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The Banner/Republican

# OPINION

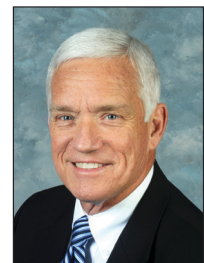
JANUARY 15, 2025



## Meredith to Continue as Chair of the Senate Health Services Committee

Additional Committee Assignments Announced

FRANKFORT, KY (Jan. 7, 2024)—Senate Majority Leadership has announced that Sen. Stephen Meredith, R-Leitchfield, will continue serving as chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Health Services for the 2025 legislative session.



Sen. Stephen Meredith

The Health Services Committee is responsible for addressing a wide range of critical issues, including health care delivery, public health, mental health, Medicaid, maternal and child health, and substance abuse. It also oversees policies impacting health professionals, hospitals, clinics, and long-term care facilities across the Commonwealth.

"I am honored to continue serving as the chair of the Senate Health Services Committee," said Meredith. "As a former rural hospital CEO, I understand the challenges our healthcare system faces, particularly in underserved areas. This role allows me to work on policies that improve access to quality care, strengthen our public health infrastructure, and address critical issues like mental health and substance abuse. I look forward to advancing initiatives that ensure a healthier future for all Kentuckians."

In addition to his role as chair, Meredith will serve as a member of the Senate Standing Committees on Education; Families & Children; and Licensing & Occupations. Furthermore, he will continue to serve on the Government Contract Review Committee and the Artificial Intelligence Task Force.

The 2025 Regular Session convenes on Tuesday, January 7.

For more information on Sen. Meredith, legislative committees, and the Kentucky General Assembly, please visit [www.legislature.ky.gov](http://www.legislature.ky.gov).

## Butler County High School SBDM Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2025 3:30 p.m., BCHS Library

1. A meeting was called to order by Mr. Young at 3:30 PM. All members were present.
2. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Dennis Robbins and seconded by Becky Smith. Motion passed 8-0.
3. A motion to approve the minutes from last month's meeting was made by Adra Skaggs and seconded by Carissa Poston. Motion passed 8-0.
4. A motion to approve the monthly financial report was made by Kayley McMullan and seconded by Carissa Poston. Motion passed 8-0.
5. Mr. Young gave a report on our Mission/Vision:

SBDM, Continued on page seven

# When Did Yes Become Yeah?

By Van Yandell  
Guest Contributor

Psalm 1: 1-2 *Blessed is the man who does not walk in step with the wicked or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night.*

Throughout the boomer generation, we have seen a progression into sloppiness in our dress, our health/diet, our attitudes and our language. We must not also allow sloppy Christianity to invade the church and our lives.

I have a picture of my dad walking on a sidewalk in Paducah, Kentucky probably in the 1940's. He was wearing a sport jacket, white shirt and tie. His shirt tail was tucked; was buttoned to the top and his tie was tightened up to his neck.

His pants had no holes; were ironed and he was wearing a sporty little hat. Actually, he looked very dapper and handsome.

Many men wore ties and sports jackets to go most any place and to dress in less than one's very best for a church service, a wedding or a funeral was unheard of.

My teaching career began in the fall of 1969. Many men wore buttoned shirts, ties and sports jackets. The women wore dresses or skirts, blouse tails were tucked; shoes were dress, and belts were worn.

Men were men; women were ladies and children were mostly behaved and respectful. Discipline in the classroom wasn't much of a problem. Usually issues had to do with chewing gum or excessive talking.

As the years have passed, the forms of dress and haircuts digressed into cave-man style. Americans became so morbidly obese, the clothing styles evolved into loose fitting in

order to conceal the weight. The word "shaming" was coined and redefined to discourage anyone from mentioning the health and other problems that were developing from our bad habits.

To buy clothing that actually fit characterized one into nerd or prep. Both those were intended as insults, not compliments. And to tuck a shirt-tail was as unstylish as a striped pants and a plaid jacket.

Also our speech habits degraded into slang and attitudes that the only point was to "get the point across." High school students were required to earn four years of English credit but many eventually graduated without the ability to write or speak a complete sentence. "Seen" for "saw" and "a lot" for "many" became so common, many never, and never will, learn the difference.

Being an industrial educator, I was particular about terminology. The misuse of a single word could change the entire meaning of a design for a final product. For the concepts of materials, tools and processes there is, in many cases, only one word that applies.

The elegance of our Old Country ancestry was gradually passing into oblivion because of our slothfulness. "Child" became "kid," "yes" became "yeah" and our vocabularies degraded at light speed. Reading was deemed by many as a waste of time and the television became our baby sitters and primary sources of knowledge.

Mankind is expected to evolve into something better; not digress into sloppy, degenerate clods. Well, it certainly looks like we've missed the mark! It appears that being sloppy has become a competitive sport.

But there is light at the end of the tunnel (idiom)! Television and movies have become so predictable and repetitive; many are actually

beginning to read again. Often I say, or think, I'm looking for a movie to sleep by and it's really easy to find one.

Perhaps vocabularies will eventually return to the 1800's elegance because of the reading and writing skills that many are choosing to engage.

Our Christian lives and the life of the church has suffered immeasurably as a result of our uncaring and slovenly careless attitudes.

God's word is all powerful and the authority of it is unsurpassed for truth and accuracy. If one is seeking truth, the answers mankind desires, is to go to church.

Hebrews 4:12: *"For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart."*

Truth and validity in today's world is difficult to find. I have long believed the Bible proves itself from within itself. Students of the Bible have found prophesy is happening as we speak (or write). God knew things thousands of years before mankind was able to discover them. Science and prophesy verify this.

A part of the Bible structure is the Old English wording. Many become discouraged attempting to read the King James Version (published in 1611) but it is simply written the way the British talked in that era.

As mankind degrades further into chaos and sloppiness, we may find ourselves communicating in grunts and ugs as did cavemen.

2 Timothy 3: 16 *"All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness."*

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