

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION

Summary Minutes for PEC Work Session on Thursday, August 26, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patricia Gipson began the PEC Work Session at 10:00 a.m. in a Zoom Webinar

Commissioners in Attendance:

Commissioner Patricia Gipson, PEC Chair, District 7, Las Cruces
Commissioner Glenna Voigt, District 3, Albuquerque
Commissioner Rebekka Burt, District 4, Rio Rancho
Commissioner Melissa Armijo, District 1, Albuquerque
Commissioner David Robbins, District 2, Albuquerque
Commissioner Michael Taylor, District 8, Roswell
Commissioner KT Manis, District 9, Hobbs
Commissioner Steven J. Carrillo, District 10, Santa Fe
Commissioner Georgina Davis, District 5, Aztec

Commissioners Absent:

Commissioner Michael Chavez, District 6, Deming

Also Present:

Julia Barnes, PEC Attorney
Corina Chavez, Director of PED Charter School Division
Melissa Brown, PED Charter School Division
Brigette Russell, PEC Charter School Division
Dolores Archuleta, PEC Charter School Division
Dylan Wilson, PEC Charter School Division
Samantha Samoel, PEC Charter School Division

Members of the Public Present

Karen Woerner, Explore Academy

WORK SESSION AGENDA

1. PEC email addresses

Commissioners discussed email addresses for the PEC which do or do not include the name and PEC district for the Commissioner. Also discussed were the possibility of each Commissioner having two email addresses for a few months. Beverly Friedman will research options with the PED IT staff on these issues.

2. Future in-person PEC meetings

The current Public Health Order discourages in-person large group meetings, and the Attorney General's office has not recalled the virtual meeting guidance issued at the time of COVID. So for the time being, the PEC will hold meetings via ZOOM. Discussion included a suggestion is to have a ZOOM element to future In-Person meetings so that school representatives do not have to travel to Santa Fe for topics concerning their schools.

Beverly Friedman will check with PED IT and contact in the State Roundhouse on possible options for this.

3. Transitioning to Google Documents instead of SharePoint

CSD Director Corina Chavez suggested that since the SharePoint application is sometimes difficult for Commissioner to access that CSD and PEC should use Google for storing PEC documents prior to PEC meetings. Another suggestion from the PEC was that there is an Outlook format that may also work. Director Chavez was going to follow up on this discussion.

4. Discussion of PEC Rules of Procedure

Commissioners discussed on revisions suggested by PEC Attorney Julia Barnes to the Rules of Procedure. The edits were made on the document and it will be voted on at the PEC Meeting tomorrow.

Break for Lunch at 1:25 p.m. to return at 2:00 p.m.

5. 11:00 a.m.- 12:30 p.m. – Charter Schools are invited to share ideas for possible updates to the Performance Framework

No charter school representatives brought suggestions to the PEC during this time. Commissioner K.T. Manis requested that representative should be able to make suggestions anonymously to the PEC and asked that CSD send out a notice to this effect. Chair Gipson asked that CSD and PEC work on creating a survey to be sent out to schools to receive additional suggestions on these updates. A separate request will be sent out to ask for participation on a Task Force on updating the Performance Framework.

6. 2021-22 Implementation Year Checklist (See attached document)

The Implementation Year Checklist was reviewed with the Commissioners. Commissioners, CSD Director, and Melissa Brown, CSD Technical Assistance and Training, discussed this document that is organized by submission deadlines on what new charter schools are required to do by New Mexico State Statute. Commissioners questioned the amount of state money distributed to new charter schools in their implementation year. The director clarified that per pupil funds begin only after the Planning year, however schools receive federal Charter School Program (CSP) funds to help with start up costs. Other topics discussed were Governing Board work calendars and responsibilities, equity councils, lottery forms, distance learning, etc. This Implementation Year Checklist will be voted on at the PEC Meeting tomorrow.

7. Lottery Guidance

The PEC Commission discussed the PED and CSD response to letter from Pegasus Law Firm regarding charter school lottery policy and procedures. The director is revising guidance for all charter schools. The PEC will issue further guidance that may ask charter schools to post their respective lottery policies, procedures, and lottery document on the school's website. The Commissioners discussed the importance that a charter school's lottery form not request any specific or private information about the student, beyond grade level and contact information. The Lottery and Enrollment Process will be voted on at the PEC Meeting tomorrow.

8. Charter Schools online options

This topic was briefly discussed as information was shared about the requirement for all schools to have a distance learning policy in place and to provide information to the PED

when they have to move to remote learning because of the number of positive COVID incidents, it was determined that no action would be necessary this month the PEC will continue this discussion next month.

9. Renewal Information for schools renewing this Fall

The director provided a power point presentation about the renewal timeline and process for this year. The PEC acknowledges that school data is missing for the second year in a row from the state because of the COVID-19 medical emergency. Schools that will be renewing in December will be asked to provide as much available data that they can provide. PEC will be looking for information on how and what the school has provided to their families, students, and their community the past year and a half. PEC & CSD, along with the PEC's attorney will collaborate to determine directions that will be provided to the schools up for renewal given the current conditions.

ADJOURN

No votes were taken by Commissioners on items during this work session.

The PEC Work Session adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Submitted by Beverly Friedman, PED Liaison to the PEC
September 3, 2021