



# Minnesota Senate

## Committee on Education Finance

Tuesday, January 28, 2024  
8:30 am | Room 1150

**Co-Chairs**

Senator Mary Kunesh  
Senator Jason Rarick

**Co-Vice Chairs**

Senator Heather Gustafson  
Senator Robert Farnsworth

**Members**

Steve Cwodziński  
Karin Housley  
Michael Kreun  
Andrew Lang  
Eric Lucero  
Erin Maye Quade  
Clare Oumou-Verbeten  
Bonnie Westlin

**Committee Staff**

**Committee Administrator**

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**Senate Counsel**

Ann Marie Lewis

**Legislative Analyst**

Bjorn Arneson

**Fiscal Analyst**

Jenna Hofer

**Research**

Ryan Majerus (DFL)  
Ed Cook (GOP)

1. Call to Order by Co-Chair Kunesh

2. Absenteeism Pilot Program

***Testifiers:***

- a. Colleen Kabel, Director of Student Retention & Recovery, Minneapolis Public Schools
- b. Bondo Nyembwe, Associate Superintendent, Columbia Heights Public Schools
- c. Mark Morrison, Superintendent, Chisholm public Schools **(Remote)**
- d. Anji McAndrews, Director of Student Engagement and School Climate, Rochester Public Schools

3. Student Attendance and Truancy Legislative Study Group Report

***Testifier:***

- a. Nick Nigro, Research Analyst for the Legislative Coordinating Commission.

4. SF 133 – Senator Weber, Student Support Personnel Aid Allowable Uses Expansion

***Testifier:***

- a. Dr. Amber Bruns, Clinical Director of Behavioral Health Services, Southwest West Central Service Cooperative
- b. Dr. Noel Schmidt, Superintendent, Rock Ridge Schools
- c. Jeff Burgess, Superintendent, Mesabi East Schools **(Remote)**
- d. Julia Messenger, School Social Worker, MN School Social Workers Association Representative **(Remote)**
- e. Calli Moreau, M.A., NCC, Board Chair, MN School Councilor Association, Licensed School Councilor, White Bear Lake Schools **(Remote)**
- f. Kate Lynne Snyder, Education Minnesota, Lobbyist

5. Adjournment

**Minnesota Senate Education Finance Committee**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
MSB 1150  
8:30 am - 10:30 am