



QUALITY EDUCATION COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2021

10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON

ONLINE MEETING ZOOM

255 CAPITOL STREET NE, SALEM, OR 97310

Commission Members: John Rexford, John Larson, Samuel Henry, Greg Hamman, Dana Hepper, Carlos Sequeira, Tricia Mooney, Whitney Swander, Jon Wiens (Staff), Evan Fuller (Staff), and Amelia Vargas (Staff)

Meeting Scribe: Katie Chandler

Welcome & Commissioner Updates:

Samuel Henry - Retired professor from Portland State University. Teaching doctoral course this quarter.

Trisha Mooney - Superintendent for Hermiston school district

Greg Hamman - Retired Community College President. This is my last QEC meeting. I will hopefully be a commissioner on the Higher Education Coordinating Commission. Some questions on QEC members were questioned at the senate confirmation hearing.

Carlos Sequeira - Director of school improvement at Lane ESD. Will be the new superintendent starting June 30, 2021 at Lane ESD.

Dana Hepper- Director of policy and advocacy at the Children's Institute.

Whitney Swanser- Director of data and research with Foundations for a Better Oregon. Attended the senate confirmation hearing and is not a confirmed QEC member.

Early Childhood Presentation:

Dana - Currently there is unequal access to preschool because it's not publicly funded. It's based on income. It impacts Kindergarten readiness that is connected to third grade outcomes. It goes all the way to highschool graduation. Gaps need to be eliminated before kindergarten entry. It's hard for families to afford preschool and it's getting more expensive over time. Preschool is a targeted approach. Early childhood programs have class size restrictions. It cost about 12,000 a kid for preschool. Preschool also falls in a land between education and child care and there are many different models. Many programs are half day and can be inconvenient for families. A lot of preschools are switching to 6 hour days and 4 to 5 days a week. There are a lot of centers

that teach and do daycare. Preschools operate in many different settings that have different cost per child and system cost implications. Dana's slide presentation is located [here](#).

Brooke Chilton Timmons- Helping to implement preschool for all in multnomah county. New initiative passed by voters in november 2020. It will create free and voluntary preschool for all 3 and 4 year olds by a tax. We're creating more access for families to enroll in preschool. We are in the planning stage and currently working on a cost model. Expecting to be universal in 2031. We spent a full year building the policies for preschool for all. Andrew will be connected to the task force and the finance strategy and administration work group which Dana Hepper volunteered for. If you have any questions please contact Brooke at: brooke.chilton-timmons@multco.us

Andrew Dyke (Eco Northwest) - Economist at Eco Northwest and involved in many Education projects. I will be talking about the cost modeling for preschool for all. Collected local data. We want to layer on current systems not replace them. Looked at in detail in case studies of cities that have these programs in place. The slot cost for a high quality preschool program is 11,000 - 13,000. We developed the cost model. The first factor is different models for tuition. Will it be free or based on income levels. Hours and days of operations and are there additional hours of child care available. Staff ratios are important and aids in class. Reasonable levels of staff compensation were developed. A well compensated educator leads to better student outcomes. Final slot cost was based on 6 hour days, 180 days and paid training and vacation days for staff. That's a range between 12,000-13,000 a student for a high quality program.

State Superintendents Report:

Colt Gill - Two candidates for the role so far. The other candidates will go before the senate in September. Lindsay Capps is working on the appointments for QEC. The legislature will hear and hopefully pass forward a state school fund. House bill 3073 has progressed through the session successfully. That sets up the early learning division as their own agency and brings in more staff to create a home for children and families. ODE is working on the state esser application. The application for emergency funds for schools is a large application but is getting worked through. We're on a quick timeline to access these funds for the school by June 7, 2021. We'll come back and share this plan with the QEC because there will be about 1 billion more in K-12 education.

Commissioners Updates:

Samuel Henry - We need more visibility of what the QEC does. and find a better way to put our messages out there besides reports. One suggestion while we prepare for new members is to think about how we get the messages out about what the QEC does. Suggest we postpone the retreat until all new members are appointed. Higher Education, another memo from Portland

State University and a lot of services we had for students of color are being collapsed into the work of others. I hope we are not cutting back on those programs.

Whitney Swander - Short intro into a project that the Foundations for a Better Oregon are planning over the summer. Summer is a time to tend to social and emotional needs. Center identity, play and discovery this summer. There is a lot of investment this summer into programs for students. A model of community based education and what that does for kids. How do we go about an integrated community centered education model.

Carlos Sequeira - The SIA administration were pulled in to do this job and nothing was taken off of their plates. We have hired a new reopening advisor. We have end of the year reports for five large grants that we handle.

Trisha Mooney - Keeping an eye on the budget. Oregon made a huge step with the SIA funds last year and were hoping schools don't have to use those funds to maintain a level of funding this year because of budget cuts. Working on graduation and planning for summer programs. Teachers are working very hard and stepping up in the summer programs this year. They really need to have a break to prevent turn over. Teacher shortage is already an issue.

John Rexford - Dana shared an article from the New York Times about the Boston preschool program that is located [here](#). It's a great article. They used a lottery system to access the preschool program to track and the downstream impacts have been measurable.

Future meeting topics & prep:

We have talked about the literature review. Carlos did reach out to a researcher and have had a great collaboration. Carlos wants to see what that agency already has and document that we could use. They could have a literature synthesis.

Plan for a retreat for September or November. We will plan with ODE.

Adjourn

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2021

10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON (Zoom)