

EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes

November 4, 2025

Call to Order and Roll Call

The third meeting of the Education Assessment and Accountability Review Subcommittee was held on November 4, 2025, at 10:00 AM in Room 131 of the Capitol Annex. Senator Matthew Deneen, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Senator Matthew Deneen, Co-Chair; Senators Lindsey Tichenor and Stephen West; and Representatives Kim Banta and Tina Bojanowski.

Guests: Dr. Ben Leo, Research Analyst, Office of Education Accountability (OEA); Chris Riley, Research Analyst, OEA; Allison Stevens, Research Analyst, OEA; Dr. Deborah I. Nelson, Research Division Manager, OEA; and Todd Allen, General Counsel, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE).

LRC Staff: Yvette Perry, Emily Wiley, Peter Wright, and Jay Harris.

Approval of October 14, 2025, Minutes

Approval of minutes was tabled until next meeting due to lack of quorum.

Office of Education Accountability Report: Analysis of Student Discipline Data in Kentucky Schools

Dr. Ben Leo, Research Analyst, OEA; Chris Riley, Research Analyst, OEA; Allison Stevens, Research Analyst, OEA; and Dr. Deborah I. Nelson, Research Division Manager, OEA presented on students discipline data within Kentucky schools.

Responding to Chair Deneen, Dr. Nelson stated board violations reflect how disciplinary decisions differentiate in school districts and are determined by the school board what processes they pursue to track this data.

Responding to Chair Deneen, Dr. Nelson provided examples of resources that are needed to help prevent disruptions within school districts.

Responding to Chair Deneen, Dr. Nelson stated that principals are not always informed if a

student has committed a crime. Systems are in place but not always reported. For elementary schools, the statute discourages disciplinary removal unless it is an extreme case. Dr. Nelson followed up that they cannot prosecute children under 12 years old so those cases would be reported to the criminal justice system but can vary on reporting within school districts. Student to staff violence is greatest at the elementary level.

Responding to Senator West, Dr. Nelson stated Chapter 4 discloses availability for alternative placement, but does not show who has no options. OEA can provide that data. Dr. Nelson stated these alternative placement locations are required by federal law but is an unfunded mandate.

Responding to Senator West, Dr. Nelson stated OEA asked about barriers but not what types of barriers were there.

Responding to Senator Tichenor, Dr. Nelson stated OEA did not look into classroom clears within their research but procedures have changed.

Responding to Senator Tichenor, Ms. Stevens responded that OEA does not have expulsion data between districts but the report includes data between districts.

Responding to Senator Tichenor, Dr. Nelson stated the issue has come up when it comes to districts navigating protections. Students with disabilities are not the only group protected by state and federal law.

Due to a lack of quorum, the approval of the report was tabled until the next meeting.

Review of Administrative Regulation

Todd Allen, General Counsel, KDE, presented a proposed amendment of 703 KAR 5280. The administrative regulation was deferred due to lack of quorum, pursuant to KRS 158.647.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, the meetings adjourned at 11:03 AM.