



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Education

Minutes for March 17, 2025, 12:00 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Education met on March 17, 2025, 12:00 AM, in the House Education Committee Room 432-M.

Members present: Delegates Barnhart, Campbell, Chiarelli, T. Clark, Coop-Gonzalez, Crouse, DeVault, Dittman, Ellington, Garcia, Hamilton, Hornby, Jennings, Kimble, Mallow, Miller, Pritt, Pushkin, Shamblin, Statler, Stephens, Toney, Ward, B., White, Willis.

Members absent: Vance.

A silent roll call being taken, the presence of a quorum was established.

On motion of Delegate Statler, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

First on the Agenda Reports from Subcommittees:

[HB2527](#) - To create a tuition reimbursement program for Corrections employees.

[HB2610](#) - Tuition and fee exemptions for service-connected Disabled Veterans and their dependents

[HB2737](#) - To establish the Higher Education Health and Aid Grant

[HB2777](#) - Relating to removing requirements to submit certain evidence on behalf of home-schooled children

[HB2879](#) - Relating to the creation of the West Virginia Math & Science Teacher Scholarship Act

[HB2958](#) - To clarify what constitutes trespassing at an institution of higher education

[HB3279](#) - Relating to requirements for WVU and WVSU Board of Governors

Next item on the agenda is Markup and Passage

Com. Sub. for [HB2003](#) Presented by Morgan Mayes Committee Counsel- Prohibiting Cell phones in class. Committee Amendment was also presented questions came from Delegates Hornby, Pushkin. Amendment was adopted. Vice chair moved for Com. Sub. HB 2003 to be recommended to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass. Motion Adopted.

[HB2760](#) Presented by Morgan Mayes Committee Counsel - To allow for the implementation of Educational Software in West Virginia public schools. No Questions were asked. Vice chair moved for HB 2760 to be recommended to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass but first be referred to the committee on Finance. Motion Adopted.

Com. Sub. for [HB2897](#) Presented by Aaron Kidd Committee Counsel- Permitting the Legislative Auditor to conduct periodic performance and financial audits of the West Virginia Department of Education. Vice chair moved for Com. Sub. HB 2897 to be recommended to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass but first be referred to the Committee on Government Organization. Discussion came from Delegate Pushkin. Motion Adopted.

Com. Sub. for [HB3099](#) Presented by Aaron Kidd Committee Counsel - Permitting law enforcement to issue a citation when students are caught with nicotine in schools. Vice chair moved for Com. Sub. HB 3099 to be recommended to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass but first be referred to the Committee on Judiciary. Motion Adopted.

Com. Sub. for [HB3125](#) Presented by Aaron Kidd Committee Counsel - To remove restrictions from teachers receiving permanent teaching licenses. Questions came from Delegate Hornby. Vice chair moved for Com. Sub. HB 3125 to be recommended to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass. Motion Adopted.

Com. Sub. for [HB3166](#) Presented by Melissa White Committee Counsel - Requirements for School Safety Mapping Data. No Questions came forth. Vice chair moved for Com. Sub. HB 3166 to be recommended to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass. Delegate Jennings spoke on the bill. Motion Adopted.

Final Item on the Agenda is Committee Hearing for House Bills:

[HB2394](#) Presented by Delegate Penson - Requiring teachers to wear a “mobile alert button” for emergency situations, to be known as “Alyssa’s Law.” Questions came from Delegates Crouse, Jennings, Chairman, Chiarelli, Ward, Campbell, Hamilton. Bill advanced to mark up and discussion

[HB2475](#) Presented by Delegate Pritt. To provide a raise for special education aides, as well as a raise for self-contained special education teachers. Questions came from Delegate Pritt, Crouse, Ellington, Pushkin, Hornby, Kimble, Garcia, Dittman, Statler. Joe White Executive Director from WVSSPA asked to speak on the bill. Bill advanced to mark up and discussion.

Com. Sub for [HB2499](#) Presented by Delegate Pritt - Training course for principals in public schools; informing teachers of their rights and protections; IEP format. No questions came before the committee. Bill advanced to mark up and discussion.

[HB2939](#) -Presented by Delegate Kyle Remote Schools Support Act. Questions came from Delegates Statler, T. Clark, Hornby. Bill advanced to mark up and discussion.

[HB3295](#) – Presented by Delegate Ridenour Troop- to-Teachers. Questions came from Delegates Ellington. Bill advanced to mark up and discussion.

[HB3313](#) Presented by Delegate Dittman- Providing more opportunities for high school students in community colleges. Bill advanced to mark up and discussion.

[HB3387](#) Presented by Delegate Ellington- Relating to the creation of a regional school district pilot program. Questions came from Delegate Dittman, Kimble. Jim Brown WVSBA chose to speak to the bill. Bill advanced to mark up and discussion.

Differed until tomorrow:

[SB199](#) - Relating to elementary behavior intervention and safety

[SB283](#) - Expanding grade levels of personal finance course requirements needed for graduation

On Motion of Delegate Statler the committee adjourned.

Joe Ellington

Committee Chair

Stephanie Curry

Assistant Committee Clerk