

**COMMITTEE MINUTES for  
EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

Date: *February 16, 2021*

Location: *RM 102, Sup. Ct. Consult*

Convened: *9:00 AM*

Adjourned: *10:25 AM*

Attendance Roll Call:

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

Absent:

Excused: Representative Williams

Meeting called to order at 9:00 AM.

Clerk calls the roll.

Minutes from the previous meeting approved.

Emily Wharton, Director of the Iowa Department for the Blind, presents on the services that the department provides, their appropriation request, and their response to Covid-19.

Ranking Member Winckler asks a question about funds from the federal government.

Emily Wharton answers that they have not received any yet.

Ranking Member Winckler makes a comment.

Representative Cahill asks a question about additional positions.

Emily Wharton answers her question.

Steve Gettel, Superintendent of the Iowa School for the Deaf, presents on their school's programs, their appropriation request, and their Covid-19 response.

Ranking Member Winckler makes a comment about the Governor's recommendation for appropriation.

Representative Moore asks a question about the facilities.

Steve Gettel answers the question by listing the improvements that they are making.

Representative Staed asks a question about a solution to the lack of qualified workers for the school.

Steve Gettel answers the question by saying that there is a lack of federal grants for training programs.

Ranking Member Winckler makes a comment.

Representative Staed asks a question about the access of programs for college students.

Steve Gettel answers the question.

Chair Kerr makes a comment.

David Mitchell, Administrator of Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services, presents on their programs, their appropriation request, and their Covid-19 response.

Ranking Member Winckler asks a question about appropriation requests.

David Mitchell answers the question.

Ranking Member asks a clarifying question.

Ranking Member asks a question to the Chair.

Representative Dolecheck moves that the committee arises.

Committee adjourns at 10:23 AM.

Chair Kerr

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Representative David Kerr

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Paul Attema, Committee Secretary