

STATE OF WASHINGTON CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

Thursday, April 4, 2013 – 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Governor's Conference Room
Legislative Building, 2nd Floor
416 Sid Snyder Ave
Olympia, WA 98501

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: Dr. Doreen Cato, Trish Millines Dziko, Kevin Jacka, Chris Martin, Dr. Margit McGuire, Dave Quall, Steve Sundquist, Cindi Williams, and Larry Wright.

Staff: RaShelle Davis, Governor's Policy Advisor; Aileen Miller, AAG

OPENING AND WELCOME

Commissioner Steve Sundquist, presiding Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. Attendance was taken, all Commissioners were present, and it was determined that a quorum was present to proceed with the meeting. Each Commissioner and staff member made a self-introduction. The agenda was reviewed and approved.

Lunch was served at 11:30 a.m.

PRESENTATIONS, TRAININGS, AND DISCUSSIONS

Assistant Attorney Generals Aileen Miller and Dave Stolier provided the Commission with an overview and history of the Charter School Law (I-1240).

Ms. Miller presented and trained the Commission on the Open Public Meetings Act and Public Disclosure Act. Ms. Miller also provided the Commission with an overview of the role of the Attorney General's Office and what type of services and assistance she can provide to the Commission.

Melaine De Leon, Executive Director of the Executive Ethics Board, provided the Commission with ethics training. Ms. De Leon's presentation highlighted the issues that face Commissioners serving on a public board and ethical solutions to various situations. She encouraged the Commission to contact her at any time with questions.

At 1:30 p.m. a fifteen minute break was taken. The meeting resumed at 1:45 p.m.

Jack Archer of the State Board of Education presented on the State Board's role and proposed rules. Mr. Archer encouraged feedback from the Commission. The Commission agreed to submit a formal response to the proposed rules.

Mai Nguyen of Department of Enterprise Systems presented on SharePoint and assisted Commissioners with accessing the SharePoint site by setting up accounts. Discussion around whether SharePoint would be the best tool for sharing documents was initiated.

RaShelle Davis introduced the State Board of Education's bylaws and offered them as a template for the Commission's bylaws. A Bylaws Subcommittee was formed that consisted of Commissioners Doreen Cato and Chris Martin. Commissioners Cato and Martin agreed to prepare a draft version of bylaws for the following meeting.

Discussion around electing an Executive Committee followed. Each Commissioner was encouraged to consider whether he or she would like a leadership position on the Commission and to inform Ms. Davis of their intent to run for a position. The Commission agreed that elections would take place at the next meeting.

Hiring an Executive Director and Staff was discussed. An Executive Director Search Subcommittee was formed by Commissioners Trish Millines Dziko, Margit McGuire, and Cindi Williams. The Subcommittee was charged with creating a draft job description for the Executive Director to present at the next meeting.

The Executive Director Subcommittee discussion led to a budget discussion. Ms. Davis agreed to provide the Commissioners with the proposed budgets for the Commission from the House, Senate, and Governor. An opportunity to apply for funding from a foundation was presented by Ms. Davis. The Commission agreed to delay any outside grant funding opportunities at this time. Commissioners Williams and Wright offered to lobby the legislature for additional funding.

The Commission established its schedule for the remainder of the year. The following dates and locations were identified:

- Tues. April 30, Bellevue Arts Museum, 10 a.m. – 5p.m.
- Tues. May 28, Seattle, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Thurs. June 20, Seattle University, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Tues. July 30, Tacoma, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Thurs. Aug. 22, Everett, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.
- Thurs. Sept. 12, Spokane, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Thurs. Oct. 17, Seattle, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Thurs. Nov. 7, Vancouver, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Thurs. Dec. 5, Grays Harbor Community College, 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

The Commission continued its discussion on communication and SharePoint. The Commissioners all indicated that they wanted a separate email account for Commission related work and that the email address would replace their personal email addresses online. Commissioner Dziko offered to establish a Google Docs account for the Commission. The Commission was notified that Ms. Davis had requested a listserv for disseminating the Commission's information and updates to the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Three organizations signed-in to provide public comment to the Commission. Each speaker was allocated three minutes.

Jim Spady is an attorney who was active in getting I-1240 passed in Washington. He offered himself as a resource to the Commission and encouraged the Commission to lead the charter school effort in Washington. He suggested that future meetings take place in schools.

William Law submitted a letter of intent to apply for a charter school. His organization would like to have the first charter school in Mason, Thurston, and Grays Harbor.

Jackie Lisage and her colleague Mona testified about the importance of charter schools and the impact that the schools can have on Pacific Islander students.

CONTINUED DISCUSSION

The Commission continued to discuss assignments for the following meeting.

Commissioners Sundquist and Wright agreed to serve on an Agenda Subcommittee and Commissioners Quall and Jacka agreed to prepare a response for the Commission to deliver to the State Board of Education regarding its proposed rules.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.