



# Minnesota Senate Education Policy Committee

Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

12:30 p.m.

Room 1200

## **Chair**

Steve Cwodzinski  
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## **Vice Chair**

Erin Maye Quade

## **Ranking Minority Member**

Julia Coleman

## **Members**

Jim Abeler  
Liz Boldon  
Zach Duckworth  
Grant Hauschild  
Mary Kunesh  
Alice Mann  
Nathan Wesenberg

## **Committee Staff:**

### **Committee Administrator**

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## **Research**

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## **Senate Counsel**

Ann Marie Lewis

## **Legislative Analyst**

Betsy Hjelseth

## **Fiscal Analyst**

Jenna Hofer

## **Committee Pages**

Kali Courtney  
Morgan Turner

## **Agenda**

1. Call to Order
2. Opening Remarks
3. Senate File 502: Senator Westlin Presents
  - i. A bill for an act relating to education; requiring paid orientation for paraprofessionals; appropriating money for paraprofessional training; amending Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 125A.08.
    1. Testifiers
      - a. Kim Kaneakua, Para Educator in the Fridley School District
      - b. William Schwandt, Special Education Para, Bloomington School District (Hybrid)
      - c. Michelle Fischer, Special Education Teacher, Osseo Senior High School (Hybrid)
4. Senate File 663: Senator Kunesh Presents
  - i. A bill for an act relating to education; increasing the number of heritage language and culture teachers; appropriating money; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 122A.
    1. Testifiers
      - a. Alex Vitrella, Program Director of Education Evolving
      - b. Deqa Muhidin, District Program Facilitator ESL & Somali Heritage Language at Minneapolis Public Schools
      - c. Gaolee Khang (G-ow-lee K-ay-ng), Student at Augsburg University
5. Adjournment

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## **Minnesota Education Policy Committee**

Monday & Wednesday  
Room 1200  
12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.