking about accreditation standards. What are the requirements in accreditation?

Klundt: I believe that no school is required to have a full time superintendent. It just says that one of the requirements is that you have a superintendent and then there's time requirements based on size.

Ren. Brusegaard: A school decides in Edgely, how much time do they have to have?

Klundt: I believe they can go down to half time.

Rep. Mueller: This bill talks about superintendents. I'm not getting the connection between them and the principals.

Klundt: I think what happened was Jim Vetter, who was elementary principal, resigned late, and he went to, I believe Milner, to be superintendent. They took applications for elementary principalship, and I don't know that they found applications that they were particularly interested in.

Rep. Mueller: Does this bill do then, what it was intended to do for that particular situation.

Klundt: I don't think so.

Rep. Nelson: We talk about the principals, this is superintendents and the new language in subsection in 2. That's not required now?

Klundt: That's correct.

Rep. Nelson: Subsection 3, that's not required now?

Klundt: I believe that's correct.

Rep. Hanson: Is this an isolated case, or does it happen quite a bit?

Klundt: I don't know for sure. This is the only one that I've been involved to this extent.

Chairman Kelsch: We will close the hearing on HB1292.

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB1292 A

House Education Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date 02/12/01

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter#
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Minutes:

Chairman R. Kelsch, Vice-Chair T. Brusegaard, Rep. Bellew, Rep. Grumbo, Rep. Haas, Rep.

Hanson, Rep. Hawken, Rep. Hunskor, Rep. Johnson, Rep. Meler, Rep. Mueller, Rep. Nelson,

Rep. Nottestad, Rep. Solberg, Rep. Thoreson

Chairman Kelsch: We will now take up HB1292.

Rep. Nelson: I move a DO NOT PASS.

Rep. Mueller: Second.

Chairman Kelsch: Committee discussion.

The motion of DO NOT PASS passes with 15 YAY 0 NAY 0 ABSENT.

Floor assignment: Rep. D. Johnson

Date: 2/12/01 Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HE 1200 1292

House House Education	Committee			
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V. Chairman-Thomas T. Brusegaard	V		Rep. Lyle Hanson	1
Rep. Larry Bellew	V		Rep. Bob Hunskor	
Rep. C.B. Haas	V		Rep. Phillip Mueller	V
Rep. Kathy Hawken	1		Rep. Dorvan Solberg	V
Rep. Dennis E. Johnson	1/			
Rep. Lisa Meier	4			
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the vote is on an amendment, briefly			\	\mathcal{J}

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410) February 12, 2001 1:05 p.m.

Module No: HR-24-3050 Carrier: D. Johnson Insert LC: . Title: .

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1292: Education Committee (Rep. R. Kelsch, Chairman) recommends DO NOT PASS (15 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1292 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

2001 TESTIMONY

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DGELEY

The Official Newspaper for the City of Edgeley and Edgeley Public School

Requirements clear

District needs elementary principal according to officials

BY PATTY WOOD BARTLE

Two conference calls clarified the issue of filling the elementary principal position or pursuing a waiver for Edgeley Public School

A conference call with Dr. Gary Gronberg, Assistant DPI Director, spelled out that the district does not need three full-time administrators, but it does need someone at least part-time, with the proper elementary credentials.

Gronberg outlined some options open to the district. Arlyn Irion said information received from Mary Walsh at DPI indicated the rules have changed to be someone with 20 hours rather than the previous 16. Gronberg said the 20 hours requirement is if the individual does not have a masters in administration. He said the district could hire someone on staff to serve as a halftime principal. Or they could fill the position as a half-time principal with teaching duties. The bottom line was, the position needs to be filled to meet requirements to be accredited and receive full foundation aide payments.

Following that conference call the board along with Irion, Rick Diegel, principal and Rep. Mike Brandenburg (R-Dist 26), partici-pated in a discussion with Richard Of from the school board association and Dr. Larry Klundt (they are two of the three members of the waiver committee), to talk about if the waiver under NDCC 15-21-04.5 might apply,

Irion explained the background to Ott and Klundt. The district has been without an elementary principal since August when Jim Vetter resigned. He also stated the district will receive a warned accredited status effective March 31, 2000, giving them a year to correct the situation or face losing \$200 per student in foundation aide. The warned status is due to the lack of an elementary principal with proper creden-

Irion stated in his written overchant for the meeting "Having now

dation aide during the second year the district would be officially assigned a status of unaccredited."

With that background information delineated those present discussed the waiver.

The response the board heard was the waiver committee has not waived exceptions to certification and licensure in the past. Rich Ott commented it appears as if the district is trying to fix something by backing into a waiver rather than having an innovative plan. Klundt agreed the driving force seems to be the lack of a credentialled individual. He did add he would not be against waiving credentials on the short term while someone gets the proper education.

Rep. Mike Brandenburg (R-Dist 26), noted something needs to be done to address the needs and problems in the rural area while allowing districts to provide a quality education and meet accreditation standards. He said one idea was to share administrators.

Ott responded, the interpretation of the law allows to make exceptions for innovative programs but does not give latitude beyond that. Clearly the limitation of the law is innovation, not expediency.

Discussion moved to the need for K-12 certification in North Dakota. Ott and Klundt indicated they would be willing to have further discussion to refine standards for K-12 certification. Brandenburg asked about a hardship and the difficulty of attracting qualified people to rural areas. Klundt said, "I hope the answer is not a reduction in quality of services.

Steve Feist said he was not interested in lowering standards but didn't want to be in the position of filling a position with a body just to get the \$200 per student. It was rec ognized as an excellent point but no solution presented itself.

Pastor Bruce Adams pointed out health care providers are filling the need in rural areas with nurse practitioners. Officials argued nurse wouldn't perform surgery.



Just a little diversi

Staff at The Edgeley Mall st weather on Tuesday, Jan. 1 snowball.

: 'csioners Requireae! ments: Work towards K-12

(from pg. 1)

certification

Brandenburg asked if officials eputy ma! would work with him, if elected, in the next session to develop K-12 eyer info credentialling. Klundt indicated he s intent to would be very interested in promoting the concept.

Brandenburg asked if they were en infon aware of any schools which had lost asen will the \$200 per student. They said they ai decisi were not aware of any. But Irion said / dept. he was told of a district which will lose aide if they do not meet require- tion is ments by March 31,2000.

After the conference call the board consensus was the position should be opened for three weeks. At the next board meeting they can decide further steps. Contract negotiations with administrators will wait until after that board meeting.

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Rep. Brandenburg HB/292 Jan 12 2000

THE EDGELE

The Official Newspaper for the City of Edgeley an

District unclear on waiver guidelines

BY PATTY WOOD BARTLE

At the last school board meeting the board and administration discussed North Dakota Century Code 15-21-04.5 which allows a school district to request a waiver of accreditation standards under certain conditions. The main criteria, appears to be, innovation or experimentation in delivery of services which enhances the education of students.

The board and administration has been exploring this as an option. They have talked with several individuals within the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and received different messages according to the discussion at the board meeting.

Representative Mike Brandenburg has been pursuing this matter and advising Jan Moch, board president, that the waiver under the above-sited law is applicable and should be pursued. Brandenburg secured a copy of Edgeley Public School District's accreditation review for the current school year. He provided a copy to

not have an elementary principal but had achieved 97 of 100 accreditation points.

Superintendent Arlyn Irion referred to administrative rules, which require the district to have an elementary principal. He also showed the board the specific educational requirements that individual must have to meet accreditation.

Moch concluded the prudent thing for the board to do would be to meet with the top DPI officials and discuss the issue with them. She suggested Irion arrange for a conference call. Rick Diegel, principal, urged the board to drive to Bismarck and meet face-to-face with DPI.

The board directed Irion to arrange a meeting in the very near future. They felt the matter needs to be resolved soon so they can either open the position or apply for the waiver. Moch also said it could have a bearing on negotiations with current administrators for contracts for the next school year. The plan is for at least three board members to be involved in the meeting along



Board and administration consider options

BY PATTY WOOD BARTLE

Softer Kritin

How to best meet the needs of students while meeting state requirements is an issue the school board and administration continues to address. State regulations require school districts to have a fully credential elementary principal. Edgeley Public School has been without an elementary principal since August when Jim Vetter rangined to take a position in Milnor. The district applied for a one-year waiver and has assigned Rick Diegel, secondary principal the additional elementary responsibilities for the current school year.

The board questioned the need to have two principals on staff. Another consideration has been the likelihood of finding a qualified individual to fill a half-time principal position. This led them to search for other options.

North Dakota Century Code (NDCC) 15-21-04.5 provides the superintendent of public instruction may waive any conditions of accreditation and approval imposed by statute for a reasonable length of time, provided the waiver encourages innovation or permits experimentation and provided the plans and purposes document the potential for an improved program. The superintendent may waive conditions only upon the concurrence of a majority of a waiver committee composed of one person appointed by the North Dakota education association, one person appointed by the North Dakota school boards association.

North Dakota school boards association.

After learning of this provision in the NDCC, Arlyn Irion, superintendent, contacted Jerry Coleman, assistant finance director, at DPL Irion was told the district would lose \$200 per elementary student for the year if the elementary principal position were not filled by the 2000-01 school year. Irion also contacted Mary Walsh, acting director of approval and accredi-

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tation at DPI concerning NDCC 15-21-04.5. She indicated in a letter to Irion that this particular waiver is to provide flexibility. "Documentation must show that waiving certain requirements will result in an improved program of instruction for the students. A majority decision by the Waiver Committee determines the acceptability of any waiver request. Past decisions have been based on increased student achievement rather than monetary savings for the school district."

During discussion Diegel concurred that the intent of this portion of NDCC is to provide innovation in delivering education. Irion reported some concerns expressed by the state included could the district demonstrate declining enrollment or worsening financial conditions. There has been a small decrease in enrollment and the interim fund remains in good condition.

Irion suggested one approach would be to write the waiver request with the plan to add a half-time teacher to team teach in the elementary science and math programs. Jan Moch suggested another idea would be to add Spanish for upper elementary students. Steve Feist, board member asked if the district would be required to document or somehow show they implemented a plan that resulted in improved education for elementary students. Consersus of the board was to pursue this waiver option. Irion will prepare the request and present it to Moch for approval or discussion by the board as she determines.

The elementary principal position has been opened in three ways: as a half-time principal, half time teacher, half-time principal; and half time principal, half-time technology coordinator. Three applications have been received to date. The posting of the position is scheduled to close in December. Irion suggested the position be re-opened in January for a three-week period.

State Health Dept. cautions about possible Hep his A exposure

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ublic School District • Edgeley, North Dakota

Kosel hired as secondary principal

BY PATTY WOOD BARTLE

Following the board recommendation to open the high school principal position internally first, Todd Kosel was interviewed. Board member Steve Feist and Rick Diegel, the superintendent for the 2000-01 school term, talked with Kosel about the position. The state requirements provide for a provisional credential, for individuals who have completed 8 graduate credits. They then have two years to finish meet the minimum requirement for credentials for a school Edgeley's size. Kosel intends to complete 9 credits this summer and then finish the necessary coursework over the next two spring and summer sessions.

Diegel recommended Kosel be offered the secondary principal position with teaching. He would continue to be head football coach and assume the responsibilities of activity director. His compensation package would include \$33,000 for a 10-month contact plus \$3,100 towards health insurance. Under this plan, he would be compensated at \$2,000 less annually than Troy Miller, the new elementary principal who is a first year administrator with a master's degree. All members of the board supported this recommendation.

Edgeley Public School was given \$50,000 by the LaVerne

Splickan estate. The money has been placed in a money market account until a decision has been reached on how it should be spent. Some of the ideas under consideration are landscaping around the front of the school; trees; sound system with individual microphones for use during plays, etc.; bleachers, etc. The board welcomes input from patrons. Once ideas are gathered the board will decide whether to establish a committee to recommend how to spend the money.

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Rick Diegel has signed a contract to serve as superintendent for the 2000-01 school year. Troy Miller has signed his contract to serve as elementary principal and technology coordinator.

School board elections have been scheduled for Tuesday, June 13 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the high school. The positions held by Steve Rupp and Bruce Adams will be filled.

Lu Houge and Deb Wald appeared before the board to discuss issues about the cooks and hot lunch.

Houge said, "It's going around town that I'm gonna be fired. Number one, that's slander and we don't know why... No one came down and told us... we didn't know... Change our attitude... I didn't know what was going on. One time he came down and told us we had to change our attitude by noon....

Diegel interjected, "I've been to every board meeting. It was never brought up that the cook's were going to be fired."

Jan Moch, board president summarized, "We've had bad communication. The board directed concerns to administration. It's not fair to speak when Mr. Irion is not here. What needs to happen is for Mr. Irion, Mr. Diegel and you to sit down and communicate weekly." Moch suggested they go over concerns, develop guidelines and establish criteria to be met.

Bruce Adams expressed concern about gossip. He said that often everyone knows things before the board.

Rupp inquired about the committee to review meals. Houge said this is the first year there has not been a committee or a way for ship dents to input.

Next Houge requested Joiene

h projects

ing projects; during WWII they conducted bond drives and sold Red Cross memberships every year; held patriotic meetings; provided a skating rink with a warming house; supported retaining and development of the local National Guard supported various organizations and activities for youth. At one time they very active efforts to get a new armory and were successful.

In the early years, the Edgeley Lions Club underwrote the Edgeley Youth Program in cooperation with the Park Board.

The Lions were very energetic and thorough in presenting data, information and the unqualified urgency to locate the GTA pelieting plant in Edgelev