

MEETING MINUTES

IDAHO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

August 1, 2019
700 W. Jefferson Street, Boise, Idaho
Idaho State Capitol Building, East Wing 41

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Reed at 9:00 a.m. The following Commissioners were in attendance:

Alan Reed
Brian Scigliano
Wanda Quinn
Nils Peterson
Kitty Kunz
Sherilynn Bair
Julie Van Orden

TAB A: COMMISSION WORK

1. Agenda Review/Approval

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

TAB B: PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Reed provided time for public comment. He said the Commission has three, written testimonies that will be added to the record.

Kelly Trudeau, administrator for Compass Public Charter School thanked the commission and staff for their work and expressed her support of the recommendation made by the Attorney General's office.

Melissa Anderson, administrator for North Star Charter School, thanked the commission for the standards the schools are held to and the reports they receive yearly.

Tom LeClaire, president for the Coalition of Idaho Charter School Families, expressed lack of trust due to comments made in the executive session, as well as concern regarding NACSA's recommendations to the PCSC.

Monti Pittman, administrator for Idaho Technical Career Academy (ITCA), said inaccurate statements were made regarding ITCA during the executive session.

Kelly Edington, administrator for Idaho Virtual Academy, stated that she feels staff misleads the commission.

Kathleen Allison, administrator for iSucceed Virtual High School, expressed disappointment that data discussed in the executive session was provided without context.

Kerry Wysocki, board chair for Idaho Technical Career Academy, shared concern about proper transmission of information to the Commission and the importance of rebuilding trust between the Commission and schools.

Suzanne Budge, lobbyist for K12 Inc., emphasized the importance of school choice and said the Commission's direction does not reflect the original intent of the law.

Teresa Molitor, lobbyist for the Association of Charter School Leaders, expressed frustration with the commission's drift from its mission.

David High, board chair for Idaho Connects Online, said he feels the commission and staff are fair and focused on the best interests of students.

Dan Cravens, board member for Bingham Academy and Blackfoot Charter Community Learning Center, thanked staff for their work with the BA board and expressed concern about the trust between the schools and commission.

Melanie Fitzgerald, parent of an Idaho Virtual Academy student, expressed the importance of parental choice.

Stacey Lilya expressed concern about modification of documents by staff.

Jackie Collins, vice chair for MOSAICS Public School, discussed the importance of a strong Commission that ensures charter schools are high quality. She said her school's interaction with Commission staff has been great.

Jenny Ball, teacher for Bingham Academy, expressed her concern that the Commission is not being adequately disciplined for violation of open meeting laws.

Madeline Fitzgerald, student at Idaho Virtual Academy, said school choice is important.

Ross Jones, business manager for Another Choice Virtual School, expressed his disappointment in comments made during the executive session.

Terry Ryan, CEO for BLUUM, listed new charter schools that were recently authorized by the Commission after denial from their local school districts.

TAB C: OTHER

1. Consideration of Report and Notice of Alleged Violations of the Idaho Open Meeting Law with Opportunity to Cure and Recommendations from the Office of the Attorney General

Chairman Reed summarized the OAG's report and recommendations, including specific actions necessary to cure alleged violations of Open Meeting Law that occurred during the PCSC's April 11, 2019, meeting.

M/S (Bair/Scigliano): To accept the Office of Attorney General July 25, 2019 Report and Notice of Alleged Violation of the Idaho Open Meeting Law with the Opportunity Cure and adopt the cures as set forth in the Report and Notice. Accordingly:

1. The Commission acknowledges that the following open meeting violations occurred during the April 11, 2019 executive session:
 - a) The agenda failed to identify the executive session as an action item; and
 - b) The discussion during the executive session drifted into several topics for which the executive session is not provided and which were not identified in the motion for executive session.
2. The Commission will go through Open Meeting Law training conducted by an Idaho Attorney General's office representative.

and
3. Although the Commission took no identifiable action nor made any decision during the April 11 executive session that must be set aside, to the extent that any discussion or sharing of information occurred that could impact any future decision or action by the Commission, such discussion or exchange of information shall be disregarded in its entirety.

And also
4. To adopt the recommended best practices to enhance the Commission's future compliance with the Open Meeting Law as provided by the Office of Attorney General in its July 25, 2019 Report

and Notice of Alleged Violations of the Idaho Open Meetings Law with Opportunity to Cure.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Open Meeting Law Training Provided by Assistant Chief Deputy Attorney General Brian Kane

Brian Kane, Assistant Chief Deputy Attorney General, provided open meeting law training to the Commission staff. He reviewed definitions focused on notice and agenda provisions, executive sessions, and enforcement mechanisms.

Commissioner Kunz inquired how the Commission should handle discussions in which some data is exempt from disclosure, but some is not.

Mr. Kane explained that would be a conversation with the PCSC's attorney that needs to take place prior to the executive session determine what can and cannot be discussed in the executive session.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44 a.m.