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Public Charter School Policy Work Session

Agenda

Wednesday, April 8, 2015

251B Public Service Building

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Members Excused:

Staff Present:

[Agenda](#)¹

1.0 Preliminary Business

- 1.1 Call to Order, Roll Call, Flag Salute at 1PM
- 1.2 Review Agenda and Structure of Meeting

2.0 Public Charter School Waivers

- 2.1
 - Kate Pattison provided background on school waivers. Gave information on federal guidelines on waivers and weighted lotteries.
 - Weighted Lotteries are geared towards underrepresented students. There is also legislation on weighted lotteries. Pattison asked the board to hold off on making decision on weighted lotteries until the legislature adjourns. The other issue on weighted lotteries is on whether it is ethical to provide waivers to children of founders and staff. ODE reached out to the Oregon Ethics Commission and asked them to weigh on this. OEC states it could be in the area of an ethics violation. However, if the public charter school provided this benefit as part of the employment package, this would most likely not be an ethics violation. Pattison states that it is common practice to have waivers in place.
 - Pattison laid out the proposal for how to pick waiver, the length of time the waiver would be in effect, how does equity is applied and how to report back to the SBE.
 - There was discussion between Schild and Colonna with Pattison around the OEC letter and the materials she provided.

2.2 Public Comment

Bobbie Forsyth provided support waivers.

Chelle Robins also gave her support for waivers. Summer asked about if waivers are negative impacts on underrepresented students in Four Rivers. Robins stated no because most of their students and teacher are Latino students but it may affect other carters. Robins also explained that it is part of their contract to give a waiver.

Anna Truhaf supported waivers.

Oliver Olson also supported waivers. He's from Sauvie Island.

Phil Fletcher was there as an advocate on the migrant family community.

Mark Blacksteen read a letter by Jeanie Mullen who is a student at Sauvie Island Academy

Darla Muewesen also supports waivers.

Diane Kunkel also supports waivers.

Cary Lamore also supports waivers.

Saxonto commented that the charter school should focus on off-island recruitment and people of color.

Amy Mockowen also supports waivers.

¹ All meeting materials can be found at: <http://www.ode.state.or.us/search/page/?id=3185>.

If you are unable to read the materials, please contact Jessica.Nguyen-Ventura@ode.state.or.us

Leah Clayburn also favors waivers.

2.3 Discussion

Pattison explained that this is not an easy topic nor an easy issue because charter schools are all different. She did agree with Colonna on possibly having board policy around depending on local school districts support of waivers to make a decision. There is no policy specifically telling Pattison that she needs to check with local school boards. However, Pattison asked for direction on how to move forward with the request.

Martinez thanked Pattison for her work. Martinez reminds the board on reflecting on where the board is and so it is not a black box for people applying for the waiver. Martinez wants to know where are the board priorities to grant waivers.

Chair Henry provide comments on how each charter school is different. Chair Henry reflects that the board does change over time and will the decision on waivers will depend on where the board is. The focus is around equity, fiscal responsibility, reflecting the values and direction of local schools, and providing the highest quality education.

Summer like the list but the issue that they are scrutinizing and the board is asking harder questions. Summer likes the flexibility the board has but also means that the charters will need to beef up their presentation because the board is asking harder questions.

Break

3.0 State Board Charter School Subcommittee

3.1 Kate Proposed a subcommittee since charter work is taking up much of the time of the agenda. They Board would then take the recommendations of the subcommittee. There are challenges on having a subcommittee. This would be a half day meeting before a state board meeting and depends on the rhythm of the sub.

Martinez believes it is a good idea however did not feel comfortable with just taking the recommendation of the subcommittee. Martinez would like two versus one board member. Martinez does not want a consent agenda item but just a summary and a shorter version . The Board agreed on two board members, two charter people, and a policy member. Kate will bring a proposal in May on the subcommittee on the recruitment process and with an adoption in June.

Adjourn