



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Education

Minutes for March 24, 2025, 1:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Education met on March 24, 2025, 1:00 PM, in the House Education Committee Room 432-M.

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

Members absent: None.

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 item on the agenda is Markup and Passage

Com. Sub. for [HB2528](#) Presented by Melissa White Committee Counsel- To permit students in Christian schools at the elementary and middle school level to participate in county level sport tournaments. Questions came from Delegates Vance. Vice Chair was recognized to move the committee Substitute for HB2528 to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass. Motion Adopted.

[HB2651](#) Presented by Kylie Webber Committee Counsel - Making administration employees at the local board of education at will and pleasure employees. Roll call was called with 10 yes, 14 nos, and one member absent. Vice Chair was recognized to move HB 2651 to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass. Motion Failed.

Com. Sub. for [HB2973](#) Presented by Melissa White Committee Counsel- Regarding venue for legal actions against the West Virginia Secondary School Activities Commission. Vice Chair was recognized to move HB 2973 to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass but first be reported to the Committee on Judiciary. Motion Adopted

[HB3086](#) Presented by Morgan Mays Committee Counsel - Establishing minimum student enrollment for school aid formula. Vice Chair was recognized to move HB 3086 to the House Floor

with recommendation that it do pass but first be reported to the Committee on Finance. Motion adopted.

Com. Sub. for [HB3209](#) Presented by Committee Counsel.- To provide at least one counselor for every 250 students in public schools and public charter schools in this state. Vice Chair was recognized to move HB 3209 to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass but that it first be referred to the Committee on Finance. Motion Adopted.

Com. Sub. for [HB3452](#) Presented by Melissa White Committee Counsel- Transferring administration of Advanced Career Education (ACE) classes and programs from county boards of education to community and technical colleges. Questions came from Delegates Pushkin, Statler, Dittman. Delegate Statler Called Matt Turner to the stand to ask questions. Dr Copenhaver was also called by Delegate Statler for questions. Additional questions came from Ellington, Jennings, Hornby, Crouse. Charles Pack was called to the standby Delegate Hornby. Vice Chair was recognized to move the committee Substitute for HB 3452 to the House Floor with recommendation that it do pass. Motion Adopted.

Finally on the Agenda is Committee Hearing for House Bills.

Com. Sub. for [HB3279](#) Presented by Delegate Riley - Relating to requirements for WVU and WVSU Board of Governors. Questions came from Delegate Statler, Dittman, Stephens, Mallow, Hamilton, Kimble, Miller. Travis Mollohan Government Relations for WVU spoke on the bill. Questions came from Delegates Jennings, T. Clark, Willis, Sarah Payne Associate VP of Governmental Affairs from Marshall University spoke on the bill. Curtis Johnson from WVSU spoke on the bill. Questions came from Delegates Willis, Dittman, Com. Sub. for HB3279 was advanced to mark up and discussion.

[HB3422](#) – Presented by Delegate Crouse. Relating to requiring the State Board of Education to design, test, and deploy an internet-based reporting system to be known as the School Choice Portal. HB 3422 advanced to mark up and discussion.

[HB3438](#) Presented by Sarah Drennan - To allow retired teachers in long-term substitute positions with specialties in maths, sciences, English, and foreign languages to remain in the substitute teaching positions for the entire school year without interruption to their retirement pay in order to allow students to have a quality, uninterrupted education. Questions came from Coop-Gonzalez, Dittman. Minor member of the public spoke on the bill. Dale Lee spoke on the bill. Questions came from Delegate Hornby. Jim Brown also spoke on the bill. HB 3438 to be moved to mark up and discussion.

[HB3446](#) Presented by Delegate Statler - Requiring public high school students submit FAFSA prior to graduation. HB 3446 advanced to mark up and discussion.

Bill Originating Presented by Delegate Toney - Relating to Behavioral Health supports and qualified mental health specialist in schools. Dale Lee Spoke on the bill. Dr. Joy Szafraniec spoke on the bill. Kristy Skidmore from AFT WV spoke on the bill. Advanced to mark up and discussion.

Bill Originating Presented by Delegate Hornby - Modifying the School Aid Formula. Questions came from Delegate Hornby. Advanced to mark up and discussion.

On Motion of Delegate Statler the committee adjourned.

Joe Ellington

Committee Chair

Stephanie Curry

Assistant Committee Clerk