

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION WORKSHOP
TUESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2013
650 W. STATE STREET, BOISE, IDAHO
BOARD ROOM**

A special meeting of the Idaho Public Charter School Commission (PCSC) was held Tuesday, January 15, 2013, at 650 W. State Street, Boise, ID, Board Room. Chairman Alan Reed presided.

The following members were in attendance:

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| Brad Corkill | Nick Hallett | Gayle O'Donahue |
| Wanda Quinn | Brian Scigliano | Esther Van Wart |

Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

M/S (Quinn/Corkill): To approve the agenda as published. *The motion passed unanimously.*

1. PCSC Workshop: Policy Development and Performance Standards

Tamara Baysinger, PCSC Director, introduced the workshop goals and noted that there is a large percentage 1 and 2 star schools among Idaho's public charter schools. She observed that, when charter legislation was initially being drafted, the importance of the role of authorizer was not fully recognized.

The PCSC discussed whether charter school petitioners should be subject to credit or background checks, and decided not to proceed toward such requirements at this time. The PCSC discussed draft policies included in the meeting materials.

M/S (Quinn/O'Donahue): To approve the PCSC policy Section II.B "New Charter Petitions" as amended:

2. Standards for Petition Approval

- Correct lettering sequence

3. Petition Evaluation Process

- g.i. Change "shall" to "may"

4. PCSC Decision at Initial Hearing

- a.i. Delete paragraph
- d.i. Move paragraph as inclusion to paragraph above
- d.ii. Delete paragraph

The motion passed unanimously.

M/S (Quinn/Corkill): To approve PCSC Policy Section II.C "Proposed Charter Amendments" as amended:

- **C.1.b. Strike last sentence**
- **C.1.c. Strike last sentence**

The Commission agreed to add consent agenda items for PCSC staff recommended approvals of proposed charter amendments.

The motion passed unanimously.

M/S (Quinn/Hallett): To approve the petition evaluation rubric as amended:

- **Page 89, Professionalism, under organization, will include the addition of bookmarks**
- **Page 54, Compliance, a comment will be added to address cases of charter school replication**
- **Page 30, Edit last phrase of page to “Petition addresses whether or not non-charter students...”**

The motion passed unanimously.

The PCSC discussed the draft performance framework contained in the meeting materials. Ms. Baysinger explained how the framework will be used depends on whether language amending charter school statute passes in 2013.

Chairman Reed asked whether it is a burden for schools to give annual reports.

Ms. Baysinger said it is burdensome for out-of-area schools. Video technology is available at state offices, but many schools lack similar access. She suggested PCSC staff prepare a brief summary and/or presentation for Tier 1 schools and make their attendance to annual reviews voluntary.

The PCSC expressed support for implementation of voluntary reporting by for Tier 1 schools for all site visits and annual reviews.

The PCSC and staff discussed how the Star Rating system can be used to understand growth at both alternative and high-performing schools. The PCSC expressed interest in learning more about the legislature’s understanding regarding the role of charter school authorizers, including the amount of emphasis that should be placed on academics and innovation versus operational matters and fiscal stability. The PCSC agreed that improved student learning is a critical indicator of school success.

Ms. Baysinger explained the renewal process and noted that, if a renewal requirement is not added to Idaho statute, the PCSC will still need to find a means by which to enforce high academic standards for the schools it authorizes. Part of this process will be developing a clear definition of what constitutes a quality school.

2. PCSC Discussion: Draft Charter School Legislation

Ms. Baysinger described the process that representatives from the Idaho Charter School Network, Coalition of Charter School Families, Idaho Association of School Administrators, Idaho School Boards Association, State Department of Education, and PCSC have implemented throughout the year to develop draft legislation based on the National Alliance for Public Charter Schools' model law. Topics included charter school facility funding, authorizer fees, additional authorizers, school replication, authorizer oversight, renewals and contracts, and other matters.

The PCSC and staff discussed the proposed legislation. Michelle Clement Taylor, State Department of Education School Choice Coordinator, provided additional detail regarding the facilities funding proposal. The PCSC indicated support for the concepts contained in the draft legislation, indicating that it should help increase both autonomy and accountability for public charter schools.

Happy Committee Update

Ms. Baysinger said this committee was formed by the PCSC in the interest of providing meaningful recognition to high performing schools. The committee has proposed issuing formal letters of commendation to schools on an annual basis.

The PCSC expressed interest in holding annual workshops.

M/S (Corkill/Hallett): To adjourn the meeting. *The motion passed unanimously.*

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.