

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

STUDY COMMITTEE ON DYSLEXIA SCREENING

Minutes of the Meeting
September 25, 2019
11:00 a.m., Senate Hearing Room 1

Members Present:

Senator Paul Boyer, Chair
Senator Sylvia Allen
Senator Lela Alston
Mr. Thomas Doeblen
Ms. Stacy Fretheim
Ms. Meriah Houser

Representative Frank Carroll
Representative Jennifer Pawlik
Ms. Becky Keller
Dr. Jennifer Kirkpatrick
Mr. Sean Ross
Dr. Jan Vesely

Members Excused:

Representative Thomas "T.J." Shope Jr., Co-Chair

Staff:

Jeffrey Ong, Senate Research Staff
Chase Houser, House Research Staff

Chairman Boyer called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and attendance was taken.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Senator Boyer requested that the Committee members introduce themselves.

CHARGE OF THE COMMITTEE

Jeffrey Ong, Senate Research Education Analyst, explained the charge of the Committee.

CHAIR'S OPENING COMMENTS

Senator Boyer commented on the charge of the Committee and who would be presenting before the Committee.

PRESENTATIONS ON CURRENT PRACTICES

Arizona School Boards Association

Ms. Leigh Jensen, Arizona School Boards Association, distributed and explained a handout entitled "School District-Current Screening Practices" (Attachment A). Ms.

Jensen explained that a survey was sent out to schools and the responses that were received.

Mr. Sean Ross, Arizona Department of Education (ADE), offered comments regarding current screening and follow up procedures.

Dr. Jan Vesely, Superintendent, Kyrene School District, offered comments and introduced Dr. Sandra Laine.

Dr. Sandra Laine, Director, Exceptional Student Services, Kyrene School District, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Multi-Tiered System of Support for Students with Dyslexia" (Attachment B). Dr. Laine explained the Kyrene School District program and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Dr. Vesely offered additional explanation of the Kyrene School District program.

Ms. Stacy Fretheim, Speech Language Pathologist, Wellington Alexander Center, explained details of the training that the Center provides.

Dr. Laine answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

Dr. Vesely answered questions posed by the Committee.

Arizona Charter Schools Association

Jake Logan, CEO, Charter Schools Association, testified regarding unfunded mandates and that the programs to assist students need to be adapted to each school's needs.

Mr. Thomas Doeblor, Great Hearts Academy, distributed and explained a handout entitled "Reading Instruction and Intervention: Great Hearts" (Attachment C). Mr. Doeblor testified regarding how well the Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) program works.

Arizona Department of Education (ADE)

Mr. Sean Ross, Director, English Arts and Move on When Reading, Arizona Department of Education (ADE), distributed and explained the following handouts:

- PowerPoint presentation entitled "Arizona Department of Education: Dyslexia Initiatives" (Attachment D)
- A booklet entitled "Dyslexia Resource Guide for Families (Attachment E)
- A letter dated August 13, 2019, from the University of Oregon (Attachment F)

Mr. Ross explained the Move on When Reading (MOWR) legislation, Response to Intervention (RTI) assessment system, and Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) screening program. Mr. Ross answered questions posed by the Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADE REGARDING SCREENING

The Committee discussed the status of the Committee recommendations.

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Courtney LeVinus, Lobbyist, representing herself, testified regarding the importance of the work the Committee is doing.

The Committee discussed possible dates for future meetings.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelley Ponce
Committee Secretary

(Audio recordings and attachments are on file in the Secretary of the Senate's Office/Resource Center, Room 115. Audio archives are available at <http://www.azleg.gov>)