

**Meeting Notes**  
**Governor's STEM Education Innovation Alliance**  
**December 1, 2015**  
**Rainier Room**  
**Microsoft Conference Center**  
**Redmond, Washington**

## **Discussion Summary**

### **Introduction and Perspectives from the Governor's Office**

Discussion led by: *Matt Steuerwalt*, Executive Director of Policy, Washington State Office of Governor and *Gene Sharratt*, Executive Director, Washington Student Achievement Council.

Newly appointed members of the Governor's STEM Alliance were announced and welcomed: John Aultman (Office of Governor), Marty Brown (State Board for Community and Technical Colleges), Paul Francis (Council of Presidents), Glenn Malone (Puyallup School District), Eleni Papadakis (Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board), and Dana Riley Black (Institute for Systems Biology).

It was announced that the education policy advisory position previously held by Marcie Maxwell in the Governor's Office will now be shared by two new staff going forward: Deb Merle will focus on K-12 and John Aultman will focus on Higher Education and Workforce Development. RaShelle Davis will advise on policy in Early Learning.

In November 2015, Marcie Maxwell received an appointment to the STEM Alliance as the Citizen Member.

Matt Steuerwalt, on behalf of the Governor's Office, emphasized several key points critical to future progress:

- The STEM Alliance has made significant progress to this point under the leadership of Gene Sharratt and staff at the Washington Student Achievement Council and their partners, with funding supplied by a grant from the National Governors Association. The Governor hopes to ensure that this work continues after the grant funds expire.

- The current draft of the 2016 Benchmark Report Card shows the right focus on key issues, such as getting more women and minorities involved in the STEM workforce. The Governor is fully behind the work of the Alliance and is confident that it is well-positioned to have a positive impact in creating a smarter and better educated workforce in the state.
- State investment in the Opportunity Scholarship and College Bound Scholarship is very important. If we can help people to lift up their skills in the K-12 system and in lifelong learning, they will be better able to compete in the global economy.
- John Aultman will focus on workforce and higher education policy in the Governor's Office. He will need the STEM Alliance's help in developing strategies to make progress in these areas, particularly with developing connections between industry and education and assisting students navigate key transitions as they make their way through the education system and beyond to success in their careers.
- The upcoming legislative session is fast approaching. The Governor and staff anticipate that it will be a short session with a focused supplemental budget and no new large investments. An ambition for this session is for legislators to find a roadmap for funding K-12 education that can be both effective for kids and satisfy the Courts. The Governor's budget comes out in 16 days (December 17, 2015) and is almost done.

### **The Work Ahead: Focusing on Forging Robust and Sustainable Industry-Education Partnerships**

Discussion led by: *Brent Parton*, Senior Policy Analyst and Program Director, Workforce Development, National Governors Association Center for Best Practices

- The Alliance is making good progress on its goals. There is still work to be done but a strategic plan is clearly laid out. Sustainability of the work is important and having the Alliance dedicated to that is critical. Keeping momentum ongoing is very important.
- The State of Washington is considered a leader in workforce education, which is reflected in the Governor's current position as chair of the National Governors Association Education and Workforce Committee. NGA appreciates Governor Inslee's openness to innovative ideas, leadership, and creative thinking.
- Washington is being considered for a new NGA grant award that will focus on work-based learning and mid-level skills and education in STEM fields. If funded, the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board will have the lead role in coordinating the grant and will work with WSAC staff and other agencies on the project.

A must for this proposed work is building off the work of the Alliance and the importance of coordinating the new grant with the currently funded NGA STEM project.

- It is important to implement partnerships at the regional and local levels. The handout “Building Partnerships to Get Results Workgroup Overview” articulates what a high quality partnership looks like and emphasizes that local and regional support can effectively drive high quality partnerships.
- Some characteristics of high quality partnerships:
  1. Clarity of vision – state leadership is instrumental.
  2. Knowing what the policy “levers” are with a developed strategy on how the partnerships can use them to advantage.
  3. Clear articulation of goals.
- The challenge is how to coordinate all the different pieces of the pipeline moving in the same direction?

### **Washington’s STEM Talent Supply and Demand Dashboard**

Discussion led by: *Mary Kay Dugan*, Managing Director-Education, IMPAQ International

- The legislation [Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 1872] that created and defined the Governor’s STEM Alliance called for an annual report card to be submitted in January to the Washington State Legislature. The most recent draft of the 2016 STEM Benchmark Report Card was sent out to Alliance members. We would like everyone to weigh in on the Report contents by December 8<sup>th</sup>.
- The next meeting of the Alliance on December 16, 2015, being held at the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce [1301 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1500, Seattle, WA 98101 – 2:00 to 4:00 PM], will bring together this feedback and give the Alliance a final opportunity to comment on the Report Card [due to legislature on January 10, 2016].
- Progress report on the development of Washington’s STEM Talent Supply and Demand Dashboard:
  - The dashboard is intended to be a key tool for monitoring how we are doing in STEM education, locating key points in the pipeline where we can make a difference, and answering key policy questions – are we inspiring early learners and meeting the gaps in education and the workforce?

- A subcommittee of the Alliance focusing on STEM metrics has been meeting for over a year now and has been working to determine where we can reliably and sustainably pull data to support the Framework measures.
  - Various resources are being used, including state agency databases – Office of Financial Management Education Research Data Center, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Washington State Office of Economic Development and Competitiveness, Washington Student Achievement Council, and Washington STEM (a private, non-profit organization).
  - An initial online version of the Dashboard was demonstrated. The landing page explains why STEM is important. It contains links to the roadmap and other resources that have information pertaining to STEM and also contains links to the annual report cards.
  - The dashboard articulates how the data was developed for each of the measures.
  - When completed, the measures will be broken out into a full range of relevant categories: income, gender, and the alignment of programs with workforce needs in STEM fields like computer science and engineering.
- There was discussion around the question of whether the data and indicators will remain at the statewide level or if it would be possible to see it drilled down to the regional level. The regional STEM networks will need this further breakout of data and this will be one of the next steps in the development of the dashboard.

## **MEETING ATTENDEES**

### Alliance Members

John Aultman (Washington State Office of the Governor)  
 Violet Boyer (Independent Colleges of Washington)  
 Marty Brown (State Board for Community and Technical Colleges)  
 Maud Daudon (Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce)  
 Randy Dorn (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction)  
 Caroline King (Washington STEM)  
 Marcie Maxwell (Citizen Member)  
 Gil Mendoza (Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction)  
 Rai Nauman Mumtaz (Student Representative)  
 Eleni Papadakis (Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board)  
 Dana Riley Black (Institute for Systems Biology - Logan Center for Education)  
 Gene Sharratt (Washington Student Achievement Council)  
 Brian Teppner (Bellevue School District)  
 Nancy Truitt Pierce (Monroe Public Schools)  
 Yolanda Watson Spiva (College Success Foundation)

### Others

Mary Kay Dugan (IMPAQ International)

Nova Gattman (Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board)

Alan Hardcastle (Washington Student Achievement Council)

Leah Hausman (Thrive Washington)

Beverly Jacobson (Thrive Washington)

Paula Linnen (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory)

Ellen Matheny (Washington Student Achievement Council)

Daryl Monear (Washington Student Achievement Council)

Brent Parton (National Governors Association, Center for Best Practices)

Juliet Schindler Kelly (College Success Foundation)

Randy Spaulding (Washington Student Achievement Council)

Matt Steuerwalt (Washington State Office of the Governor)

Maddy Thompson (Washington Student Achievement Council)

Natalie Truong (National Governors Association, Center for Best Practices)

Eric Wolf (Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board)