



CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 11, 2016 | 10:00 a.m. to 2:12 p.m.

South Seattle College, Georgetown Campus, Colin Education Hall
6737 Corson Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98108

Attendance:

Commissioners: Jack Archer, Trish Millines Dziko, Dan Grimm, Dr. Margit McGuire, Raymond Navarro, Dave Quall, and Steve Sundquist

Absent: Dr. Stacy Hill, Cindi Williams

Leadership Team: Joshua Halsey, Executive Director; Aileen Miller, Assistant Attorney General; Sandy Green, Executive Assistant

Call To Order:

Roll Call

Chair Sundquist called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. Attendance was taken. The following Commissioners were present: Jack Archer, Trish Millines Dziko, Dan Grimm, Dr. Margit McGuire, Dave Quall, and Steve Sundquist. It was determined a quorum was present to proceed with the meeting. Commissioner Raymond Navarro arrived at 10:09 a.m.

Approval of the May 19, 2016 Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes for the May 19, 2016 Commission meeting were reviewed and approved. Steve Sundquist moved. Margit McGuire seconded. Motion carried unanimously, with no opposes and no abstentions.

Approval of the July 13, 2016 Special Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting Minutes for the July 13, 2016 Special Commission meeting were reviewed and approved. Steve Sundquist moved. Trish Millines Dziko seconded. Motion carried, with no opposes. Margit McGuire abstained.

Public Comment

Melissa Westbrook, Blogger with Seattle Schools Community Forum, provided comment.

Chair Report – Steve Sundquist

Chair Sundquist reported that the new charter school law's appointment process is moving forward and that it is expected that the Commission will have eleven members by the September meeting. Chair Sundquist put in a

request to hold meetings in charter schools so Commissioners can see and feel what charter schools are like. He also stated that the Commission will do onboarding at the September meeting.

Executive Director Report

Authorized Charter School Updates

Executive Director Joshua Halsey reported that all the charter schools met reopening conditions and will be opening within the next two weeks. The current enrollment number for each school listed in the meeting materials is as of August 4th and the projected enrollment numbers are the numbers codified in the school's budget that was required to be submitted to the Commission by July 10.

Education Service Provider (ESP) Contracts Updates

The ESP contract between Excel Public Charter School and Green Dot Public Schools Washington was updated by both parties to reflect the feedback the Commission provided during the July 13, 2016 Special Commission Meeting. Chair Sundquist has provided Excel Public Charter School with written approval of the ESP contract. Dan Grimm confirmed with Chair Sundquist that the Excel ESP contract was based *"Upon a determination by the Executive Director, with advice from counsel, that the proposed Educational Service Provider (ESP) contract satisfied the terms of the Charter School Act and the provisions of the charter contract."* Chair Sundquist stated that all required documents had been submitted and conditions met. Executive Director Halsey informed the group that the September meeting will include a presentation from Excel about why they chose the ESP model over hiring a special education teacher.

SOAR Academy's board of directors elected to retain the services of Seneca Family of Agencies to support the ongoing operations of SOAR for the 2016-17 school year. Executive Director Halsey expects to receive the proposed ESP contract within the next three weeks and will prepare a recommendation for the Commission to review.

Performance Framework Updates

After the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) data results are released on August 16, the Commission will move forward to work with Public Impact, an education consulting firm they have been working with for over two years, to conduct trial runs, set student achievement targets (growth and proficiency), and weight the metrics that comprise the entire academic framework. Dr. Catherine Fromme is returning to work part-time with the Commission and will complete the Performance Framework. The Academic component of it may not be completed by the September meeting.

Co-funded Special Education Position Update

Executive Director Halsey worked with OSPI's Special Education Department to create a co-funded Special Education position (60/40 split) that will increase both agencies' capacity to provide onboarding support, technical assistance and oversight to charter schools regarding compliance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). There is the potential to increase the Commission's percentage responsibility for the

position as more schools are authorized and open their doors. The selected individual will start in early September.

National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA) Leaders Conference Opportunity

This year's NACSA Leaders Conference will be held in Atlanta, GA from October 24-27, 2016. The Commission's budget provides support for three employees and any Commissioner who is interested in attending the conference.

Lawsuit Challenging Constitutionality of Charter School Act Updates

A lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the Charter School Act was filed on August 3, 2016. The Commission issued a press release in response to the lawsuit and Commissioner Sundquist and Executive Director Halsey are the identified spokespersons for the Commission.

Foreshadowing September Commission Meeting Focus

The September Commission meeting will include the first of two 3-4-hour learning and dialogue engagements designed to increase Commissioners' understanding of the legal landscape they are operating in, increase collective understanding of the Commission's obligation as an agency, explore the history of the Commission, current composition, future direction, and begin discussing future governance norms. The engagement will be facilitated by William Haft (NACSA), Assistant Attorney General Aileen Miller and Executive Director Joshua Halsey, with the support of Tim Corey, a graphic facilitator.

Meeting Roster

The meeting materials packet included a list of the individuals and organizations that Executive Director Halsey met with since the May Commission meeting.

Commission Biennium Budget Review and Approval

Executive Director Halsey presented a PowerPoint presentation on the FY 2017-19 biennium budget, which is due to OFM by September 16. The presentation included the following: State Budgeting Process Overview, Commission Fund Sources, proposed 2017-19 Biennium Budget, and Commission's Organizational Chart.

After a question and answer session, Jack Archer moved *"to adopt the proposed 2017-19 Commission biennium budget as presented by the Executive Director."* Trish Millines Dziko seconded. Motion carried unanimously, with no opposes and no abstentions.

Agency Transition to Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)

State-issued Emails

With the Commission now residing within OSPI for administrative purposes only (human resources including payroll, information technology, budgeting and accounts payable, facilities management, public records), Commission staff have been issued new State email addresses, and the *@charterschool.wa.gov* email accounts

are being closed. Executive Director Halsey strongly encourages all Commissioners to capitalize on the opportunity to get and use a State-issued email account.

Public Records Officer

The Commission is in the process of transitioning its designated Public Records Officer from Commission staff to OSPI staff. The change in designee requires an update to agency rules regarding Public Records (WAC 108-50), and the required paperwork to initiate the rule update process (CR 101) will be filed by the end of the week. Proposed agency rule changes will be an agenda item for the September meeting.

Executive Session

An Executive Session was begun at 1:38 p.m. pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency. The Executive Session adjourned at 2:07 p.m. No final action was taken during the Executive Session.

Chair Sundquist reconvened the Commission to Open Session at 2:08 p.m.

Next Steps

The following next steps were identified:

1. Next meeting is September 15th at South Seattle College Georgetown Campus
2. Complete appointment process
3. Commissioner onboarding
4. Review bylaws
5. Officer elections
6. Reestablish standing committees
7. Complete Academic Performance Framework
8. Conduct next Charter School Application process

Commission adjourned at 2:12 p.m.