



THE WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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September 26, 2017

Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction
600 Washington Street SE
Olympia, WA 98501

Special Board Meeting Minutes for the Washington State Board of Education (SBE)

Tuesday, September 26

Members Attending: Chair Kevin Lavery (via ZOOM), Ms. Connie Fletcher (Via ZOOM), Mr. Peter Maier J.D. (via ZOOM), Mr. Jeff Estes (via ZOOM), Mr. Chris Reykdal, Ms. Holly Koon (via ZOOM), Ms. MJ Bolt (via ZOOM), Ms. Judy Jennings (via ZOOM), Ms. Janis Avery (via ZOOM), Mr. Ricardo Sanchez (via ZOOM), Mr. Ryan Brault (via ZOOM), Ms. Mona Bailey (via ZOOM) and Dr. Alan Burke (via ZOOM) (13)

Members Absent: Ms. Patty Wood, Mr. Joe Hofman, Ms. Lindsey Salinas (3)

Staff Attending: Mr. Parker Teed, Dr. Andrew Parr, Ms. Tamara Jensen, Ms. Alissa Muller, Ms. Linda Drake, Ms. Linda Sullivan-Colglazier, Ms. Carole Lynch (via ZOOM) and Ms. Denise Ross (8)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lavery called the special board meeting of the Washington State Board of Education to order at 3:00 p.m. Ms. Jensen conducted a roll call of board members. Members Fletcher, Koon, Avery, Estes, Jennings, Lavery, Bolt, Maier, Brault, Sanchez, and Burke were confirmed as participating.

Members Reykdal and Bailey joined the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

DISCUSSION OF SELECTION PROCESS FOR INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION

Members discussed the proposed selection process for selecting an interim executive director. Members were asked to review the executive director recruitment description last used by the Board in 2011 as criteria for selecting an interim executive director. Chair Lavery stated the term of the interim executive director will be a baseline of three months, but the Board may choose to extend the time period if needed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Lavery adjourned the open session at 3:03 p.m. for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of an applicant for public employment. He reconvened the Board meeting from Executive Session at 3:46 p.m.

Ms. Jensen read into record a message to the Board from Member Wood.

DISCUSSION OF SELECTION PROCESS FOR PERMANENT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION

Chair Laverty reported that he had recently consulted with emeritus board member, Dr. Kris Mayer, who had previously assisted in the hiring of two executive directors for the Board. In both selection processes, there were limitations around the type of person that could potentially be attracted to the position. Chair Laverty spoke of the challenges of selecting out-of-state candidates.

Members reviewed Chair Laverty's proposed timeline for the recruitment and selection of the permanent executive director. Members agreed with the steps in the process, but favored having a longer timeline in order to achieve a larger pool of diverse candidate and allow members to network with partners about potential recommendations. Members discussed possible recruiting mechanisms, such as utilizing an executive search service or external contractors.

Members discussed creating a subcommittee of members to work with the Interim Executive Director and OSPI's Human Resource Department in creating a recruitment process proposal for the Board to consider. Members felt all board members should provide input in the qualities, skills, and abilities for the position description.

Member Reykdal left the meeting at 3:59 p.m.

Member Fletcher left the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Motion made by Member Maier to delegate the Selection Process for Permanent Executive Director Position to a Board search committee, to be designated by the Chair, the search to be in consultation with OSPI's Human Resource and with input from board members.

Motion seconded by Member Avery.

Motion carried on a roll call. (11 yes/0 no). Members voting yes: Sanchez, Jennings, Laverty, Avery, Bolt, Estes, Bailey, Brault, Burke, Maier, and Koon.

Motion made by Member Maier to hire Deb Merle as Interim Executive Director on terms and conditions to be negotiated by the Board Chair in consultation with OSPI Human Resource. The hiring of Deb Merle shall be for a specific period of time that may be extended without further board action if the Executive Committee approves the extension. The rate of pay shall not exceed the rate of pay of the present Executive Director.

Motion seconded by Member Koon.

Motion carried.

Motion carried on a roll call. (11 yes/0 no). Members voting yes: Sanchez, Jennings, Laverty, Avery, Bolt, Estes, Bailey, Brault, Burke, Maier, and Koon.

Ms. Merle's temporary employment as interim executive director will become effective October 1, 2017.

Chair Laverty adjourned the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: Ms. Denise Ross, Executive Assistant to the Board