

Bob Stockton said the idea of his amendments to the schedules is that only those going over the maximum would have to justify their requests, and just the fact of having to justify them might cause them to think again about asking for increases.

Lloyd Markell submitted material that shows which schools will be affected. A decrease in enrollment will make more go into voted area so the next year they may be cut off by the percentage increase ceilings. MEA's question is what will happen in a school that does not have 45% in excess and has dropped in enrollment. For the next year's budget they will have to compensate by going to more voted levies and will go over the 45% limit through no fault of their own. The MEA is not against a ceiling; the problem is to build in an escape for schools hit through a situation beyond their control.

Bob Stockton said the Legislative Finance Interim Committee does not meet enough times. Criteria cannot be written to cover every case. It will be mechanically impossible to develop criteria in the time that is left this year.

There was discussion on why administrators salaries are going up so much more than teachers salaries. T. Carl Johnson said he did not know why this is happening. Mr. Stockton said one reason might be because accreditation standards may have caused a change because there are more principals.

The Chairperson said the difference in the foundation program proposals is around \$30 million, which is a 4 to 7 mill statewide deficiency levy. It is a political problem - whether to have the deficiency levy or have the excess needed fall back on the district voted levies.

John LaFaver submitted an amendment. Rep. Bardanoue does not want the Interim Committee involved in approving every request for exceeding the ceiling. If they are to be involved, it should be just looking at criteria already established.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

ANN MARY DUSSAULT, Chairperson