

ARIZONA STATE LEGISLATURE

STUDY COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION WEIGHTS AND FUNDING FOR GIFTED PUPILS

**Minutes of the Meeting
October 21, 2019
1:00 p.m., House Hearing Room 1**

Members Present:

Senator Lela Alston
Senator Heather Carter
Senator Andrea Dalessandro
Senator Sine Kerr

Representative Shawna Bolick, Chair
Representative Leo Biasiucci
Representative Walter Blackman
Representative Alma Hernandez
Representative Arlando Teller

Members Excused:

Senator Sylvia Allen, Vice Chair

Staff:

Chase Houser, House Research Analyst
Jeffrey Ong, Senate Research Analyst
Julia Paulus, Senate Assistant Research Analyst

Chairman Bolick called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and attendance was noted.

PRESENTATIONS

Peter Laing- Arizona Department of Education

Peter Laing, Arizona Department of Education, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation titled "Gifted Education Programs" (Attachment A) and distributed a handout titled "FY19 Gifted Education Grant" (Attachment B). Mr. Laing answered questions posed by the Committee.

Donna Campbell-Arizona Association for Gifted and Talented

Donna Campbell, Advocacy Chair, Arizona Association for Gifted and Talented, distributed and explained a PowerPoint presentation titled "AAGT, Creating a Bright Future for Arizona's Gifted Children" (Attachment C).

PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Stephanie Newitt, representing herself, testified in support of more funding for gifted and talented pupils.

Kathy McKinney-McNamara, representing herself, testified in support of more funding for gifted and talented pupils.

Heather Long, Executive Director, Arizona Association for Gifted and Talented, distributed letters to the members from gifted and talented students (Attachment D). Ms. Long testified in support of more funding for gifted and talented pupils.

Dawn Cottone, representing herself, testified in support of more funding for gifted and talented pupils.

Julie Gunnigle, President, Arizona Association for Gifted and Talented, testified in support of more funding for gifted and talented pupils and answered questions posed by the Committee.

Patti Ahlman, Teacher, representing herself, testified in support of more funding for gifted and talented pupils.

Senator Carter offered comments.

Dina Brulles, Director of Education, Paradise Valley Unified School District, Coordinator, Gifted Master's Program at Arizona State University, testified in support of more funding for gifted and talented pupils.

Mr. Laing answered additional questions posed by the Committee.

COMMITTEE DISCUSSION

The Committee offered comments.

Attached are forms noting the individuals who submitted a Speaker Slip on the agenda items (Attachment E).

Attached is a list noting the individuals who registered their position on the agenda items (Attachment F).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Toy Brown
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>)