



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 20, 2023
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

- 9:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of the [minutes of the August 29, 2023, meeting](#)
- 9:05 a.m. Comments by the Chairman
- 9:10 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Dr. Rebecca Pitkin, Executive Director, Education Standards and Practices Board, regarding electronic satisfaction survey results of all interactions with individuals seeking information or services from the board under North Dakota Century Code Section 15.1-13-36
- 9:25 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Adam Tescher, School Finance Officer, Department of Public Instruction, regarding spending on school safety and security measures during the previous school year under Section 15.1-07-36
- 9:40 a.m. [Presentation](#) by [Ms. Ann Ellefson](#), Director, Office of Academic Support, Department of Public Instruction, regarding the implementation and effectiveness of the appropriation provided to the Department of Public Instruction for the purposes of supporting professional learning related to the science of reading and implementing systematic direct literacy instruction to improve educational outcomes under Section 18 of Senate Bill No. 2284 (2023)
- 10:20 a.m. Comments by the Chairman regarding the school choice models study
- 10:25 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Russ Simnick, Senior Director of State Advocacy, National Alliance for Public Charter Schools, regarding public charter schools
- 10:55 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Dr. Aimee Copas, Executive Director, North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders, regarding [open enrollment data](#)
- 11:10 a.m. Comments by interested persons regarding the committee's study of school choice models
- 11:40 a.m. Comments by the Chairman regarding the committee's study of school district ending fund balances
- 11:45 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Brandt Dick, President, North Dakota Small Organized Schools, regarding school district ending fund balances
- 12:00 noon Comments by interested persons regarding the committee's study of school district ending fund balances
- 12:10 p.m. Recess
- 1:00 p.m. Comments by the Chairman and committee discussion regarding the replacement of storm make up days with virtual instruction study

- 1:20 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Dewitt Mack, Chemistry Teacher, Mandan High School, Ms. Lauren Lingen, Kindergarten Teacher, Red Trail Elementary School, and Dr. Perry Just, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, Mandan Public Schools, regarding the district's virtual learning model
- 1:50 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Dr. Copas regarding the virtual instruction [survey results](#)
- 2:05 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Alexis Baxley, Executive Director, North Dakota School Boards Association, regarding school board involvement in virtual instruction and make up days
- 2:20 p.m. [Presentation](#) by parents with students in public schools regarding virtual instruction and make up days
- 2:50 p.m. Comments by interested persons regarding the committee's study of virtual instruction and make up days
- 3:00 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives
- 3:30 p.m. Adjourn

A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.

Committee Members

Senators: Michelle Axtman (Chairman), Todd Beard, Cole Conley, Jay Elkin, Judy Estenson, Justin Gerhardt, Kent Weston

Representatives: LaurieBeth Hager, Patrick Hatlestad, Dori Hauck, Pat D. Heinert, Jim Jonas, Donald W. Longmuir, Andrew Marschall, David Monson, Eric James Murphy, Mitch Ostlie, David Richter, Cynthia Schreiber-Beck, Kelby Timmons

Staff Contact: Liz Fordahl, Counsel