

**COMMITTEE MINUTES for  
EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: *January 25, 2018*

Location: *RM 22*

Convened: *10:05 AM*

Adjourned: *10:40 AM*

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Senators Kraayenbrink-CH, Carlin-VC, Danielson-RM, Quirnbach, Schultz; Representatives Dolecheck-CH, Moore, T.-VC, Winckler-RM, Fisher, Kurth, McConkey, Miller, P., Mohr, G., Rogers

Absent:

Excused:

Sen. Kraayenbrink called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

Role call was taken. No members were absent or excused.

Sen. Kraayenbrink moved to approve minutes of the previous meetings. Rep. Moore seconded the motion. Minutes were approved unanimously.

Director Deborah Reed of the Iowa Reading Research Center spoke about the work of the IRRC. Center serves as a conduit for dispensing literacy-related resourced throughout all 99 counties in Iowa. Dependent upon social media to reach schools and related immediate agents and organizations, as well as the general public. Resources include explanations of particular literacy goals for certain age groups, suggested strategies and best-practices for achieving such goals, etc. Video was played demonstrating literacy teaching strategies like multisensory instructions in an Iowa classroom, in collaboration with Iowa Public Television.

Rep. Winckler inquired as to the progress of literacy goals for all elementary school children throughout the state. Director Reed noted that about a quarter of students are not proficient in reading by the end of the third grade and requested an increase in funding in pursuit of meeting those literacy goals. Reed also observed that the IRRC operates on a “come and be served” basis, lacking legal authority itself.

Rep. Rogers inquired as to the nature of the literacy program in Ames in partnership with United Way. Director Reed clarified a lack of IRRC direct involvement with that particular program.

Sen. Kraayenbrink inquired as to whether hiring more qualified individuals to lead training events across the state was an object of concern for IRRC. Director Reed explained that is was in fact one such goal for the IRRC, in order to make for easier access to the expertise.

Rep. Dolecheck inquired as to what specifically would the Governor’s budgetary increase to IRRC would fund. Director Reed answered that the increased funding would provide for an additional three modules as well covering other training related expenses.

Sen. Quirnbach inquired to Sen. Kraayenbrink as to how much state funding would be cut from the community college in his home district. Sen. Kraayenbrink described the funding cuts as generalized, and noted the need to pursue balanced state budgeting. Sen. Quirnbach urged the committee to take the time and effort to look more deeply into the details of the proposed budget cuts before sending the results to the House and the Senate floors.

Rep. Winckler moved to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:40am.

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Senator Tim Kraayenbrink

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Kyle Day, Committee Secretary