



QUALITY EDUCATION COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

8:00AM - 10:00AM

HYBRID: MS TEAMS OR IN PERSON AT OREGON PUBLIC SERVICES BUILDING

Commission Members: *Tricia Mooney (Chair), Manuel Vazquez-Cano, Cam Preus, Melissa Bradshaw, Reed Scott-Schwalbach, Dana Hepper, Karinn Calhoun, Laurie Danzuka, Evan Fuller (Staff), Candice Castillo (Staff), Dan (Staff)*

Meeting Scribe: *Mariah Robillard*

Introductions

Chair Mooney facilitated introductions with Commissioners.

ODE Updates

Dr. Candice Castillo, ODE's Deputy Director of Academics, gave an update on priorities within the department. This included an update on the status of ODE's accountability implementation work as well as an update on the legislative short session, noting the continuation of engagement work.

Best Practices Survey Questions

Dan Farley gave an update on the Best Practices Survey, noting that he and Evan have updated the questions based on Commissioner feedback. Dan asked the group if they still wanted to disseminate the survey based on the unknown future of the QEC. This led to a discussion about the pros and cons of sending it out, and ultimately a decision was made to still disseminate the survey, regardless of the future of the QEC and QEM.

QEC Formal Decisions

Chair Mooney began a discussion about some questions regarding formal decision making. Dan Farley and Evan Fuller provided more information and context regarding adding a large high school model to the report. Next, Dan reviewed the topic of increasing the instructional time requirement, noting that similarly to the large high school model, it would increase costs. Another topic was expanding the best practices survey dissemination, which Dan noted would be no additional cost. He brought up that ODE could leverage the Communications Team to reach more people by utilizing social media, which Commissioners approved. The final topic was regarding urban/rural weighting, which Dan noted that ODE would recommend not addressing due to the fact that the report already addresses discrepancies in collecting data from rural schools.

Additionally, Dan led a discussion with Commissioners regarding what funds they think the QEM should count. Either continuing as it normally has in estimating only school state fund sources, adding all K-12 sources of funding that the Student Investment Account (SIA) makes available, or adding all funding the SIA makes available which would include funds not specific to K-12. It was determined that this would be added as an agenda item in the next meeting.

Wrap Up

Due to Chair Mooney being unavailable for the February meeting there was a discussion around when the QEC would meet next. It was decided that the February meeting would be skipped and the QEC would meet next at the regularly scheduled March meeting. Dan Farley offered to begin writing the 2026 QEM Report in lieu of a February meeting.

Chair Mooney concluded and adjourned the meeting.

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026

8:00 AM – 10:00 AM (Hybrid: MS Teams or In Person at Oregon Public Services Building)