

Two or more versions of the documentation of this joint meeting are included in this file.

**SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

Minnesota State Senate  
Senator Steve Kelley, Chair

Date: January 13, 2005  
3:00p.m. Room 112 State Capitol

Present:

Senator Steve Kelley	Senator Michele Bachmann	Senator Geoff Michel
Senator David Tomassoni	Senator Tom Saxhaug	Senator Rod Skoe
Senator David Hann		

Sen. Kelley called the meeting to order at 3:10p.m. and announced that the committee meeting would highlight Minnesota school success stories.


The following individuals testified:

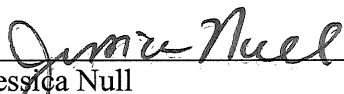
Lloyd Styrwool, Superintendent of Schools, Grand Rapids, John Beach, Principal, Princeton, Greg Blodgett, Principal, Princeton, Mary Wherry, Teacher, St. Francis, Emily Lilja, Teacher, Minneapolis, Sally Vogel, Teacher, Hayfield,

Sen. Kelley passed the gavel to Sen. Skoe.

Doug Conboy, Superintendent Renville County West, Renville, Ossie Brooks James, Principal, Lyndale School, Minneapolis, Kathleen Macy, Superintendent, Stillwater, Carolyn Olson, Director of Instructional Support, Stillwater, Stephen Gorde, Principal, Rutherford Elementary, Stillwater, Kathleen Macy, Von Sheppard, Principal, Dayton's Bluff, St. Paul, and Mike McCollor, Principal, Washington Middle School, St. Paul.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m. The proceedings were audio taped.

  
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Senator Steve Kelley  
Chairman

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Null  
Legislative Assistant

# Education Committee

Senator Steve Kelley, Chair

Thursday, January 13, 2005

3:00-5:30 p.m.

Room 112, Capitol

## Agenda

1. Lloyd Styrwoll, *Superintendent of Schools, Grand Rapids, MN*  
(10 min)
2. John Beach, *Principal, Princeton, MN*  
Greg Blodgett, *Principal, Princeton, MN*  
(10 min)
3. Mary Wherry, *Teacher, St. Francis, MN*  
Emily Lilja, *Teacher, Minneapolis, MN*  
Sally Vogel, *Teacher, Hayfield, MN*  
(20 min)
4. Doug Conboy, *Superintendent Renville County West, Renville, MN*  
(10 min)
5. Ossie Brooks James, *Principal, Lyndale School, Minneapolis, MN*  
(10 min)
6. Dr. Kathleen Macy, *Superintendent, Stillwater, MN*  
Ms. Carolyn Olson, *Director of Instructional Support, Stillwater, MN*  
Mr. Stephen Gorde, *Principal, Rutherford Elementary, Stillwater, MN*  
Ms. Sharon Turner, *Teacher, Rutherford Elementary, Stillwater, MN*  
(20 min)
7. Von Sheppard, *Principal, Dayton's Bluff, St. Paul, MN*  
Mike McCollor, *Principal, Washington Middle School, St. Paul, MN*  
(10 min)

# Education Committee

Senator Steve Kelley, Chair

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## Agenda

1. Lloyd Styrwoll, Superintendent of Schools, Grand Rapids, MN  
(10 min)
2. John Beach, Principal, Princeton, MN  
Greg Blodgett, Principal, Princeton, MN  
(10 min)
3. Mary Wherry, Teacher, St. Francis, MN  
Emily Lilla, Teacher, Minneapolis, MN  
Sally Vogel, Teacher, Hayfield, MN  
(20 min)
4. Doug Conboy, Superintendent Renville County West, Renville, MN  
(10 min)
5. Ossie Brooks James, Principal, Lyndale School, Minneapolis, MN  
(10 min)

## Agenda

6. Dr. Kathleen Macy, Superintendent, Stillwater, MN  
1. Ms. Carolyn Olson, Director of Instructional Support, Stillwater, MN  
Mr. Stephen Gorde, Principal, Rutherford Elementary, Stillwater, MN  
Ms. Sharon Turner, Teacher, Rutherford Elementary, Stillwater, MN  
(20 min)
2. John Beach, Principal, Princeton, MN  
Greg Blodgett, Principal, Princeton, MN
7. Yon Sheppard, Principal, Dayton's Bluff, St. Paul, MN  
Mike McCollor, Principal, Washington Middle School, St. Paul, MN  
(10 min)
3. Mary Wherry, Teacher, St. Francis, MN  
Emily Lilla, Teacher, Minneapolis, MN  
Sally Vogel, Teacher, Hayfield, MN  
(20 min)
4. Doug Conboy, Superintendent Renville County West, Renville, MN  
(10 min)
5. Ossie Brooks James, Principal, Lyndale School, Minneapolis, MN  
(10 min)

6. Dr. Kathleen Macy, Superintendent, Stillwater, MN  
1. Ms. Carolyn Olson, Director of Instructional Support, Stillwater, MN

## Senate Committee Meeting Log

Committee Name: Education Committee  
 Date: 01/13/05 Day: Thursday Start Time: 3:05  
0:00  
tape

**Agenda**

### Testimony of

Bill # (or Topic)	Successful Accountability
Author	
Short Descriptor	Lloyd Sturwoll, Superintendent, Grand Rapids, MN John Beach, Principal, Princeton, MN Greg Blodgett, Principal, Princeton, MN
Action(s)	Mary Wherry, Teacher St. Francis, MN Emily Lilih, Teacher, Minneapolis Sally Vogel, Teacher, Hanfield, MN Doug Conboy, Superintendent, Eenville, MN Ossie Brooks James, Principal, Lyndale School, Minneapolis
Bill # (or Topic)	Dr. Kathleen Macey, Superintendent, Stillwater
Author	Carolyn Olson, Div. of inst. support, Stillwater
Short Descriptor	Stephen Gorde, Principal, Rutwford Elm, Stillwater Sharon Turner, Teacher, Rutwford, Stillwater Von Sheppard, Principal, St. Paul, MN
Action(s)	Mike McCollor, Principal, St. Paul
	4:00 pm - Sen. Steve Kelley left meeting
	4:00 pm - Sen. Rod Skoe chaired meeting
Bill # (or Topic)	
Author	
Short Descriptor	
Action(s)	
Bill # (or Topic)	
Author	
Short Descriptor	
Action(s)	

**Early Childhood Policy and Budget Division**  
**Joint Education Committee and Early Childhood Policy and Budget Division Meeting**  
**January 13, 2005**  
**3:00 p.m. Room 123**  
**Chair, Senator John C. Hottinger**

Present:

Hottinger, Chair  
Bob Kierlin  
Gary Kubly  
Sean Nienow  
Sandy Pappas  
Linda Scheid  
Dan Sparks  
Betsy Wergin

Absent:

Senator Kelley/Hottinger called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

A quorum was present.

**AGENDA ITEM #1: Confirmation of Alice Seagren as Commissioner of Education.**

Opening words by Sens Kelley and Hottinger: Senator Kelley emphasized the differences between the 2004 confirmation hearings and the 2005 confirmation hearing. Sen. Hottinger expressed his confidence in Commissioner-elect Seagren.

Opening words by Commissioner-elect Seagren: Commissioner-elect Seagren explained how her goal is have educational "access to each and every child." She went through her background, thus what makes her a prime candidate for this position. She also maintains that education is the key to becoming a successful adult. Commissioner-elect Seagren expressed concern in the achievement gap between whites and minority students, and hopes to improve those numbers.

Supporting Witnesses:

- Gary Prest, Bloomington School District. Mr. Prest emphasized Commissioner-elect Seagren's abilities to build bridges in the education community.
- Duane Mathias, Former Commissioner of Education
- Jerry Ness, Executive Director of Minnesota Rural Education Association
- Ric Dressen, Superintendent of Schools in Alexandria as well as on behalf of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators
- Jim Bartholomew, Minnesota Business Partnership
- Linda Distad, Associate Dean at the College of St. Catherine's as well as Minnesota Association of Colleges for Teacher Education. Ms. Distad expressed optimism in Commissioner-elect Seagren's openness and knowledge.
- Fred Stortie, Minnesota Elementary School Principal's Association

Opposing Witnesses:

None

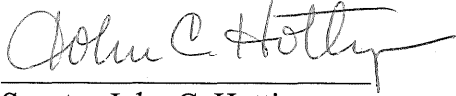
Commissioner-elect Seagren fielded closing questions.

- Senator Michel moves that the Education Committee recommend the confirmation of Alice Seagren as Commissioner of Education to the full body.
  - Motion prevails, unanimous

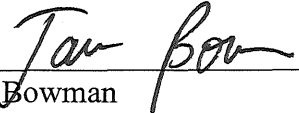
Closing remarks by Commissioner-elect Seagren: Ms. Seagren thanked the committees for their votes of confidence. She also made it clear that she could not do this job by herself; she is looking forward to working with the committees to improve the state of education in Minnesota.

Senator Kelley/Hottinger adjourned the meeting at 4:27.

Respectfully submitted:



Senator John C. Hottinger  
Division Chair



Jane Bowman  
Division Secretary

# Education Committee

Senator Steve Kelley, Chair

Tuesday, January 11, 2005

3:00-5:30 p.m.

Room 123, Capitol

## Agenda

*3:00-3:30pm-Opposition Time Allotment*

*3:30-4:15pm-Support Time Allotment*

1. Gary Prest, *Bloomington School District*
2. Duane Mathias, *Former Commissioner of Education*
3. Jerry Ness, *MREA*
4. Ric Dressen, *MASA*
5. Jim Bartholomew, *MN Business Partnership*
6. Linda Distad, *MACTE*
7. Fred Stortie, *MESPA*

*4:15-5:30pm-Commissioner Seagren*