

EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the 2026 Interim

August 4, 2026

Call to Order and Roll Call

The second meeting of the Education Assessment and Accountability Review Subcommittee was held on August 4, 2026, at 10:00 AM ET/9:00 AM CT 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; Representative Timmy Truett, Co-Chair; Senators Gerald A. Neal, Lindsey Tichenor, and Stephen West.

Guests: Todd Davis, Director, Division of Educator Preparation and Certification, Kentucky Department of Education (KDE); Whitney A. Crowe, Deputy General Counsel, KDE; Dr. Deborah Nelson, Research Division Manager, Office of Education Accountability (OEA); and Sabrina Smith, Lead School Financial Analyst, OEA.

LRC Staff: Lauren Busch, Joshua Collins, Emily Wiley, and Jay Harris.

Update from the Education Professional Standards Board

Todd Davis, Director, Division of Educator Preparation and Certification, KDE; and Whitney A. Crowe, Deputy General Counsel, KDE, testified on proposed changes to educator certification.

Co-chair Truett commended KDE on their efforts to revise educator certification.

Responding to Senator West, Mr. Davis stated the requirements to become a high school chemistry teacher. The Division of Educator Preparation and Certification has established strong partnerships with education preparation providers and the changes made have created excitement.

Chair Deneen congratulated the Division of Educator Preparation and Certification's efforts to revise educator certification structures.

Approval of July 1, 2026 Minutes

A motion was made by Senator Tichenor, and seconded by Senator Neal, to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2026, meeting. Minutes were approved by voice vote without objection.

Office of Education Accountability District Data Profiles, School Year 2025

Dr. Deborah Nelson, Research Division Manager, OEA; and Sabrina Smith, Lead School Financial Analyst, OEA, presented the District Data Profiles (DDP) for the 2025 school year.

Responding to Senator West, Dr. Nelson stated that OEA's report includes students who leave public school for homeschool and outcomes of those students who enter post-secondary institutions.

Responding to Senator West, Ms. Smith stated that student behavior may be the reason for increases in the percentage of school district administrators.

Co-chair Truett commented on reasons for students leaving public education for homeschool, and the increase in administrators within the public school system.

Responding to Senator Tichenor, Dr. Nelson stated there is data in the appendix of the 2025 DDP that addresses student discipline.

Acceptance of Office of Education Accountability District Data Profiles, School Year 2025

A motion was made by Senator Tichenor, seconded by Co-Chair Truett, to accept the report. The motion passed by voice vote.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned.