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is because it's been diminished due to the lack of funds in the various school districts. Well, it seems that, particularly if times start to get bad again, we will have a number of other areas of our school systems that are going to diminish. I can remember the movie that was a couple of years ago, "Mr. Holland's Opus," and so you might say, well, there's the...there's the music portion of schools that need funding. And I think the thing that bothers me about using lottery funds, which I would prefer if we could use it for this purpose rather than encroach on general operating funds, but it seems to me that you have some basic questions about the use of those lottery funds for this purpose and, as it has been alluded to, the fact that it's an ongoing program that concerns me. We're substituting what probably should be the district of...or the responsibility of a school district, assuming it can afford to do those things, and I know out in our area a number of the school districts have seriously diminished their vocational education programs because of the expensiveness of those programs, but it seems to me that those should stand on their own two feet. The next question that I was going to ask Senator Stuhr is, what happens if lottery funds diminish? Then the schools have gotten involved in these extensive programs to go forward with the programs under vocational education and there isn't any more money for it. And it just seems to me that we are perhaps building this house on an eroding platform and I'm very concerned if we...if we use lottery funds for ongoing purposes. I think that vocational education can stand on its own two feet. I don't think it needs lottery funds necessarily to accomplish that, and I think that we're heading down the wrong path. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Pederson. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I am I guess struggling with this a little bit because I recognize the value of vocational education in schools, and there's been a strong point made to that. I...some of the questions that I was going to ask were raised by Senator Pederson, specifically on the local issue of why schools don't do more if they feel that vocational education is so desperately needed there. Now the case was made at the state level, I'll acknowledge that, but I