EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the 2026 Interim

October 6, 2026

Call to Order and Roll Call
The fourth meeting of the Education Assessment and Accountability Review Subcommittee was held on October 6, 2026, at 10:00 AM ET/9:00 AM CT in Room 129 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; Senator Stephen West; and Representatives Tina Bojanowski and Steve Riley.

Guests: Dr. Deborah Nelson, Research Division Manager, Office of Education Accountability (OEA); Dr. Ben Leo, Research Analyst, OEA, and Bryan Jones, Acting Deputy Director, OEA.

LRC Staff: Yvette Perry, Lauren Busch, Emily Wiley, and Jay Harris.

Office of Education Accountability: 2027 Study Agenda
Bryan Jones, Acting Deputy Director, OEA, and Dr. Deborah Nelson, Research Division Manager, OEA, presented their proposed study agenda for 2027, including 2 studies and 4 research briefs.

A motion to accept the 2027 Study Agenda was made by Co-Chair Truett, seconded by Senator West. The motion passed by voice vote.

Office of Education Accountability Report: K-3 Literacy In Kentucky: Progress, Practices, And Policy Considerations
Dr. Deborah Nelson, Research Division Manager, OEA, and Dr. Ben Leo, Research Analyst, OEA, presented their findings on K-3 literacy in Kentucky.

Responding to Co-Chair Truett, Dr. Nelson explained the K-3 literacy report appendix shows data on districts that have not formally adopted a reading program.

Responding to Co-Chair Truett, Dr. Leo stated that the standardization of identifying students for supports would provide considerable benefits. However, districts are appreciative due to the flexibility currently available.

Responding to Representative Bojanowski, Dr. Nelson stated OEA can report district- and school-level Individualized Education Program (IEP) data to EAARS.

Responding to Senator West, Dr. Nelson stated the difficulty of measuring performance in the study was due to the collection of data.

Responding to Senator West, Dr. Nelson described interventions for schools identified for continuous support and improvement.

Representative Riley commented on Dr. Nelson's reference to the Mississippi Miracle and Kentucky's need for detailed and intentional work to achieve that.

A motion was made by Representative Riley, and seconded by Co-Chair Truett, to accept the Office of Education Accountability Report: K-3 Literacy In Kentucky: Progress, Practices, And Policy Considerations. The motion passed by voice vote.

Approval of August 4, 2026 and September 2, 2026 Minutes

A motion was made by Senator West and seconded by Representative Riley to approve the minutes of the August 4, 2026 and September 2, 2026 meetings. Minutes were approved by voice vote without objection.

Adjournment

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