

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
House Committee on Education
Meeting Jointly
Monday, February 5, 2024
1:30 PM
Room A, MAC
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Linda Chesterfield, Vice Chair; Joshua Bryant, Breanne Davis, Jim Dotson, Kim Hammer, Greg Leding, and Matt Stone; Representatives Brian S. Evans, Chair; Keith Brooks, Vice Chair; Rick Beck, Bruce Cozart, Hope Duke, Charlene Fite, Lanny Fite, Denise Garner, Wayne Long, Brit McKenzie, Ron McNair, Stetson Painter, DeAnn Vaught, Steven Walker, and Carlton Wing

Other members present: Senators Alan Clark, Steve Crowell, Jonathon Dismang, and Fredrick Love; Representatives Stan Berry, Matt Duffield, Denise Ennett, Kenneth Ferguson, Jimmy Gazaway, Steve Hollowell, Tippi McCullough, Shad Pearce, Aaron Pilkington, Chad Puryear, David Ray, Jay Richardson, Johnny Rye, Bart Schulz, and Joy Springer

Representative Evans called the meeting to order.

Consideration of a Motion to Approve the January 8, 2024, and January 9, 2024, Meeting Minutes [Exhibits B1-B2]

Without objection, the minutes were approved.

2024 Adequacy Study: Presentation of Facilities Funding and Partnership Program [Exhibits C1-C2]

Lori Bowen, Legislative Analyst, Policy Analysis and Research Section, Bureau of Legislative Research, presented information on facilities funding and expenditures including information on legal requirements, funding sources, and amounts. The presentation covered national comparisons for facilities funding and survey responses from districts and charter schools in Arkansas.

Overview of Alternative Learning Environments [Exhibit D]

Stacy Smith, Deputy Commissioner, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education, Arkansas Department of Education (ADE), and Jared Hogue, Director of Alternative Learning, ADE, gave an overview of the Alternative Learning Environment (ALE) program which included information on the criteria for students to be placed in an ALE, funding calculations, demographics of students served, program model components, ALE as intervention, and positive student outcomes.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.