

MINUTES
SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
Wednesday, February 16, 2022
Upon Adjournment of Senate
OSC, State Capitol
Little Rock, Arkansas

Committee members present: Senators Missy Irvin, Chair; Jane English and James Sturch

Other members present: Senators Bob Ballinger and Bart Hester; Representatives Joshua Bryant and Gayla McKenzie

Member-Elect: Senator Colby Fulfer

Senator Irvin called the meeting to order.

Consideration to Approve the November 16, 2021, Meeting Minutes [EXHIBIT C]

Senator Irvin made a motion to approve the November 16, 2021, meeting minutes, and without objection the minutes were approved.

Senator Irvin recognized members of the Arkansas Community Colleges Leadership Institute.

Discussion of Flexible and Customizable Education [EXHIBIT D]

Patrick Wolf, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor, Endowed Chair in School Choice, Department of Education Reform, University of Arkansas (UAF), Robert Maranto, Ph.D., Professor, Endowed Chair in Leadership, Department of Education Reform, UAF, and Albert Cheng, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Education Reform, UAF, discussed the flexible and customizable education through parent involvement, school choice, and distinctive schooling models.

Discussion of Supporting the Educator Workforce

Gema Zamarro, Ph.D., Professor, Endowed Chair in Teacher Quality, Department of Education Reform, UAF, and Josh McGee, Ph.D., Associate Director, Office for Education Policy and Research Assistant Professor, Department of Education Reform, UAF, and Sarah Moore, Ph.D., Vice-Chair, Arkansas State Board of Education and Graduate, Department of Education Reform, UAF, discussed supporting the educator workforce, teacher pipeline, burnout, and creating a supportive environment.

The Future of Education [EXHIBIT F]

Robert Costrell, Ph.D., Professor, Endowed Chair in Education Accountability, Department of Education Reform, UAF, Jonathan Wai, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Endowed Chair in Education Policy, Department of Education Reform, UAF, Sarah McKenzie, Ph.D., Executive Director, Office for Education Policy and Research Assistant Professor, Department of Education Reform, UAF, and Jennifer Ash, Ph.D., Director, National Center for Rural Education Policy Research at Harvard University and Graduate, Department of Education Reform, UAF, discussed the future of education including recent trends, challenges, and opportunities in PK-12 education.

With no further business meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.