

ANNOUNCING THE DEPARTURE OF COMMISSIONER DOREEN CATO

Commission recognizes the service of founding member

Commissioner Doreen Cato has announced that Thursday, April 24, 2014 will be her last Commission meeting, stepping down from what she has said, ‘...was one of my most inspirational appointments on behalf of all children of color, low income, the generational poverty-stricken, disabled, and rural communities.’

In her year of service, Commissioner Cato embodied the mission of the Commission to authorize high quality schools, especially those for at-risk students. Serving on the Executive Committee as Commissioner At-Large, Commissioner Cato was a spokesperson for underserved communities, and believed that all school-aged children are entitled to a diverse and outstanding array of options for their education. Commissioner Cato, as well, championed homegrown Washington charter startups, encouraging communities to think creatively about their goals for K-12 education.

Commissioner Cato has said that her stepping down will not mean an end to her support of the Commission’s goals. In her resignation letter to Commission Chair Steve Sundquist, Commissioner Cato said, ‘I will always be in the crowd raising my hands with joy and admiration.’

With Commissioner Chris Martin’s announcement that he would not seek reappointment this past February, Commissioner Cato’s departure will leave two seats available on the nine-member Commission. Individuals interested in serving on the Charter School Commission should apply at <http://www.governor.wa.gov/boards/application/default.aspx>.