

Joint Committee to Study the Future of Public Elementary and Secondary Education in the Commonwealth

Subcommittee #1: Virtual Learning and Educational Technology

Meeting Summary: July 17, 2017

The Subcommittee on Virtual Learning and Educational Technology held its first meeting of the 2017 interim on Monday July 17, 2017 in House Room 1 at the Capitol. A quorum was present and consisted of Delegate Bell, Delegate Dudenhefer, Senator Suetterlein, Mr. Maddox, and Ms. Harrington.

The purpose of this meeting was for Brian Callahan and Bert Schmidt to introduce a virtual Virginia & U.S. History course being offered by WHRO Education to the members and staff of the subcommittee. After a demonstration and explanation of the course content, Mr. Callahan and Mr. Schmidt fielded questions from subcommittee members and clarified that (i) the course aligns with the Standards of Learning by virtue of WHRO Education's approval as a Multidivision Online Provider, (ii) there is a high degree of teacher-student interaction and student-student interaction in multiple ways, and (iii) assessments occur at various stages and in various ways and culminate with an end-of-course SOL assessment that is usually proctored by a parent or another trusted adult. The subcommittee will participate in the course from August 4 to August 25 and members will discuss experiences and findings at the next subcommittee meeting on September 11.