

Education Finance Committee  
Thursday, March 2, 2023  
8:30 AM Livestream YouTube

## Minutes

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**Present:** Senator Mary K. Kunesch - Chair, Senator Heather Gustafson - Vice Chair, Senator Steve A. Cwodzinski, Senator Robert D. Farnsworth, Senator Michael E. Kreun, Senator Eric Lucero, Senator Erin K. Maye Quade, Senator Clare Oumou Verbeten, Senator Jason Rarick, Senator Bonnie S. Westlin

**Absent:** No Members Absent

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Senator Mary K. Kunesch called the meeting to order at 8:35 am

Call to order

**S.F. 865:** Senator Westlin: Minnesota Council on Economic Education ongoing grants authorization and appropriation.

Testifiers

1. Dr. Julie Bunn, Executive Director, MN Council on Economic Education (in-person)
2. Rayce Hardy, Social Studies Teacher Austin High School, and Riverland Community College, Austin (remote)
3. Jessie (Xinyue) Zong, K-5 Teacher, St Paul Public Schools (remote)

Senator Westlin moved that S.F. 865, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill.  
- MOTION PREVAILED.

**S.F. 1719:** Senator Putnam: Education partnership program modification.

Testifiers

1. Ekram Elmoge - Family Engagement Manager United Way Central Minnesota (in-person)
2. Tiffany Scott Knox – Director of Saint Paul Promise Neighborhood (in-person)
3. Julie Ruzek - Executive Director Cradle 2 Career (in-person)

Senator Cwodzinski moved that S.F. 1719, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill.  
- MOTION PREVAILED.

**S.F. 1270:** Senator Cwodzinski: Reach Out and Read Minnesota program grant appropriation.

Testifiers

1. Kris Hoplin, Executive Director of Reach Out and Read Minnesota (in-person)
2. Dr. Pamela Gigi Chawla, Chief of General Pediatrics at Children's Minnesota and Reach Out and Read Minnesota's Medical Director (remote)

Senator Cwodzinski moved that S.F. 1270, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill.  
- MOTION PREVAILED.

Senator Gustafson assumed the role as Chair

S.F. 20: Senator Kunesh: Full-service community schools appropriation.

**Testifiers**

1. Deanna Hron, Deer River Full-Service Community Schools (remote)
2. Becky Stromstad, 3rd Grade Teacher, St. Paul Academy, Saint Paul Public Schools (in-person)
3. Nuhu Sims, Brooklyn Center Community Schools, Director of Equity (remote)

Senator Kunesh moved that S.F. 20, be laid over and maybe considered for omnibus bill. - MOTION PREVAILED.

Senator Kunesh reassumed the role as Chair

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The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am



Senator Mary Kunesh, Chair



Sami Rajab, Legislative Assistant