

Minnesota State Senate

Education Finance Committee
Wednesday, April 9, 2025
8:30 AM, 1150 Minnesota Senate Bldg.

Minutes

Present: Senator Mary K. Kunesh - **Chair**, Senator Heather Gustafson - **Vice Chair**, Senator Jason Rarick - **Ranking Minority Member**, Senator Doron Clark, Senator Steve A. Cwodzinski, Senator Robert D. Farnsworth, Senator Karin Housley, Senator Michael E. Kreun, Senator Andrew R. Lang, Senator Eric Lucero, Senator Erin K. Maye Quade, Senator Clare Oumou Verbeten, Senator Bonnie S. Westlin

Absent: No Members Absent

Senator Mary K. Kunesh called the meeting to order at 8:33 am

Call to Order TESTIMONY WILL BE LIMITED TO ONE MINUTE AND THIRTY SECONDS.

S.F. 2255: Senator Kunesh: E-12 education appropriations and provisions modifications.

Be laid over.

Testimony on SF2255 Senate Delete-All Amendment In-person and remote testimony will be accepted on the Senate DE (A-3) to SF2255. Testimony will be limited to 1 minute and 30 seconds per testifier. The Chair may limit the number of testifiers. Written handouts are encouraged.

TESTIMONY: You must email your testimony request to emma.zellmer@mnsenate.gov by 1 pm on April 8th. All testimony requests should contain the following: name, title/organization, Senate file you are testifying on, if you will speak in support or opposition to the bill, and if you will be testifying in person or remote. Testimony may be limited at the discretion of the chair.

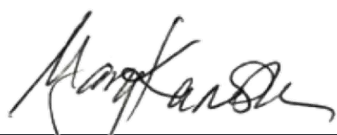
HANDOUTS: Please send electronically in an accessible .pdf format to emma.zellmer@mnsenate.gov by 5 pm on April 8th. All documents must be named as follows: Senate File # - Organization or Individual's Name - Title of Document. Incorrectly named files or late submissions may not be accepted.

The following individuals testified on Testimony on SF2255 Senate Delete-All Amendment:
Willie Jett, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Education
Tikki Brown, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Children, Youth, and Families
Peter Roufs, Principal, St. Mary's Catholic School (Remote)
Dr. Dan Ahlstrom, Head of School, Heilicher Jewish Day School
Kyle Rickbeil, Principal, St. Joseph's School
Ca Briggs, Bus Driver, ISD 196
Jenny Wen, Student, Jefferson High School (Remote)
Laura Carpenter, Parent
Arsema Mesfun, Student, St. John Paul II Catholic School

Zuleida Hernandez, Parent, St. John Paul II Catholic School
Dr. Michelle Kramer, Director of Schools, Diocese of New Ulm (Remote)
Tony Sanneh, CEO, Sanneh Foundation
Anita Davis, Principal, Holy Trinity Catholic School
William Schwandt, ESP, Bloomington Public Schools
Tony Simmons, Executive Director, High School for Recording Arts (Remote)
Mary Stosic, Special Education Teacher, Popular Bridge Elementary, Bloomington Public Schools
Russ Gregg, Founder and Head of School, Hope Academy
Joe Billings, Director of Operations, Prodeo Academy
David Parker, ServeMinnesota (Remote)
Ann Kaste, Outreach and Instruction Librarian, K12 Communications Coordinator, Minitex
Shannon Peterson, Executive Director, Lakes International Academy
Darcy Stueber, Policy Chair, MN School Nutrition Program
Laura Freer, President, MN Association of Alternative Programs (Remote)
Tamra Rackliffe, Head of School, Duluth Edison Charter Schools
Catina Taylor, ESP, Minneapolis Public Schools
Lyle Koski, Grandparent, International Academy
Henry Schantzen, Head of School, Bluffview Montessori School (Remote)
Abdirashid Warsame, Executive Director, Twin Cities International Schools
Julie Lundgren, Chief Financial Officer, Lakes International Language Academy
Katie Avina, Executive Director, Academia la Paz
Tracy Quarnstrom, Executive Director, Minnesota Online High School (Remote)
Mariel Calhane, Executive Director, Minnesota wildflower Montessori Charter School
Jason Morrison, President, Cristo Rey Jesuit High School
Brett Wedlund, Executive Director, Nova Classical Academy
Scott Manni, Principal, North Star Elementary School (Remote)
Tim Benz, President, MINNDEPENDENT
Scott Croonquist, Executive Director, Association of Metropolitan School Districts
Paul Weirtz, State Government Relations Director, American Heart Association
Josh Downham, Minneapolis Public Schools
Matt Shaver, Senior Policy Director, EdAllies
Jim Davnie, MN Alliance with Youth
Joey Cienian, Executive Director, Minnesota Association of Charter Schools
Sarah Burt, Education Minnesota
Sam Walseth, Advocacy Director, MN Rural Education Association & SAFF

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 am.



Senator Mary K. Kunesh, Chair



Tessa Yeager, Legislative Assistant