



DRAFT



**FAMILIES AND EDUCATION LEVY
LEVY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Tuesday, February 10, 2015**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Burgess, Sandi Everlove, Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis, Marty McLaren, Larry Nyland, Kevin Washington, Elise Chayet, Cristina Gonzalez.

OTHERS PRESENT: Charles Wright (SPS), Dora Taylor (Parents Across America, Seattle Ed), Brian Goodnight (Council Central Staff), Nate Van Duzer (CM Burgess staff), John Donaghy (Seattle Education Association), Megan Holmes (Health), Sarah Wilhelm (Health), Erin McGary-Hamilton (DEEL Consultant), Forrest Longman (CBO), Leilani Dela Cruz (DEEL), Adam Petkun (DEEL), Long Phan (DEEL), Isabel Munoz-Colon (DEEL), Regina Jones (Mayor's Office), Sid Sidorowicz (DEEL), Christy Leonard (DEEL), Hueiling Chan (CISC), Saadia Hamid (SHA), Holly Miller (DEEL), Erica Johnson (DEEL), Rachel Schulkin (DEEL), Jonathan Knapp (Seattle Education Association), Saadia Hamid (Seattle Housing Authority), Hueling Chan (Chinese Information and Service Center) .

Tim Burgess called the meeting to order. Introductions were made and the minutes from the January 13, 2015 LOC meeting were approved.

Holly Miller introduced Saadia Hamid and Hueiling Chan to the group. Saadia and Hueiling are being recommended to the City Council as new members of the Levy Oversight Committee, representing early learning interests. Holly mentioned that her team has had a long working relationship with both Saadia and Hueiling. Saadia started with Neighborhood House and is presently the Seattle Housing Authority parent educator and parent services coordinator. Hueiling is the early learning director at the Chinese Information and Service Center, which is one of the best preschool programs in the city, ranked at level 4 in the State's Quality Rating Information System. Jonathan Knapp from Seattle Education Association & State Representative Ruth Kagi are also being recommended to the City Council as new members.

H. Miller informed the group that the full Seattle Preschool Program (SPP) Implementation Plan is being finalized and that we would like to schedule an additional Levy Oversight Committee meeting before the end of February to discuss the plan. Today's presentation will primarily focus on the approach, structure and process of the Implementation Plan.

The full Implementation Plan consists of three aspects:

1. Ordinance (Going to city council)
2. Implementation Plan (Summary of full Implementation Plan)
3. Seattle Preschool Program Plan (Full document)

The full Implementation plan will cover quality standards, processes and requirements for program participation.

In March we are coming to you with two policy issues related to the Families and Education Levy:

1. What is our criteria for defunding projects in the levy?
2. Work we are doing with the district and how we can support elementary schools participation in the levy?

Holly said that in regards to elementary schools, we have been through three cycles of applications and have been concerned about application fatigue. We would like to develop a process that works with the district in identifying schools that have the capacity to apply for Levy investments. We would like to propose spring and summer workshops that provide training and assistance with writing plans, data, evidence-based approaches and lessons learned from other schools.

Erica Johnson and Rachel Schulkin presented a preview of the Seattle Preschool Program Plan. E. Johnson explained that R. Schulkin's presentation will be about structure, activities, community feedback and outreach. E. Johnson's presentation will go over the Implementation Plan and the Seattle Preschool Program Plan.

Sandi Everlove asked what is meant by "Policy Recommendations" on the Policy Validation Form Slide. R. Schulkin's response was that we asked people to generate recommended policies that answer various questions. A question around curriculum was how can the city support providers in adopting the approved curriculum? What would we ask the city to do versus providers? Dozens of policies were vetted. K. Washington stated that he participated in the vetting groups which involved a process consisting of 40+ people. The rubric assisted with cutting down the processing time and helped people to really focus on policy. Policy vs. practice vs. procedure. S. Everlove asked how we are defining teacher training? R. Schulkin replied teacher training encompasses professional development around the curriculum. It also speaks to professional development around health, safety, special needs, developing cultural competency, etc. S. Everlove stated that it is important to separate curriculum training vs. other training. H. Miller replied that teacher training around curriculum is very defined and prescribed.

Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis asked if there is going to be some discussion about which curriculum was decided upon. H. Miller replied that two different curriculum (constructivist) approaches were selected, HighScope and Creative Curriculum. We have already started training with HighScope. We will provide professional development training, coaching and support. Creative Curriculum is one of the curricula adopted by the State. We will be in alignment with the State's Early Learning program and their quality rating system. The State will provide training and coaching for Creative Curriculum.

L. Gaskill-Gaddis asked to explain what is meant by "Specialized Classroom Support". R. Schulkin responded by saying we have been talking about children with disabilities and mental health concerns, which are areas attached to funding streams and a provision in the Action Plan. Additional instructional support is available for classrooms having six or more

children in a special population. How we can best work with the district in providing special education services, mental health support in classrooms and suspension and expulsion policies?

Elise Chayet asked for clarification regarding the role of Levy Oversight Committee members. H. Miller replied that their role is to review and advise the Mayor and City Council. Part of what we wanted to do today was to make sure you understood what would be in the document before you receive it.

L. Gaskill-Gaddis asked if City Council is going to be reviewing it as a whole or is one of the committees going to be reviewing it. T. Burgess replied that it will be reviewed by the Governance and Education committee. Once the Council approves the Implementation Plan the city will announce the process for potential providers to apply for funding through a competitive process in late spring/early summer.

S. Everlove asked about the Policy regarding institutions of higher education; do you know that the institutions can already deliver on that. Is that why that was chosen as a policy? H. Miller replied that staff are have already been working with the colleges. This was recognized as a huge issue from the very beginning since we don't have the number of teachers we need who are qualified at both AA and BA level. We have been talking with community colleges and the University of Washington about building programs and they are actively engaged and recognize the need. M. McLaren asked if the private colleges in the city are aware and are gearing up to support teacher development. H. Miller replied that they have met with every college in the city including Seattle Pacific University, Seattle University and Pacific Lutheran. The colleges are all fully briefed and to varying degrees are interested in doing something.

L. Gaskill-Gaddis asked what the 10-15 page summary is going to summarize. E. Johnson replied by saying it is going to respond to the resolution adopted by Council and provide legal guidance to a level that the program plan doesn't. S. Sidorowicz added an example from the FEL Implementation plan in elementary schools, we says we will invest in schools that meet the criteria of segmentation level 1, 2, or 3, or Title 1. It says how we rank priority elements in the school plan like family support, social emotional support and health services and how we would compete for funds.

M. McLaren asked when the detailed Implementation Plan will be available. R. Schulkin replied early March. M. McLaren replied that does not leave the district with much time to review and asks where the room for give and take is with regards to the MOU and district negotiation. T. Burgess replied that the district has been involved in the process. M. McLaren added that the district needs to see the actual product and vet it, and there are concerns from the district regarding review time. T. Burgess stated that he has not seen the plan either. H. Miller said the plan will not have surprises. It was a public process and now we are working on technical areas that will build a system that feeds into the district. M. McLaren said that the concern is that the district needs to know the plan in order to endorse it. T. Burgess said that there will be no surprises. H. Miller said that the tough policy discussion happened early on and now we are working on a lot of process issues with the district. H. Miller said we have had working sessions with Cashel Toner and other district staff. There were two meetings with staff for the SPS/DEEL Partnership Agreement and an outline of a draft will be submitted

to Council. The District board will have a chance to see the Partnership Agreement before it is adopted. Jonathan Knapp said that our members have been engaged in the process and that there has been a lot of educator voice in development of the Plan. M. McLaren said that the Board has had no opportunity to give feedback. H. Miller replied that Director Stephan Blanford served on the Plan Advisory committee. S. Everlove suggested that the school board could look at the prepared documents.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.