

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2238

2001 SENATE EDUCATION

SB 2238

2001 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2238

Senate Education Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date 02-07-01

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	x		0 - 41.0
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Sandra Johnson</i>			

Minutes: CHAIRMAN FREBORG called the Senate Education Committee to order.

Roll call was taken with all members present.

CHAIRMAN FREBORG called the hearing on SB 2238 relating to administrative duties of school principals.

**Testimony in support of SB 2238:**

SENATOR FREBORG stated this bill relaxes some of the criteria the state has pertaining to principals. There are several similar bills in the legislature, so he would not be opposed to having this bill put to rest.

**Testimony in opposition to SB 2238:**

LARRY KLUNDT, Ex. Dir. Of the ND Council of Educational Leaders, distributed prepared testimony and Elementary, Secondary, and Superintendent's credential statute. (see attached). He believes it is important for principals to have the background and training to do the job in that particular school. A Masters degree is not necessarily needed. This bill does not require

additional training in administration, therefore the individual cannot be held accountable. We should be continuing standards not loosening them.

DAVID HANSON, Elementary Administrator, Wyndmere Public Schools, feels this would be a step backward for North Dakota. (see attached testimony).

RICK DIEGLE, Edgely High School Principal, feels it is difficult to be an elementary principal if you have no training as such. He feels the teachers would have to do the scheduling and discipline and the secretary would have to do some of the administrative duties. If an individual is doing both (elementary and secondary principal) there are time constraints. When he did this, he feels he was not in the hallway enough.

GARY GRONBERG, DPI, presented the committee with what the rules are according to NDCC. (see attached). He further stated there is no place in current law that states a district has to have a full-time administrator. There are, however, time assignments based on the number of students.

SENATOR FREBORG asked what happens if a school can't find a principal two years in a row?

MR. GRONBERG wondered if there isn't someone on the faculty who could take on the duties and begin the accreditation process.

LINDA EDWARDS, Dir. Of Professional Dev. For the ND Education Assoc., feels the credibility of the administrator is at risk. (see attached testimony). SENATOR KELSH asked why there is a shortage of administrators. She feels it is 1. Stress, 2. Workload, 3. Time commitment.

LARRY KLUNDT, NDCEL, presented the committee with a matrix showing ND Public School District Administrator FTE's, Salaries, and Administrative Salary per Pupil (2000 - 2001). (see attached).

Page 3

Senate Education Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB 238

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RICK HEIDT, retired Asst. Principal Bismarck HS, feels the biggest constraint in being an administrator is time. Stress also plays a large role. He feels administrators work on a 12-month salary schedule and when prorated with teachers who work a 9-month salary schedule, it is not that much different.

**No further testimony.**

The hearing on SB 2238 was closed.

**SENATOR KELSH moved a DO NOT PASS. Seconded by SENATOR CHRISTENSON.**

**Roll Call Vote: 6 YES. 0 NO. 1 Absent. Motion Carried.**

**Carrier: SENATOR COOK**



**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)**  
February 7, 2001 12:23 p.m.

Module No: SR-22-2575  
Carrier: Cook  
Insert LC: . Title: .

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2238: Education Committee (Sen. Freborg, Chairman) recommends DO NOT PASS**  
(6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2238 was placed on the  
Eleventh order on the calendar.

2001 TESTIMONY

SB 2238



**Testimony for SB 2238 in the  
Senate Education Committee for the  
North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders**

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Larry Klundt and I am the Executive Director of the North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders (NDCEL). We are in opposition to this bill. The reason that we oppose this bill is that it completely disregards the professional training that is necessary for successful leadership in the elementary or secondary schools in North Dakota.

Under current rules for the principalship in North Dakota elementary schools, the principal must have an elementary principal's credential. This credential basically requires that the principal have a teaching license that allows him/her to teach at the elementary level, three years of experience as a teacher, and the completion of educational leadership courses that eventually leads to a master's degree or twenty semester hours aligned with a master's degree. The same is true for the secondary principal's credential, i.e., be a secondary teacher, have three years experience as a teacher, and complete courses in educational leadership that eventually results in a master's degree. We believe that these rules make sense and have helped elevate the level of quality in our public schools and the level of their accomplishments to the point where other states wish they could perform like North Dakota schools. Lowering our standards will not help us to continue to be leaders in quality education.

The training that secondary and elementary principals receive, after their initial training as a teacher, is similar until they specialize in the elementary or secondary principalship, curriculum, and culture. If a person is to be successful as an

educational leader in the elementary or secondary school, he/she must have knowledge and experience in the organization, instruction, and developmental needs of the students they serve. Without the proper training, they will not be able to provide the leadership that teachers and others need to provide the best learning experiences and environment for their students.

This isn't to say that a person with an elementary background and the proper training in the secondary area couldn't be successful at the secondary level and vice versa. The problem is, this bill does not require additional training—it simply allows a person to be the principal at a level for which they are untrained, generally have no experience, and have very little knowledge. With this type of arrangement, how could anyone expect to hold them accountable for the results of their students?

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, we should not lower our standards as a matter of convenience at the expense of quality leadership in our schools. Sometimes rules, regulations, and statutes are necessary to protect our children from our own good intentions. We respectfully request that you give SB 2238 a Do Not Pass recommendation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today and I will be happy to answer any questions.

**CO**

**NET**

**NEXT FIGURE**

**CHAPTER 67-11-02**  
**Elementary Principal's Credential**

**Section**

- 67-11-02-01 Credentials Required
- 67-11-02-02 Issuing Agency
- 67-11-02-03 Types of Credentials
- 67-11-02-04 Approval for Educational Administration Programs
- 67-11-02-05 Credential Standards
- 67-11-02-06 Application Process
- 67-11-02-07 Renewal Requirements
- 67-11-02-08 Reconsideration
- 67-11-02-09 Extension of the Elementary Principal Credential

**67-11-02-01. Credentials required.** The principal of an accredited North Dakota elementary school must hold the North Dakota elementary principal's provisional credential, level II professional credential, or level I professional credential.

**History:** Effective February 1, 2000.

**General Authority:** NDCC 15.1-02-04, 15.1-02-11, 28-32-02

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 15.1-02-04, 15.1-02-11

**67-11-02-02. Issuing agency.** The North Dakota elementary principal's credential issuing agency address is:

Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Department of Public Instruction  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 201  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0440

**History:** Effective February 1, 2000.

**General Authority:** NDCC 15.1-02-04, 15.1-02-11, 28-32-02

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 15.1-02-04, 15.1-02-11

**67-11-02-03. Types of credentials.**

1. A provisional credential is:
  - a. Issued as the initial credential and is valid for two years and is not renewable;
  - b. Issued upon satisfying the standards identified in subsections 1 and 2 of section 67-11-02-05; and
  - c. Issued upon completion of eight semester hours of coursework in educational leadership from a state-approved program in educational administration.

2. A level II professional credential is:
  - a. Issued for a five-year period with renewal available for principals serving elementary schools in the enrollment category one hundred or fewer students; and
  - b. Issued upon satisfying standards identified in subsections 1, 2, and 3 of section 67-11-02-05.
3. A level I professional credential is:
  - a. Issued for a five-year period with renewal available; and
  - b. Issued upon satisfying credential standards identified in subsections 1, 2, and 4 of section 67-11-02-05.

**History:** Effective February 1, 2000; amended effective May 16, 2000.

**General Authority:** NDCC 15.1-02-04, 15.1-02-11, 28-32-02

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 15.1-02-04, 15.1-02-11

**67-11-02-04. Approval for educational administration programs.** Whenever this chapter refers to a "state-approved program", it refers to the process by which the education standards and practices board in concert with the department of public instruction shall supervise a system of program approval at those colleges within the state of North Dakota which provide educational administration programs. Educational administration programs from other state or private colleges which meet state standards for program approval are listed in the manual on certification and preparation of education personnel in the United States and Canada published by the national association of state directors of teacher education & certification.

**History:** Effective February 1, 2000.

**General Authority:** NDCC 15.1-02-04, 15.1-02-11, 28-32-02

**Law Implemented:** NDCC 15.1-02-04, 15.1-02-11

**67-11-02-05. Credential standards.** The documentation on each standard must be verified within the department before any credential will be issued.

1. The applicant must hold a valid North Dakota teaching license issued by the education standards and practices board in accordance with North Dakota Century Code sections 15-36-01 and 15-38-18 and North Dakota Administrative Code title 67.1 allowing the individual to teach at the elementary level.
2. The applicant must have at least three years of teaching or administrative experience or a combination thereof in elementary schools:
  - a. Equal to full-time equivalency, that is to equal at least five and one-half hours for a one hundred eighty-day school term.
  - b. Positions must have been stated on a professional contract.

