



## QUALITY EDUCATION COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2021

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

### ONLINE MEETING ZOOM

255 CAPITOL STREET NE, SALEM, OR 97310

***Commission Members:*** John Rexford, Samuel Henry, Dana Hepper, Carlos Sequeira, Tricia Mooney, Whitney Swander, Reed Scott-Schwalbach, Jon Wiens (Staff), Evan Fuller (Staff), and Amelia Vargas (Staff)

***Meeting Scribe:*** Katie Chandler

### **Welcome & Commissioner Updates:**

Samuel Henry - Incredibly talented Paul Coakley Sr. passed away. When I first moved to this area in 1992 he was a principal at a school and was very plugged in to his students and families. Paul Coakly Jr. recruited me and I was voted on by the board of directors and voted by the board officially on the EMESD board of directors.

Carlos Sequeira - Lane ESD assistant superintendent. The safety of the students and educators is a priority. It's challenging with so many conflicting voices from parents. We are having conversations about what to do with the COVID rates going up. Trying to figure out how to support our districts in their decision process and the resources they need to get students back. How are the teachers responding? Not sure yet. Education specialists that I work with are so resilient in their spirit.

Dana Hepper - Children institute. I am eager to have my kids back in inperson school. Grateful to live in an area where vaccines are popular. The legislation allocated preschool promise and equity programs. The money never flowed into the programs until this week. Programs had to float for months. Some programs had to stop because of running out of funds. How can we come up with a better strategy to make state contracting with smaller providers faster? The legislature allocated 4,000 more slots to Pre-k.

Reed Scott-Schwalbach - Highschool Spanish teacher from Central Oregon. Deeply concerned what educators will do. Eagle point has hired 70 positions and has more to fill. We have this opportunity to create something new. I watched the Newberg school board meeting. The work we do here is around school quality because people are trying to figure that out. Where we can indicate and influence what schools do for our students. It needs to be based on data and what the students are telling us.

Tricia Mooney - Superintendent Hermiston. We have large covid numbers in umatilla county. Population of folks that don't believe in the vaccine and are pushing back for kids to not wear masks. There are

some new board positions that are aligned with those beliefs. Populations of kids are falling through the cracks not being in person. There are board members that think teachers did nothing last year but they are working their tails off to support our kids. The work of this commission is so important right now.

Whitney Swander - Deep in Summers work partnering with community based organizations mostly in the Portland metro area. Why having kids together and culture based learning and picking out examples in our state. Gathering stories to share those with the broader community.

John Rexford - I had a dozen students last week seeking an administrative position and an amazing group of young education leaders. This is my last class with the Lewis and Clark teaching admin cohort program.

### **Staff Updates**

Jon Wiens - Director of accountability and reporting. Talking about the impacts on teachers and families and in the data world we don't have a whole lot we can tell on the state level we have a little assessment data and there were significant drops in scores. But the data is incomplete. The only other data is very early 9th grade on track information on track if they earn 6 credits in their first year. We don't have the summer school credits earned yet but we are starting to see in the 9th Grade on track that there is a 50% increase of students that are credit deficient

Evan Fuller - My shop has gotten smaller. Amelia Vargas will be leaving ODE at the end of the month. I'm the only one right now in my department. We have a meeting on September 10th with Rep. Neron about QEM components. Having a commissioner or 2 at the meeting would be helpful and beneficial .

### **Legislative Update:**

Reed Scott-Schwalbach - excitement about the class size bill being passed focused on Title 1 schools.

Dana Hepper - suspension and expulsion bill for preschool house bill 2166 created a program to prevent suspension in childcare and preschool and that directs the programs that are licensed or received funds will not be able to expel starting in 2026. So there is a 5 year time to start developing systems of support for providers.

### **Literature Review**

Carlos - Met with Scott Nlne a couple weeks ago. Progress Markers. How we ended up here We are talking about the QEM report that is a research and best practice. There are other ways to capture students' success. What we would have to change is we are going to look at the health of the school. There are 15 progress markers that need to be in place for a school for students to be successful.

Samuel Henry - I had concerns that the markers that we were looking at did not include Early childhood or pre-k. There needs to be further attention paid to that. The other piece we used graduation rates

which we have recently diluted what the definition of that is. There are other pieces that have presented themselves as questions. My recollection is that we also marked the transition from high school to post secondary. There might be other markers to use. The conversation is an important one as we really presented for our colleagues and a sense of what this all can really be just the indicators we have dealt with for almost 10 years.

Dana Hepper - Reinforce what happened before 3rd grade could inform K-12. What I heard from this framework of outcomes. If you back it up and say what happens before 3rd grade reading can happen that can help with some indicators. Need to balance a focus on academic outcomes and social and well being indicators. How do we continue to hold academic outcomes but seeing them as a partnership with social and emotional outcomes.

Trisha Mooney - As I reflect on that meeting and the work of the commission. ODE sent out the state EL report last week after reviewing Hermision is 2nd in the state for English Learners. The task of the commission keeps widening. The needs of early learning is a different need than students that come to us in the 7th grade and have no formal education. The students' needs are changing faster than we can write a policy.

Whitney Swander- I would love to see if rather than a large and a small school maybe there are some prototypical schools that we can narrow some data we have around our school. We have a lot of rural districts with this kind of impact. Maybe there are 5-7 models that will get closer to serving different populations instead of having a blanket.

**Future meeting topics & prep:**

No live meeting in september.

**Adjourn**

**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2021**

**10:00 AM – 12:00 NOON (Zoom)**