

Assembly
Committee On Education - Meeting

March 12th, 1973

Members present: Schofield, McNeel, Lowman, Barengo, Broadbent, Vergiels

Members absent: Foote

Guests present: Nancy Becker - Intern for Assemblyman Lowman
Dawn Granata - student
Richard Morgan - NSEA
Douglas Byington - Nevada Assn. of Sch. Admin.
Shirlee Wedow - Nevada P.T.A.
Bob Best - Nev. School Board Assoc.
John Gamble - State Rept.

Chairman Schofield convened the meeting at 4:00 P.M. by announcing the Law School Hearing to be held on the Las Vegas campus of the University of Nevada t 2:30 P.M., Friday, March 16th.

AB 467, a bill which adds middle schools to public school law and provides for middle school certificates was discussed first.

Chairman Schofield explained that a middle school consists of grades five through eight in lieu of Junior High seven through nine.

Chairman intervened at this point about the number of bills to be discussed and acted on Wednesday and Mr. Lowman suggested that the Committee convene earlier than 4:00. It was decided to meet at 3:15 Wednesday, March 14th.

Chairman said that the reason for this (one of the reasons) was that the eighth graders were more on a level with the 5th, 6th and 7th graders than the ninth graders were with the 7th and 8th.

Mr. McNeel said how many types of teaching certificates do we have? Chairman answered two. Mr. McNeel said and now you are asking for three?

Chairman asked John Gamble to explain this bill and the reasons for it.

Mr. Gamble said the law provided as it stands now for elementary and secondary teaching certificates and the amendment on page two relates to middle school certification of teachers and that there may be a regulation developed specifically for those who teach in middle schools. He said that there may be courses in this concept that will be necessary for those teaching in these middle grades.

Mr. Barengo commented that next we will have to schools for this area.

Mr. Gamble said that they were only meeting a need for something that was already developed. This provides for them to specifically have that school, he said.

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Mr. Barengo said he did not see why they needed legislation.

Chairman said it removes any type of stumbling block that they may run into in the future.

Mr. Broadbent asked who authorized teaching certificates and he was told the State Department of Education. He asked why they had to single out middle school as they were talking about the same general spectrum of grades. He asked if other schools besides Washoe ^{were} doing this. Mr. Gamble answered yes.

Chairman said he could answer for Clark that they had not per se gone into the Middle School Concept because of the zoning they had down there and the sixth grade integration problem. The Junior Highs were remaining at 7th and 8th grades rather than 6th, 7th and 8th because of the problems they had in their zoning, he said. However, he added, we are not going into this at this time the School Board has directed. What this would do, he said, would provide some clarification for them so that they could move in that direction.

Mr. Lowman said that he hadn't heard yet anything that would indicate why they needed this and asked Mr. Gamble if they didn't have a specific reason why they wanted it done. He added that it seemed to him they were getting along fine without.

Mr. Gamble answered that there was one area and that was the financing. In their formula, he said the costs were higher at the higher level and if it became an issue they could determine the costs for a middle school.

Mr. Lowman asked how could they prevent them from coming in two years from now and saying we have to have more money for middle schools than we have to have for elementary schools.

Mr. Gamble said he wouldn't bet on it but that it was a possibility.

Mr. Lowman said that it seemed to him the teachers ought to be really concerned about this as it put them into another category if they really decided to enforce this thing. You might just restrict the teacher on the opportunity to get a job.

Chairman answered him that the middle school would replace the Junior High School that you would have kindergarten through the fifth grade, then we go the sixth, seventh and eighth and then we take our high school ninth through 12th we are not adding any more new schools we are just changing the grade level criteria on that. If Carson City wants to go into this it allows them to do it he explained if Clark County wants to stay the same they can do it. It just spells out for them if they want it he went on.

Chairman said he did not think they were not talking about any more dollars.

Mr. Lowman said it seemed to him that there had to be more than this behind it.

Mr. Gamble said that if there were a hidden motive somewhere he was not aware of it.

Mr. Morgan said that teachers did support the bill. He said they didn't mind specialization on grade levels at all.

Mr. McNeel commented that he didn't see any reason for this at all.

Dr. Vergiels said he would like to ask one last question that elementary is one through eight and this would change to one through four thus changing the certification and asked if that is what they were saying.

Mr. Gamble answered yes that there could be this type of endorsement.

Dr. Vergiels said there is no guarantee that the elementary would stay as it is now as comprehensive across the grade levels and Mr. Gamble said there was no law that requires this but there were guarantees to prevent them from doing anything radical.

Chairman ended discussion on this and said let's take a look at AB 468 a bill which would reduce the number of appraisers now required to appraise for sale or lease of school property.

Mr. Gamble said this was developed originally at the request of Clark or Washoe Counties and the purpose of it was just to make it a little easier to get the property appraised etc.

Mr. Lowman asked Mr. Barengo as an attorney is more than one appraiser normally used for any type of business transaction. Mr. Barengo said that State said three appraisors and other types of operations had to have at least two.

Mr. Hansen said that the higher the appraisal was to be the more appraisors they should have and say under \$500.00 one or none as the cost isn't worth it.

AB 470, a bill stating that health inspections in schools must be conducted by qualified personnel was discussed next.
No action taken.

Chairman then asked if there was any discussion on AB 379 or AB 192 pertaining to confidentiality of students' records. Mr. Morgan suggested they wait on this as the Senate was hearing a similar bill, SB 316.

Chairman said lets take a look at AB 411 and Mr. Morgan said he would like to discuss with similar bills on March 19th. This bill is dealing with dismissing and reemployment of public school teachers.

Doug Byington said this bill was to have administrators covered under the act.

Mr. Morgan said he would like for the Committee to consider all the issues in these bills.

Chairman said that the committee would have a brief meeting Thursday for this purpose.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Geraldine Smith,
Secretary