

I see them working not towards change, not towards bettering our education system. It may be good, but it is not the best that it can be, and I don't hear them saying that. All I hear them saying is, we want more dollars. We want to continue to do the same things. We are not going to give you anything for your money. We are not going to increase or do anything better than we have done in the past. We just want more money, and that is all I hear them saying.

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Baack, don't you think our school board members are doing a good job? Do you think they are irresponsible? I don't think they are. We have got dedicated people serving on these school boards. Okay, when we appropriate money to the university, when we appropriate money to the prisons, do we see that they...do we put a lot of mandates with that money?

SENATOR BAACK: No, but I think we oversee them very closely and I don't think we necessarily do that with the schools. I don't think we do that. I don't think we oversee them very closely at all.

SENATOR HEFNER: I think we do.

SENATOR BAACK: I don't think we provide the kind of leadership necessary for them to do that. I think all we do is we sit down here and we say, okay, we are going to give you more money. We expect you to improve your school but we don't watch over that, and we don't check to see if they do, and they don't want us to check. They don't want us to check. They don't want us to know how well they are doing.

SENATOR HEFNER: I wouldn't say that. I have been invited to a lot of school board meetings. In fact, I have attended some of their budget hearings by...

SENATOR BAACK: Senator Hefner, this is my time...

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay.

SENATOR BAACK: ...but what I am saying is they don't want accountability in their system. When we have a bill before the Education Committee that says let's have testing of our students, let's test those students to find out...