



West Virginia House of Delegates

Standing Committee on Education

Minutes for February 11, 2026, 1:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Education met on February 11, 2026, 1:00 PM, in the House Education Committee Room 432-M.

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

Members absent: Delegates Chiarelli, Mallow.

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 next item on the agenda was markup and discussion of **H. B. 4573**, Foster Youth Post-Secondary Transition Awareness Act. Chairman Statler recognized Vice-Chair Toney for a motion to consider the proposed committee substitute for the bill. Without any objection to the motion, Morgan Miller, Education Analyst, explained to committee substitute for the bill. Following her explanation, the Chair opened the meeting to questions for the analyst. The Chair then asked for any amendments. Hearing none, the Chair recognized the Vice-Chair, who moved the Committee Substitute for House Bill 4573 be reported to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

The next item on the agenda was markup and discussion for **H. B. 4592**, Relating to college campus safety. Chairman Statler recognized Vice-Chair Toney for a motion to consider the proposed committee substitute for the bill. Without any objection to the motion, Melissa White, Committee Counsel, explained to committee substitute for the bill. Following her explanation, the Chair opened the meeting to questions for counsel. The Chair then asked for any amendments. Hearing none, the Chair recognized the Vice-Chair, who moved the Committee Substitute for House Bill 4592 be reported to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass. The motion was adopted.

The next item on the agenda was committee hearing for **H. B. 4817**, Relating to modifying the Charter Schools Startup Fund. The Chair recognized the sponsor of the bill, Delegate Crouse, to explain the bill. Following her explanation, the Chair opened the committee to questions for the sponsor. Then the Chair recognized Barry Holstein, Executive Director for the Professional Charter School Board, to speak to the bill. Then the Chair recognized Tom Franta, Founding Executive Director of the Mountaineer Charter School Alliance, to speak to the bill. The bill was then advanced to markup and discussion.

The next item on the agenda was committee hearing for **H. B. 4995**, Require the use of video cameras in certain special education classrooms. The Chair recognized the sponsor of the bill, Delegate Martin, to explain the bill. Following his explanation, the Chair opened the committee to questions for the sponsor. Then the Chair recognized Drew McClanahan, Legislative and Policy Officer for the West Virginia Department of Education, to speak to the bill. Then the chair recognized Heather Hutchens, General Counsel for Education WV, to speak to the bill. The bill was then advanced to markup and discussion.

The next item on the agenda was committee hearing for **H. B. 4485**, Allow education employees to donate sick leave to co-workers for maternity leave. The Chair recognized the sponsor of the bill, Delegate Bell, to explain the bill. Following his explanation, the Chair opened the committee to questions for the sponsor. The bill was then moved to markup and discussion.

The next item on the agenda was committee hearing for **H. B. 4591**, To recognize School Athletic Directors who have achieved a nationally recognized professional certification through the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA). The Chair recognized the sponsor of the bill, Delegate Hornby, to explain the bill. Following his explanation, the Chair opened the committee to questions for the sponsor. Then the Chair recognized Drew McClanahan, Legislative and Policy Officer for the West Virginia Department of Education, to speak to the bill. The bill was then moved to markup and discussion.

The next item on the agenda was committee hearing for **H. B. 5212**, To revise, update, and streamline the requirements for higher education grants, scholarships, loans, and financial aid for postsecondary education programs, workforce development initiatives, and workforce grants. Then the Chair recognized Sarah Tucker, Chancellor of the WV Higher Education Policy Commission, to speak to the bill. Then the Chair recognized Bryan Weingart, Senior Director of Financial Aid for the WV Higher Education Policy Commission. Then the Chair recognized Josh Baker, President of Mountwest Community and Technical College, to speak to the bill. The bill was then moved to markup and discussion.

On Motion of Delegate Toney the committee adjourned.

Joe Statler

Committee Chair

Ethan Hatfield

Committee Clerk