



## CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 25, 2019 | 10:00 a.m. to 3:40 p.m.

Highline Community College (Library Boardroom), 2400 S 240th St, Des Moines, WA 98198

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### Attendance:

Elizabeth (Betsy) Cohen, Jessica Garcia, Dan Grimm, Kaaren Heikes, Dr. Kristina Mayer, Dr. Margit McGuire, Gayle Pauley, Steve Sundquist and Cindi Williams.

Leadership Team: Joshua Halsey, Executive Director; Paula Kitzke, Deputy Director; Krystal Starwich, Director of New School Applications; Daniel Nyachuba, School Evaluation Analyst; Aileen Miller, Assistant Attorney General and Amanda Martinez, Executive Assistant.

### Call To Order

#### Roll Call

Chair Williams called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. The following Commissioners were present: Betsy Cohen, Jessica Garcia, Dan Grimm, Kaaren Heikes, Dr. Kristina Mayer, Dr. Margit McGuire, Gayle Pauley, Steve Sundquist and Cindi Williams. It was determined that a quorum was present to proceed with the meeting. Commissioner Heikes left the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

### Consideration of Consent Agenda

The meeting minutes for the March 21, 2019 Commission meeting and standing committee updates were reviewed. Commissioner Cohen moved to move the Legislative Ad-hoc Committee notes and Finance Committee for further discussion and approve the consent agenda. Commissioner Sundquist seconded. The motion passed unanimously with no opposes; no abstentions.

### Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

### Chair Report

#### Commissioner Appointment History and Updates

Chair Williams provided a history of Commissioner appointments and terms.

#### Commission Self-Survey Next Steps

Chair Williams provided an update on the Commissioner survey results and activity at February Commission meeting. Two priorities she highlighted as first in the queue to address were:

- Formalizing a process for the evaluation, hiring and succession planning as it relates to the position of Executive Director
- Responding to the request for additional learning opportunities for Commissioners and staff

Commissioner Mayer will also work with the Executive Committee and Executive Director Halsey to address issues surfaced as they relate to:

- Leveraging skills and knowledge of Commissioners
- Managing and tracking decisions of the Commission
- Branding and Communications

### **Learning from Charter School Results: Follow Up and Next Steps**

As a follow up to Commissioners' request to study best practice as it relates to Washington state's network of charters, Chair Williams provided an update on outreach to Dr. Macke Raymond, Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO) at Stanford University, to create a research methodology in which to study and report back the strategies and practices found to be most effective and central to the creation of a thriving charter school. Executive Director Halsey will continue to pursue a partnership with CREO as well as work with Rainier Prep's school leader, Maggie O'Sullivan, on a presentation to the Commission at its June meeting.

### **June Commission Meeting**

The June meeting has changed from June 20, 2019 at South Seattle College – Georgetown to June 27, 2019 at Technology Access Foundation in Seattle.

## **Executive Director Report**

Executive Director Halsey provided a reminder of the Washington State Charter Schools Association (Wa Charters) conference set for May 3- May 4, 2019 in SeaTac.

Executive Director Halsey provided an update on the New School Application process and an overview of the May Resolution Meeting.

Executive Director Halsey updated Commissioners on the Ashé Preparatory Academy's approved contract amendment of Attachment 4: Educational Program Terms to increase their grades served on opening to K, 1, 2, 3 and 6, upon further discussion of their Board, they will revert back to the K, 1, 2 and 6.

Executive Director Halsey provided an update on the SOAR Academy closure plan, processes and procedures to support family's in this transition. SOAR is prioritizing placement of students and teachers and working to mitigate any financial commitments. Regular communication and transition team meetings will continue to take place, with updates provided at monthly Commission meetings.

Executive Director Halsey presented updated 2019 Executive Director's Annual Performance Goals based on input from the Executive Committee and the Commission more broadly.

Commissioner McGuire moved to approve the Executive Director's Annual Performance Goals. Commissioner Pauley seconded. The motion passed unanimously with no opposes; no abstentions.



### **Review Educational Equity Policy Changes**

Melia LaCour, equity consultant, reviewed the draft Educational Equity Policy changes with made after stakeholder feedback was incorporated. The Executive Committee will continue to work with Ms. LaCour and Executive Director Halsey on incorporating these changes with an eye towards a policy adoption at the June Commission meeting.

### **Review and Consider Commission Value Statements**

Melia LaCour provided an overview of the Commission values that emerged during the ongoing equity training. Commissioners agreed upon the following values to be incorporated into public-facing documents and in the decision making process moving forward:

- Accountability/Responsibility
- Transparency
- Innovation
- High Expectations

### **Executive Session**

No Executive Session was needed.

### **Next Steps**

Chair Williams identified the following next steps:

1. New Charter School Application Resolutions at May meeting
2. Conflict of Interest Discussion at May meeting
3. Continue developing a Commissioner pipeline
4. Wa Charters Conference in May
5. Racial Equity Policy Adoption at May meeting
6. Green Dot discussion at the Finance Committee
7. Legislation and legislative priorities tracking
8. Legislative lessons learned after session concludes
9. Leverage Rainier Prep best practices
10. SOAR Academy Updates and Reflection
11. Active Ingredients Project Updates
12. Performance Framework Updates
13. Commissioner Survey Results and Next Steps at the Executive Committee
14. Charter School Replication and Expansion Application Development
15. CREDO engagement
16. Executive Summary of each school

### **Meeting Adjournment**

Chair Williams adjourned the meeting at 3:42 p.m.