



# West Virginia House of Delegates

## Standing Committee on Education

### Minutes for February 16, 2026, 3:00 PM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Standing Committee on Education met on February 16, 2026, 3:00 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, Vance, Ward, B., White, Willis.

Members absent: Delegate Parsons.

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 subcommittee reports. Chairman Statler recognized Delegate Crouse, Chair of the Educational Choice Subcommittee, for the purpose of giving subcommittee reports. Then the Chair recognized Delegate Campbell, Chair of the Public Education Subcommittee, for the purpose of giving subcommittee reports.

The next item on the agenda was markup and discussion for **H. B. 4817** Relating to modifying the Charter Schools Startup Fund. Aaron Kidd, Committee Counsel, explained the bill. Following his 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 that Committee Substitute for **House Bill 4817** be reported to the floor with the recommendation that it do pass, but that it first be referred to the Committee on Finance. The motion was adopted.

The next item on the agenda was markup and discussion 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. 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 the 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 that Committee Substitute for **House Bill 5212** 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. 5012**, Providing for in-year school personnel movement to meet school needs. The Chair recognized the sponsor of the bill, Delegate Ellington, to explain the bill. Following his explanation, the Chair opened the committee to questions for the sponsor. Then the Chair recognized Will Hosaflook, Jackson County Schools superintendent and President of the West Virginia Association of School Administrators (WVASA), to speak to the bill. Then the Chair recognized Dale Lee, president of the West Virginia Education Association (WVEA), 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. 5089**, Providing for verified mastery of content standards for transcripts when a student enrolls or re-enrolls in a public school in this state. The Chair recognized the sponsor of the bill, Delegate Ellington, to explain the bill. Following his explanation, the Chair opened the committee to questions for the sponsor. Then the Chair recognized Will Hosaflook, Jackson County Schools superintendent and President of the WVASA, 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. 5453**, To modify the school aid funding formula. The Chair recognized the sponsor of the bill, Delegate Ellington, to explain the bill. Following his explanation, the Chair opened the committee to questions for the sponsor. Then the Chair recognized Dale Lee, president of the (WVEA), to speak to the bill. Then the Chair recognized Howard O’Cull, Executive Director of the West Virginia School Board Association, to speak to the bill. The bill was then advanced to markup and discussion.

On Motion of Delegate Toney the committee adjourned.

---

Joe Statler

Committee Chair

---

Ethan Hatfield

Committee Clerk