



# West Virginia Senate

## Committee on Education

Minutes for February 10, 2026, 9:40 AM

Pursuant to the call of the Chair, the Senate Committee on Education met on February 10, 2026, 9:40 AM in Room 451-M.

Members present: Senators Grady, Clements, Azinger, Barnhart, Bartlett, Deeds, Fuller, Oliverio, Roberts, Tarr, Taylor, Garcia

Members absent: Senator Hart

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

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

**SR15** Recognizing 154th anniversary of Glenville State University was discussed.

Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the resolution.

With leave of the committee, Dr. Mark A. Manchin, President of Glenville State University, addressed the committee.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee reported the resolution to the full Senate with the recommendation that it be adopted.

**SB801** Increasing each school district's basic foundation program was discussed.

Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the bill.

With leave of the committee, Tim Hardesty, Superintendent of Cabell County Schools, addressed the committee and responded to questions.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee reported the bill to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass but under the original double committee reference first be referred to the Committee on Finance.

**SB437** Fair State Aid Formula Act of 2026 was discussed.

Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the bill, purpose of the committee substitute, and responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Drew McClanahan, Legislative and Policy Officer for the West Virginia Department of Education, and Uriah Cummings, School Financial Operations Officer for the West Virginia Department of Education, responded to questions.

With leave of the committee, Tim Hardesty, Superintendent of Cabell County Schools, responded to questions.

Senator Tarr moved to amend the bill by having directive language for the spending that is directly to the purpose for special education students and that it is not used for anything else.

With leave of the committee, Uriah Cummings, School Financial Operations Officer for the West Virginia Department of Education, addressed the committee and responded to questions.

Without objection, Senator Tarr reformed his amendment, as explained by the State Board of Education, by providing accountability to ensure funds go directly to the students with special needs.

Without objection, the Chair directed Counsel to prepare an updated committee substitute, which incorporates aspects of the amendment, for consideration at a future meeting.

**SB804** Removing physical education requirements for certain middle and high school athletes was discussed.


Hank Hager, Counsel, explained the bill and the purpose of the committee substitute.


The question being on agreeing to the language of the committee substitute, the same was put and prevailed.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee reported the committee substitute to the full Senate with the recommendation that it do pass.

Chair Grady removed SB758 from the agenda.

On motion of Vice-Chair Clements, the committee adjourned.

  
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Amy N. Grady  
Chair

  
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Benjamin Mack  
Clerk