



For Immediate Release: July 21, 2010

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*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee to Meet in Kansas City July 26–27

JEFFERSON CITY—The Missouri Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee will convene in Kansas City over a two-day period next week for its first meeting of the interim. Senator David Pearce (R-Warrensburg) serves as chairman of the committee, which is charged with determining what Missouri’s educational system should look like by the year 2020 and developing long-term strategies to achieve these future goals.

“Our work in this committee allows us to look at the big picture for education and develop a roadmap for how to achieve the goals we set for our state,” Sen. Pearce said. “It shifts our focus from the present, which is a good thing because it forces us to be proactive rather than reactive, ultimately helping us develop the best possible long-term plan for our state’s schools.”

Legislators and staff will meet on Monday for a K–12 funding formula workshop and discussion. Scheduled events for Tuesday include a presentation by Dr. John Covington, superintendent of the Kansas City School District (10:15 a.m.); a panel discussion on urban education facilitated by Sen. Pearce (11 a.m.); and a presentation by Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Dr. Chris Nicastro (1 p.m.). Because this is a working session for committee members, public testimony will not be taken.

Other members of the Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee include Sen. Jane Cunningham (R-Chesterfield), Sen. Kurt Schaefer (R-Columbia), Sen. Joe Keaveny (D-St. Louis), Sen. Wes Shoemyer (D-Clarence) and Sen. Robin Wright-Jones (D-St. Louis).

The Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee, along with the Job Creation 2020 Committee and Healthy Missourians 2020 Committee, were established by the Senate in early 2009 at the suggestion of Senate President Pro Tem Charlie Shields (R-St. Joseph). The committees have been meeting since then to develop long-term, strategic plans for the state and to define where Missouri should be in the areas of job creation, health care and education in the year 2020. They will each submit a final report to the Senate on Dec. 31, 2010. For more information go to www.senate.mo.gov/2020Committees.

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WHO: Sen. David Pearce (R-Warrensburg), Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 Committee members, and other education leaders

WHAT: Senate Educated Citizenry 2020 meeting

WHERE: Kansas City, Missouri, at the Westin Crown Center Hotel (1 E. Pershing Rd.) and Metropolitan Community College-Penn Valley Health Science Institute (3444 Broadway, Room 101)

WHEN: Monday, July 26 (Westin Crown Center Hotel)
4–5:15 p.m.: K-12 Funding Formula Workshop and Discussion

Tuesday, July 27 (Metropolitan Community College-Penn Valley Health Science Institute, Room 101)
10:15–11 a.m.: Dr. John Covington, Superintendent, Kansas City School District
11–11:45 a.m.: Panel Discussion on Urban Education facilitated by Sen. Pearce
1–2 p.m.: Priorities for Education Reform: Dr. Chris Nicastro, Commissioner, Elementary and Secondary Education
2–2:30 p.m.: Wrap-up and Next Steps

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