



Northern Ireland
Assembly
Committee for Education
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
MONDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2016
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS

Present:

Peter Weir MLA (Chairperson)
Sandra Overend MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Chris Hazzard MLA
Dolores Kelly MLA
Nelson McCausland MLA
Robin Newton MLA

In Attendance:

Peter McCallion (Assembly Clerk)
Paul Stitt (Assistant Clerk)
Paula Best (Clerical Supervisor)
Kevin Marks (Clerical Officer)

Apologies:

Jonathan Craig MLA
Danny Kennedy MLA
Maeve McLaughlin MLA

The meeting commenced in public session at 3:48pm.

1. Apologies

Apologies are as indicated above.

2. Chairperson's Business

2.1 New Member

The Chairperson formally welcomed Mrs Dolores Kelly MLA to the Committee.

2.2 Media coverage: Addressing Bullying in Schools Bill Report

The Committee noted that following agreement of the report on the Addressing Bullying in Schools Bill, the Chairperson would undertake media interviews and publish a platform piece setting out the Committee's position on the Bill.

3. Matters Arising

The Committee noted correspondence from the Department in respect of pastoral care issues relating to the Addressing Bullying in Schools Bill.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to include this correspondence in its report on the Bill.

4. Addressing Bullying in Schools – Committee Stage – Consideration of Report

The Committee considered its report on the Committee Stage of the Addressing Bullying in Schools Bill.

Chris Hazzard joined the meeting at 3:54pm

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department seeking clarification on the responsibility of Boards of Governors, in respect of bullying and discipline, where pupils from different schools are engaged in sharing activities.

Agreed: The Committee read and agreed the Contents section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee read and agreed the Remit, Powers and Membership section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee read and agreed the Introduction section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee read and agreed the Consideration of the Bill section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee read and agreed the Clause by Clause Consideration section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee read and agreed the Appendices of the report.

Agreed: The Committee read and agreed the Executive Summary section of the report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it was content for the minutes of the meeting of 8 February 2016 to be included in the Report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to order the Report on the Addressing Bullying in Schools Bill to be printed as the eighth report of the mandate.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to publish the Report on the Committee's website and to advise stakeholders accordingly.

Agreed: The Committee agreed that a motion to extend the Committee Stage of the Bill would not be moved.

5. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

6. Date, Time, Place of Next Meeting

The Committee will meet again on Wednesday 10 February 2016, at 10.00am in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings.

The meeting was adjourned at 4.02pm.

Peter Weir
Chairperson, Committee for Education
17 February 2016