



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, March 6, 2024
Roughrider Room, State Capitol
Bismarck, North Dakota

10:00 a.m. Call to order
Roll call
Consideration of the [minutes of the December 20, 2023, meeting](#)

REPORTS

10:05 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Adam Tescher, School Finance Officer, Department of Public Instruction, of a compilation of annual school district employee compensation reports pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Section 15.1-02-13

10:25 a.m. Presentation by Mr. Tescher of an annual report regarding the financial condition of school districts pursuant to Section 15.1-02-09

SCHOOL DISTRICT ENDING FUND BALANCE STUDY

10:45 a.m. [Presentation](#) by Mr. Tescher and Ms. Kirsten Baesler, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Department of Public Instruction regarding the committee's study of school district ending fund balances, including:

- Best practices for school district spending;
- An evaluation of possible trends between state investment, district expenditures, and student performance; and
- A review of behavioral and mental health budgets for school districts

11:10 a.m. Comments by interested persons regarding the committee's study of school district ending fund balances

11:20 a.m. Committee discussion

11:30 a.m. Recess

12:30 p.m. [Presentation](#) by Ms. Maria Naset, Policy Advisor, Governor's office, regarding an update on the Teacher Retention and Recruitment Task Force

SCHOOL CHOICE MODELS STUDY

12:50 p.m. [Presentations](#) by representatives of ExcelinEd related to the committee's study of school choice models, including:

- Vouchers; and
- Education savings accounts

2:20 p.m. Comments by interested persons regarding the committee's study of school choice models

2:30 p.m. Committee discussion

REPLACING STORM DAYS WITH VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION STUDY

- 2:40 p.m. Comments by interested persons regarding the committee's study of replacing storm days with virtual instruction study
- 2:50 p.m. Committee discussion and staff directives
- 3:00 p.m. Adjourn

A livestream of the meeting will be available to the public at: <https://video.ndlegis.gov>.

Committee Members

Senators: Michelle Axtman (Chairman), Todd Beard, Cole Conley, Jay Elkin, Judy Estenson, Justin Gerhardt, Kent Weston

Representatives: LaurieBeth Hager, Patrick Hatlestad, Dori Hauck, Pat D. Heinert, Jim Jonas, Donald W. Longmuir, Andrew Marschall, David Monson, Eric James Murphy, Mitch Ostlie, David Richter, Cynthia Schreiber-Beck, Kelby Timmons

Staff Contact: Liz Fordahl, Counsel