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particularly foreign language. But in this day and age, almost anything can be taught. I understand they even teach chemistry and chem labs through the distance education opportunities. So again, I think it's important that schools are able to work together in providing these opportunities for students, and I certainly would hope that you will support this amendment and also the amendment to the bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Stuhr. Senator Fischer.

SENATOR FISCHER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. As many of you know, I served on a school board before I entered the Legislature, and I served on that board for a number of years and was involved in the start-up that we had at the Valentine High School District with our distance education. I haven't been on that board for a while and have lost touch with some of the things that are happening in the district, but I can tell you that my district, my school district, has not used that distance education room for a number of years now. Other school districts in my legislative district truly benefit from distance education. Valentine is a situation where we haven't, and that is because of the group, the consortium, that we're in. There are a number of problems in that group, one being that Valentine is the largest school in the district and does not always benefit from classes that other smaller districts offer through distance learning. Another problem with distance learning that we have discovered has been scheduling. Different school districts are on different schedules throughout the day, and you have classes starting and ending at different times. So you have students entering a distance education classroom, either before the host classroom is going to start, or they have to leave early then at the end of it. Hopefully those problems can be worked out at the local level. I am optimistic, though, about some of the possibilities about distance learning, and I can state that I am thankful that there's going to be money there to update some of the equipment that's out in some of these districts. I was wondering if Senator Raikes would yield to a...to a few questions here, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, would you yield to a question from Senator Fischer?