



For Immediate Release:
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COMMISSION TO HOST 2 PUBLIC FORUMS

Commission eager to learn more about academic needs of communities and to hear directly from applicants

The Washington State Charter School Commission (Commission) will be hosting two (2) public forums in July. These public forums are a chance for the parents, community members, local residents, and school district board members and staff to learn about and provide input on the proposed charter school. Commission representatives will be in attendance. Below are the dates, times and locations for each public forum:

Summit Public Schools, Summit Public School: Seattle #2
6:00 p.m. Tuesday, July 21, 2015
9601 35th Ave SW
Seattle, WA 98126

Innovation Schools, Willow Public School
7:00 p.m. Thursday, July 23, 2015
Walla Walla Housing Authority Gym
501 Cayuse Street
Walla Walla Washington 99362

Charter applicants will provide a 15 minute for presentation. After the presentation, 45 minutes of public comment will occur. Individuals interested in giving verbal comment during the public forum can enter a random drawing before the public forum begins. Individuals will have no more than 2 minutes to provide verbal comment; however, individuals requesting translation support will be given 4 minutes to provide their verbal comment.

Individuals or groups wishing to provide written comment may send their statements by **July 31, 2015** to

Washington State Charter School Commission
P.O. Box 40996 Olympia, WA 98504-0996.

—OR—

info@charterschool.wa.gov

—OR—

Comments may be hand delivered to the public forums.

Written comments are limited to one page.

Translation Services

The Commission actively engages in culturally and community responsive practices. To this end, the Commission will have on-site translators at each public forum.

The Commission will automatically provide English/Spanish and Spanish/English translators for direct translation via headset, as well as for individuals wishing to give public comment in Spanish.

Individuals giving public comment through a translator will be given an extended period of time to provide public comment.

To request translators for languages other than Spanish, please make your request by July 10, 2015 to:

Colin Pippin-Timco

Colin.pippin-timco@charterschool.wa.gov

(360) 725-5511

About Charter Schools

Charter schools are independent public schools operated by non-profit organizations that are allowed more flexibility to be innovative with their educational program and are held accountable for improved student achievement. Broadly, charters must adhere to the same state learning standards, accountability goals, health, safety, and non-discrimination laws, hire certificated teachers, follow generally accepted accounting principles and are subject to state financial audits. They are free and open to all students.

About Washington State’s Charter School Commission

Washington State’s Charter School Commission was formed with the mission of creating a rigorous and comprehensive proposal process and to hold charters accountable to high standards of quality. The Commission is an independent state agency that exists to authorize and oversee high quality public charter schools throughout Washington with an emphasis on schools designed to expand opportunities for at-risk students, providing leadership and oversight that is consistent with national principles and standards of charter school authorizers and the provisions of Washington’s charter school law. For more information, visit: <http://charterschool.wa.gov/>.

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