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so school districts, it's voluntary for school districts to adopt those standards.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay, so the school districts that I represent could adopt different standards, is that correct, as long as they're within the framework of....

SENATOR BOHLKE: They would have the option of adopting their own standards. And they may actually exceed a number of school districts, and I would think, knowing your district, some of those have adopted standards that have actually exceeded what the state board...

SENATOR HARTNETT: Yeah, yeah. I'm...I spent most of my lifetime in education. I was thinking the one about school attendance. When I was first a teacher, I had one student that missed most of my classes (laugh) and would do better on the test than...than any of the other people, so I thought, oh, this is not a very good...not a very good...and that was first year or so...not a very good teacher. But the...but the youngster was a genius, so (laugh)...so, I guess, he could do without...without my instruction. And also, I think, when we're...you know, when we're testing, because there is the other side, you know, the...the knowledge base, but also, you know, how do we get along with people, the effective base as far as...and I think that is something the teachers have to implant with students, maybe a desire to learn, to want to learn and maybe go on. And I...I...you know, maybe we can develop a test that can measure that. But, I don't know. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I do rise in support of the amendment, because I, too, feel that we need time to study the issue, also to have input from also schools, parents, and all of those involved. And I believe that the ultimate goal, and I think that has been expressed today, is to improve teaching and learning. And, I guess, that's probably what we're trying to accomplish through this report card. And I know that there are many schools today that used report cards before this. And I have a question for