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Fax for Lynn Olson

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This page only.

Lynn —

I had a call from Colorado yesterday about a bill to create a "Colorado Independent Public School District". Existing schools, or parts thereof, or new schools formed, could opt-out of the local district and join this state system.

It's supported by an unlikely coalition of the Children's Campaign, the state Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of Teachers and the Council of LaRasa. It passed the Education Committee recently.

The person who told me about it is Barbara O'Brien with the CO Children's Campaign: 303/839-1580.

Today I heard from Detroit that the Andersen report will come in next week and that the board is planning to move with it pretty aggressively. This is the year the reform board is up for re-election (its original members, anyway). And it's a contract-bargaining year for the DFT.

Olmstead would know, though he might not want to talk until next week.

Another person I find well-informed and very realistic about school affairs (and political affairs) in Detroit is Donn Shelton. His phone is 313/961-4266 or, if he isn't at SEMCOG any more try 313/642-5865.

There's a charter proposal before the Minneapolis board at the moment, with the superintendent's support. And one coming to the board in Mounds View, a St. Paul suburb, from an Area Learning Center. I'm told the staff voted 32-2 last week to go charter. (These are schools for kids-not-doing-well in regular school.)

Ted