

Olympia School District Balanced Calendar Steering Committee Meeting #2

**September 8, 2022, 4-5:30 pm
Meeting Summary**

Attending (Zoom Meeting)

Dr. Patrick Murphy, Superintendent

Sandy Hallstrom, parent

Pastora Hernandez, h.s. parent

Frank Wilson, Exec. Director of Operations

Christine Zhang, student board rep, junior at Olympia High School

Steve Roth, science teacher, Olympia High School

Karen Zarate, Asst Principal, Reeves Middle School

J.Marie Riche, Ideal Communications

Frank Kwan, Ideal Communications

Candace Wilson, Ideal Communications

Brief review of agenda. (J.Marie)

Welcome and Introductions

J.Marie outlined examples of the types of diversity that the Balanced Calendar Exploratory Committee (BCEC) needs to represent:

- Geographic and grade level diversity, making sure all schools are represented
- Diversity of roles, e.g. parents, students, staff, athletic / activity reps, community partners (daycare / youth activity providers, community athletics, etc.)
- Starting perspective on the concept of potentially adjusting the school calendar. For the larger community to trust the work of the BCEC, it is important that its members include balanced representation.

J.Marie asked the group what other areas of representation would be important to include. The following were shared: ethnic and socio-economic diversity, with an emphasis on ensuring that groups who are often unrepresented in school district decisions, such as multicultural, multilingual, are appropriately represented within the BCEC.

A list of 49 people who were contacted and responded was compiled, but a large number of those who were contacted did not complete the survey form, and others who wish to be involved are not on the list. Staff and students are notably missing from the list.

The committee members reviewed the list and broke out into 3 groups to identify gaps and specific people to invite.

The following gaps were identified:

- Note: 32% on the list did not complete the form so there is no information
- Staff (Note: we want to be sure to include classified employees, like Office professionals, paraeducators, custodians, bus drivers, and facilities personnel as well as certificated staff ... Also, (**Rebecca Cornelius** served on the previous committee and might have interest)
- Students

- Northeastern area of the district: Boston Harbor, Roosevelt, Reeves
- People with concerns about a balanced calendar are under-represented compared to the survey results the board's advisory committee issued last year
- Community partners?
- OHS. Note, this school represents 15-20% of district
- Coaches, activities leaders
- Union representation (It was noted that one of the union presidents doesn't want to serve on the committee, but will be following the work and will help liaise with their membership)

Recommendations for the BCEC:

- **Dana Woods**, staff member at McKenny, parent at Capital, wife of Griffin superintendent
- **Leslie Huff**, former school board member
- **Condee Wood**, former principal, parent
- **Bob Kitchen** would like to be on outskirts of the project – athletic directors have more of a pulse on activities.
- **Kyle Cronk** – Thurston County CA, childcare component
- Coaches for middle school have lots of hats.
- **Tad Early** - Olympia Parks Department, childcare, summer& spring break programs, may have a pulse on diversity
- **Bonnie Hauschka** – Asst Principal of Washington Middle School was a parent on North Thurston's balanced calendar committee
- **Chris Woods** – former administrator, director of Boys & Girls Club, brother of superintendent in North Thurston

People to contact for suggestions of other participants:

- **Heather Randolph** – Multilingual program (Vietnamese & Spanish)
- **Leslie Geowell, Lee Archibald, Kim Seeger, Jen Gould**, social workers

Sandy will also contact people from the former committee who may be able to help with names and send them to J.Marie. She mentioned that the former mailing list is still available for people who were interested in the work.

Google link to the survey form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScoR4VLm2alCLbrhLHxeUFnrfSCgeu8u_U-kWdYZoO76xyAUg/viewform

J.Marie outlined next steps:

Patrick will extend invitations to community partners. Candace will draft language.

Patrick will ask principals to send the full list of people they contacted and their roles to Elia and Autumn.

Patrick will contact the social workers

Patrick will contact Heather Randolph

There is a concern about how little time before the BCEC convenes, and the first meeting is a conflict with OHS Open House. J.Marie explained that there will be an additional opportunity at the first BCEC meeting to identify who is missing and extend additional invitations to participate. We will also determine how to best share information from the meeting to those who are absent due to unavoidable conflicts.

J.Marie invited Steering Committee members to participate in the BCEC and explained in more detail how Thought/Exchange will work to help identify the main ideas about a balanced calendar. The BCEC will work through the data to frame the conversation and report to the community. Homework between

meetings will support thoughtful exploration to provide the board with as much reflective thought-through information as possible.

The Steering Committee will be asked to meet again in early to mid-December to serve as thought partners to help frame the summary / report that will be shared with the school board in January.

BCEC Meeting Schedule:

Wednesday, September 21, 6-7:30 pm

Wednesday, October 5, 6-7:30 pm

Wednesday, October 19, 6-7:30 pm

Wednesday, November 2, 6-7:30 pm

Wednesday, November 16, 6-7:30 pm