

**COMMITTEE MINUTES for
EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: *February 2, 2021* Location: *RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult*

Convened: *9:05 AM*

Adjourned: *10:15 AM*

Attendance Roll Call:

Present: Representatives Kerr-CH, Winckler-RM, Dolecheck, Moore, T.,
Siegrist, Staed

Absent:

Excused: Representatives Gobble-VC, Cahill, Williams

Chair Kerr calls meeting to order at 9:03.

Clerk calls the roll.

Previous minutes approved.

Mark Putnam, President of Central College, presents on student aid for private colleges in Iowa and issues that his college faces.

Chair Kerr asks question on community colleges and private institutions working together.

Representative Dolecheck asks question on the amount of student aid per student due to decreases in enrollment and a proposed increase from the Governor's office.

Representative Winckler asks question on the student aid.

Next speaker Cindy Yelick and John Speer introduced to the committee. They are the Chief Administrators Great Prarie and Grant Wood AEAs respectively.

Cindy Yelick discusses mental health training at the AEAs and state appropriations to the AEAs.

John Speer discusses making the AEA appropriation more flexible.

Representative Winckler asks question on whether the children's mental health services are ready currently.

John Speer answers saying that a more stable funding source is needed.

Representative Winckler asks another question.

Cindy Yelick answers saying that they are short on social workers to fill the positions.

John Speer connects the concepts of the shortage of mental health counselors and the inflexibility of the state's appropriation.

Representative Staed thanks the AEAs. He discusses the sharing agreements and says that AEAs need funding for the future to expand mental health services.

John Speer discusses the fact that each AEA gets different funding and a bill that would decrease the differences in funding. He also discusses the movement of students from rural AEAs to urban AEAs. He mentions that there is a lack of funding for early special needs. He also proposes extra funding to AEAs that have populaitons that are more sparse.

Representative Dolecheck discusses the sparsity of certain districts as compared to others and how that will relate to funding.

John Speer and Cindy Yelick answer.

Representative Winckler asks whether a bill will be coming out.

Representative Dolecheck asks a clarifying question.

AEA members answer question

Representative Siegrist asks question.

Representative Moore moves the committee arises.

Committee adjourns at 10:16 AM

Representative David Kerr

Paul Attema, Committee Secretary