



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Education

Minutes for February 02, 2026, 1:30 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Education met on February 02, 2026, 1:30 PM, in the House Education Committee Room 432-M.

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

Members absent: Delegate Ward, B.

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

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

The Standing Committee then received a Subcommittee Report from Delegate Dittman the Chair of the Subcommittee on Higher Education.

The next item on the agenda was the Committee Hearing for **H. B. 4440**, Permitting law enforcement to issue a citation when students are caught with nicotine in schools. The Vice Chairman stepped into the Chair and recognized Delegate Statler to explain the bill. Following his explanation the floor was opened for questions of the sponsor. Next the Chairman asked if there were any agencies, organizations or members of the public wishing to address the bill with none being heard the bill was moved to the markup and discussion stage.

The next item on the agenda was the Committee Hearing **H. B. 4697**, Require that any student in the 11th or 12th grade, who has been placed in a "free/elective/assistant" period, be informed of online college course opportunities available for them. The Chair recognized the sponsor Delegate Holstien to explain the bill. Following his explanation Delegate Holstien entertained questions from the committee. Following questions, the Chairman asked if there were any agencies, organizations or members of the public wishing to address the bill with none being heard the bill was moved to the markup and discussion stage.

The next item on the agenda was the Committee Hearing **H. B. 4775**, Relating to addressing School Discipline in Public Schools. The Chair recognized the sponsor Delegate Pritt to explain the bill. Following his explanation, Delegate Pritt entertained questions from the committee. Following questions, the Chairman asked if there were any agencies, organizations or

members of the public wishing to address the bill. David Gladkosky, Executive Director, WV Professional Educators gave comment. With no others requesting to speak being heard the bill was moved to the markup and discussion stage.

With no other business to come before the Committee on a motion of Delegate Toney the committee adjourned.

Joe Statler

Committee Chair

Melinda Ryan Swagger

Committee Clerk