

5 April 91

Lisa Larson's summary is fine except for what she says about Subd. 24. The immunity runs to the sponsor, board members of the sponsor, and employees of the sponsor . . . not to employees of the school. It is the school that will carry the liability.

This needs to be corrected, one way or another; probably with a new version of the written summary.

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Tom urged again yesterday, strongly, that you talk to Bob and get a clear understanding with him about what will and will not happen when the bill comes up on the 10th.

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Tom said he will be there Wednesday morning. He said he'd even say a word by way of testimony, if necessary. He's not pushing that, and I think he'd rather not. But if it turns out to be necessary, he would do it.

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I thought a little more about the public/private thing.

It reminds me of the attorney general's decision in setting up the Metropolitan Council, originally.

The question was: What is it? Is it local government? Is it state government? (It was a real question: Would the Council, for example, have to use the state treasurer and the state personnel system?)

The (Attorney General's) answer was that, in the famous words, the Council was "neither state or local, but in-between and possessing some of the attributes of each."

Here too: an effort to combine the best features of each.

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The state association of school business managers wants to have a presentation about all these new "alternative possible futures" for education at its annual meeting in May.

Roger Giroux, at Anoka-Hennepin is setting it up. He thinks the state has got to get hold of the cost problem. I suggested the only way is to give the teachers an interest in economy and improvement -- as charter schools could do. He agrees. He is a really good guy.

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Jim Walker really laid it on in his opening talk to the MASA convention Thursday, too. Bureaucracies, standing pat. "All these changes have been coming into education and our organizations haven't been leading any of them" . . . or something like that. I asked him what kind of a reception he got. "Real good," he said. He will send a copy.