

DISTRICT 58 LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes of November 21, 2020

The Legislative Committee met on Wednesday, November 11, 2020 at 3:45 p.m. at the Administrative Service Center and via Zoom.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:48 p.m.

Present

Chair Kirat Doshi, Emily Hanus, Sherilyn Genin, Katie Hannigan, Megan Hewitt, Lisa Niforatos, Kevin Russell, Michelle Rzepka, Bruce Swanson.

Absent

Nicholas Allchin, Gwendolyn Box, Kathy Catalani, Laura Duffy, Emily Hanlon, Geoff Neustadt, Jason Suchy.

Approval of Minutes

Mike Ghawaly moved and Katie Hannigan seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the September 23, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

IASB Resolutions

The Board of Education approved the Legislative Committee's recommendations and Member Hanus will cast her votes accordingly at the Delegate Assembly on Nov. 14.

Legislative Breakfast

The proposed date for the virtual Legislative Breakfast is February 19, with February 5 as a backup. The event is tentatively scheduled for 7:30-9:30 a.m. The virtual format eliminates concerns about weather on attendance, and there is no 50-person limitation with Zoom. It is proposed to invite all key legislators and begin the event with a general session, and then create breakout sessions and allow guests to choose which legislator they would like to have a conversation with. Committee members can act as moderators for the breakout sessions.

Topic ideas include:

- COVID-19 impact, could schools be distribution sites?
- Without passage of graduated income tax, what happens to school funding from state? What can we expect?
- Federally - will there be a stimulus passed and how will it be distributed to schools? Can the state offer incentives - grant/fund matching/etc. for capital and facility work that needs to be done? Federal infrastructure funding that may trickle to schools - might we be able to take advantage of funding?
- Title IX - do we expect any executive orders rescinding recent changes?
- Addressing equity issues within our curriculum, addressing conscious or subconscious bias? How do we think about standardized testing with an equity lens?
- We are still required to do state testing this year, and we're required to proctor them in person - seems counter to the requirement of providing a full-remote option?

At the January 27 meeting, the committee can review and finalize questions and assign them to specific legislators. Moderators will also have to be assigned. An additional meeting was proposed for February 3. The committee also discussed the timeline of sending invitations and gathering responses.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Mike Ghawaly moved and Bruce Swanson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 p.m.