



DRAFT



City of Seattle

**FAMILIES AND EDUCATION LEVY
LEVY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**
Tuesday, June 19, 2007 • 4:00–5:30 p.m.
City Hall, Norman B. Rice Conference Room

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Someireh Amirfaiz, Tim Ceis, David Della, Antonio Hopson, Michelle Corker-Curry and Carla Santorno for Raj Manhas, John Pehrson, Debra Sullivan

OTHERS PRESENT:

Tom Bailey (MSSP), Carla Bryant (Office for Education), Linwood Carlson (Seattle Public Schools), Lori Chisholm (Parks), Jeff Clark (SPS Denny Middle School), TJ Cosgrove (Public Health), Jessica de Barros (OFE), Jerry DeGrieck (Human Services Dept), Dr. Jeff Duchin (Public Health), Bob Fortner (Youth Tutoring Program), Dr. Matt Golden (Public Health), Donnie Grabowski (OFE), Kathleen Groshong (HSD), Caprice Hollins (SPS), Mary Johnson (HSD), Patricia Lee (Council Central Staff), Patricia McInturff (HSD), Ruth Medsker (SPS), Holly Miller (OFE), Erica Mullen (YMCA), Sue Rust (OFE), Mark Secord (PSNHC), Anne Shields (Public Health), Kristi Skanderup (MSSP), Tilman Smith (HSD), Mao Svy (HSD), Anna Treadway (HSD), Amy Williams (Finance), Billie Young (HSD)

Tim Ceis called the meeting to order and asked for introductions. The minutes of the May 15, 2007 Levy Oversight Committee (LOC) were approved.

LOC Feedback on Proposed 2007-2008 Targets and Course-Corrections

Holly Miller asked if LOC members had any additional feedback on the proposed 2007-08 targets and course-corrections, which were reviewed at the May 15 meeting. Debra Sullivan asked when the English Language Learners (ELL) discussion would take place. At the April 17 meeting, it was requested the LOC discuss the ELL issue in-depth. The discussion was scheduled for the May 15 meeting but LOC members had decided to postpone it due to some members being absent. H. Miller stated a separate meeting is being scheduled to discuss ELL issues and asked who would like to attend. Someireh Amirfaiz, Debra Sullivan and Antonio Hopson indicated they would like to participate.

Mark Secord from Puget Sound Neighborhood Health Centers made a statement regarding School-Based Health Centers (SBHCs). He said holding SBHCs accountable for WASL outcomes is similar to holding teachers accountable for diabetic and other health outcomes. SBHCs cannot accrue their percentage of performance-based revenue until they know WASL results the following fall. A. Hopson said the LOC has looked at this issue and they understand the relationship between health and WASL scores. A. Hopson clarified that the WASL targets are low on purpose in order to reduce the risk to providers and there has never been a discussion of eliminating the WASL targets.

Briefing on the HPV Vaccine

Drs. Jeff Duchin and Matt Golden from Public Health – Seattle & King County presented information to the LOC on the HPV vaccine. This briefing was requested since staff recommended that Levy funds be used to support an HPV campaign in schools. The speakers explained what HPV is and whom the vaccine campaign is targeting (middle and high school girls). There are 6,000 girls in middle and high schools in Seattle Public Schools. The vaccine involves three doses over approximately two months.

Councilmember David Della asked whether the HPV vaccine would be voluntary, and how that would be communicated to students in different languages. The vaccine is voluntary, and all families receive an information sheet when receiving the vaccine. A. Hopson asked whether it was difficult to administer the three doses and what measures were taken to ensure students returned for their second and third doses. This is always a challenge with vaccines that require more than one dose; perhaps the school-based approach will make it easier to make sure students follow up. John Pehrson asked what the LOC's role is in the HPV vaccine campaign. The Levy will pay for 0.8 of a full-time position to coordinate the campaign in schools. J. Pehrson clarified this is not a change in wellness policy. Jerry DeGriek said this is a great opportunity to directly improve student health. D. Della asked what the cost would be to the Levy. The cost is approximately \$55,000.

S. Amirfaiz asked whether there was a strategy for reaching girls from more traditional families. The right language and cultural context is needed in order to reach these families. Public Health already goes into communities to promote other health issues such as pap screening; the PHV vaccine can be folded into existing outreach efforts. Public Health is also working with pediatricians, giving them guidance on how to discuss HPV with all patients. A. Hopson asked how this campaign will follow the Levy policy of helping the most needy. Anne Shields stated there is a need to pilot a number of ways to administer the vaccine in schools. Staff will identify who is not being reached, once efforts are underway. Public Health is also developing specific outreach efforts for immigrant and refugee communities, not only for HPV, but for other public health issues as well (such as breast cancer).

Review of Middle School Innovation Site Proposals

H. Miller briefed the LOC on the process middle school Innovation Sites have undertaken since the LOC's direction to strategically align school and Levy resources and set one school-wide target. Jeff Clark, Principal of Denny Middle School, provided examples of how the new middle school approach would help improve academic achievement.

A. Hopson asked how the community collaboration was increased through this process. J. Clark responded that one example is community partners attending school meetings about individual students to determine how they can help those students with the resources they provide. D. Della asked how the Innovation Site plans align with the Seattle Public Schools' academic strategy, especially with regards to math remediation. J. Clark described the elements of Denny Middle School's plan for math, including an extra after-school math class, extra math at every school break/vacation, and coordinating with the MESA program at appropriate times. All elements are orchestrated to fit together. The biggest change at Denny as a result of the new plan is the Community Learning Center (CLC). The school is changing from a mindset of the CLC providing enrichment that supports academic achievement to a mindset that academic strategies

and the CLC activities should be designed together. This has eliminated the boundaries between the school and CLC goals.

A. Hopson asked whether all Innovation Sites were taking this approach. They are taking this approach. It was also asked what the class size was for the extended period; it is 17 or 18 students to one teacher.

D. Della asked whether tutors would be involved to help students succeed academically. Tutors have been incorporated into the plans. J. Clark stated he feels fortunate to have the Levy; these programs are an important piece of the school's overall effort.

J. Pehrson recommended that OFE serve as a resource to middle schools, and take care not to be a barrier. This is the approach of Social Venture Partners – don't just give money, give expertise. He would also like health programs fully integrated into the middle school strategy over time. T.J. Cosgrove explained the Levy health team is looking at this issue, and they are starting by addressing health issues of students referred to other Levy middle school programs.

A. Hopson asked how staff would ensure high attendance and participation. J. Clark responded his strategy was to merge outstanding pedagogy with high expectations for all kids. This requires an engaging, culturally relevant curriculum and every student having at least one engaging relationship with an adult in the school. Denny Middle School has found Proyecto Saber to be a successful model for connecting Latino students to adults. The schools still face a challenge in preventing truancy. D. Della asked what specific truancy prevention strategies the schools use. Some of the strategies are home visits, Seattle Team for Youth, the Seattle Police Department, and awarding college scholarships in partnership with high schools. Lin Carlson added that the District is applying to renew its 21st Century Community Learning Center grant. He also said that school nurses exceeded their target for screening students this year.

Carla Santorno asked J. Clark what formative and summative assessments will be used to track and evaluate student performance, and how students were doing with computation using the new math curriculum. J. Clark stated it is necessary to supplement the new curriculum; he is using Knowing Math and Singapore Math.

S. Amirfaiz asked whether the \$800,000 in leveraged funds was equal among the four middle school Innovation Sites. The amount is fairly even. The total Levy investment is \$1.3 million. There was also discussion of how many level 1 students attend the four Innovation Site schools. Jessica de Barros agreed to provide this information to the LOC.

Following this discussion, the meeting was adjourned.