

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Dr. Michael Jacoby

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library HISTORY OF
Education is Key - Public School Funding Oral History project

Interview # EF-A-L-2019-027

Dr. Michael Jacoby, the Geneva School District superintendent who discusses the new evidence-based funding model, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Education is Key – Public School Funding* Oral History project.

Date: Jun 3, 2019 Location: Illinois Association of School Business Officials
Building, DeKalb, IL

Interview Format: Digital audio

Interviewer: Philip Pogue, ALPL volunteer

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:52 / 1.86

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on October 22,
2019.

The interview is archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield,
Illinois.

Interview being
processed

© 2019 Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library

Abstract

Dr. Michael Jacoby-Illinois Public School Funding

Biographical Information/Overview of Interview: Dr. Michael Jacoby was born in 1958 in Blair, Nebraska. He graduated from high school in Platteville, Wisconsin in 1976 and went on to earn a BA degree in Music Education from the University of Iowa, a Masters' degree from Illinois State University, and a Ph.D. from Northern Illinois University. He taught vocal music at Morris High School from 1980 to 1986 and then went to Geneva as chief financial officer, later serving as the district's superintendent of schools until 2006. Since 2006 Dr. Jacoby has served as the Executive Director of the Illinois Association of School Business Officials (IASBO). He served on the Classroom First Commission which examined Illinois school reorganization. Dr. Jacoby is Executive Director of the Illinois Association of School Business Officials. He served on the Classrooms First Commission, which developed twenty-three recommendations for future school reorganizations.

In this interview, Dr. Jacoby discusses the efforts to replace the foundation school funding model with one which is evidence based, using over twenty-seven specific criteria needed for a quality education. Jacoby discussed the former funding model and how proportioning that occurred in 2008 hurt the poorest Illinois School Districts. He explains how an effort by Vision 20/20 led by Illinois Educational Management groups and many non-profits helped create a state wide effort for change. He went into detail on the legislative efforts from 2014-2017 which culminated in Senate Bill 1 & SB 16 as well as others. The result was SB 1947, which became law. Finally, Jacoby also discussed the Rauner Commission, which made recommendations leading to the passage of a new funding model.

Subject Headings/Key Words: evidence based funding model; foundation school funding model; Vision 20/20; Fix the School Formula; legislative fight to create a new school funding mechanism 2014-2016; 27 categories that determine adequacy; Rauner Commission, 2016-2017;

Notes to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

COPYRIGHT

The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. "Fair use" criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955