

House Committee on Education

Minutes of Meeting
2026 Regular Session
April 8, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Laurie Schlegel, chair of the House Committee on Education, called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. in Room 1, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Laurie Schlegel, chair
Representative Beryl A. Amedée, vice chair
Representative Reese "Skip" Broussard
Representative Josh Carlson
Representative Barbara W. Carpenter
Representative Kim Carver
Representative Kathy Edmonston
Representative Barbara Reich Freiberg
Representative Terry Landry, Jr.
Representative Charles Anthony Owen
Representative Vincent "Vinney" J. St. Blanc, III
Representative Phillip Eric Tarver
Representative Sylvia Elaine Taylor

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Chasity Martinez

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elizabeth L. Borne, legislative analyst
Lisa Lovello, legislative analyst
Alexandra Cravins, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Chance Simpson, committee clerk
Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. BUSINESS

House Bill No. 690 by Representative Amedée

Representative Amedée presented House Bill No. 690, which provides relative to education service providers and vendors of educational products.

Representative Schlegel offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 690. Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Jacqueline Deal, State Armor, P.O. Box, 40124, Washington, DC 20016, spoke in support of House Bill No. 690.

Michael Lucci, State Armor, 300 South Riverside Suite, #1625, no city or state provided, spoke in support of House Bill No. 690.

Tom Rawlings, State Shield, 675 Ponce de Leon Avenue, Suite 8500, Atlanta, GA 30308, spoke in support of House Bill No. 690.

Caroline Roemer, Louisiana Charter Schools in Action, no address provided, Metairie, LA, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 690.

Jacob Newsom, 1866 Tudor Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70815, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 690.

Representative Owen offered a motion to report House Bill No. 690 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 690 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, Terry Landry, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 9 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 690.

House Bill No. 1078 by Representative Freiberg

Representative Freiberg presented House Bill No. 1078, which provides relative to tuition and fees for certain distance education courses.

Kappie Mumphrey, Louisiana State University, Thomas Boyd Hall, no address provided, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1078.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1078 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 1078 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

House Bill No. 113 by Representative Phelps

Representative Phelps presented House Bill No. 113, which provides for retroactive application of the uniform 10-point grading scale requirement to the grades of students who were enrolled in the ninth grade during the 2023-2024 school year.

Representative Taylor offered a motion to report House Bill No. 113 favorably, to which Representative Amedée objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and the motion failed to pass by a vote of 2 yeas and 9 nays. Representatives Carpenter and Taylor voted yea. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support, 5 in opposition, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 632 by Representative Spell

Representative Spell presented House Bill No. 632, which provides relative to information sharing for the purposes of Louisiana's Foundational Integrated Research System for Transformation (LA FIRST).

Representative Carlson offered an amendment to House Bill No. 632 that authorized rather than required school boards to share student data. Representative Carlson withdrew the amendment.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to House Bill No. 632 that:

1. Removed requirements that the initial set of personal information that school governing authorities share with the state Department of Education (DOE) include existing personal information for current students as well as at least five years of historical personal information available for former students, that DOE share this information with the Blanco Center, and that shared data be updated at least annually.

2. Specified that information shared with DOE by school governing authorities be matched to unique student identification numbers.
3. Added that proposed law becomes effective on November 30, 2026.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, and Tarver voted yea.

Stephen Barnes, Kathleen Blanco Public Policy Center, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 400 East St. Mary Boulevard, Lafayette, LA 70503, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 632.

Representative Schlegel offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 632. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 632 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 8 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1132 by Representative Carver

On behalf of Representative Carver, Representative Carlson presented House Bill No. 1132, which provides for funding any laboratory school operated by a public postsecondary education institution in the University of Louisiana System through the minimum foundation program.

Representative Schlegel offered amendments to House Bill No. 1132 that limited the application of proposed law to schools established on or after August 1, 2026. Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1132 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 1132 was reported with amendments by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

House Bill No. 1146 by Representative Wyble

Representative Wyble presented House Bill No. 1146, which provides relative to the Advisory Council on Early Childhood Care and Education and the Early Childhood Care and Education Commission.

Mattilyn Batson, Louisiana Policy Institute for Children, P.O. Box 13552, New Orleans, LA 70185, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1146.

Ashley Townsend, Louisiana Department of Education, 1201 North Third Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 1146.

Representative Carlson offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1146 favorably, to which Representative Freiberg objected. The administrative assistant called the roll, and House Bill No. 1146 was reported favorably by a vote of 8 yeas and 4 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carver, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea. Representatives Carpenter, Edmonston, Freiberg, and Owen voted nay.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 1003 by Representative Freeman

Representative Freeman presented House Bill No. 1003, which provides relative to overcapacity of schools within certain school districts.

Representative Schlegel offered technical amendments to House Bill No. 1003. Representative Schlegel offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Olin G. Parker, vice president, Orleans Parish School Board, 4225 Paloma Street, New Orleans, LA 70119, spoke in support of House Bill No. 1003.

Representative Freiberg offered a motion to report House Bill No. 1003 with amendments. Without objection, House Bill No. 1003 was reported with amendments by a vote of 12 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Freiberg, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 5 in support, and 1 for information only. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 342 by Representative Knox

Vice Chair Amedée in the chair.

Representative Knox presented House Bill No. 342, which provides that a local education agency shall have the burden of proof in any special education due process hearing relative to the appropriateness of a student's current or proposed program or placement.

Kimona Hogan, Hogan Law Firm, P.O. Box 1261, Baton Rouge, LA 70821, spoke in support of House Bill No. 342.

Mary-Patricia Wray, 711 North Sixth Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, spoke in support of House Bill No. 342.

Christina Martin, 620 Vanderbilt Lane, Kenner, LA, spoke in support of House Bill No. 342.

Charlotte Cravins, Little Lobbyists Louisiana, 6402 Tiger Pointe Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70817, spoke in support of House Bill No. 342.

Corhonda Corley, Louisiana Families of Children with Disabilities, 8815 Wilmore Drive, Zachary, LA 70791, spoke in support of House Bill No. 342.

Lauren Jewett, 604 Sadie Avenue, Metairie, LA 70003, spoke in support of House Bill No. 342.

Jodi Rollins, 18050 Charolais Drive, Baton Rouge, LA 70769, spoke in support of House Bill No. 342.

Representative Carpenter offered a motion to report House Bill No. 342 favorably. Without objection, House Bill No. 342 was reported favorably by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by those who did not speak are as follows: 28 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

Prepared statements were received via email for House Bill No. 342.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Representative Carlson offered a motion to adjourn. Without objection, the motion passed by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Schlegel, Amedée, Broussard, Carlson, Carpenter, Carver, Edmonston, Owen, St. Blanc, Tarver, and Taylor voted yea.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chair Laurie Schlegel
House Committee on Education

Date adopted: