WSAC Role in K12 Policy & Programs

Marc Webster, Director of External Affairs
House Education Committee | Jan. 15, 2019
WA Student Achievement Council’s Statutory Charge

Propose educational attainment goals to the Governor and Legislature

Recommend strategies and resources necessary

Align the work of education and higher education programs, agencies, and institutions

RCW 28B.77.003, 020
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Council</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maud Daudon</strong>, Chair</td>
<td>Project Leader, Career Connect Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Karen Lee</strong>, Vice Chair</td>
<td>CEO, Pioneer Human Services, Western Washington University Trustee</td>
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<td><strong>Paul Francis</strong>, Secretary</td>
<td>Executive Director, Council of Presidents Four-year public institutions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jeff Charbonneau</strong></td>
<td>National Teacher of the Year 2013 (Chemistry, Physics, Engineering)</td>
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<td><strong>Dr. Susana Reyes</strong></td>
<td>Assistant Superintendent, Pasco School District</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Yazmin Aguilar</strong></td>
<td>Student member</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Jan Yoshiwara</strong></td>
<td>Executive Director, SBCTC Two-year public colleges</td>
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<td><strong>Terri Standish-Kuon, PhD</strong></td>
<td>President &amp; CEO, ICW Independent Colleges of Washington</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. Michaela Miller</strong></td>
<td>Deputy Superintendent, OSPI K-12 education</td>
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WSAC’s Primary Duties

**Policy & Research**
- Attainment goals
- System & workforce needs
- Academic efficiency policies
- Recommendations for student success

**Affordability**
- Savings: Guaranteed Education Tuition (GET) & Dream Ahead
- Financial aid administration
- Workforce shortage programs

**Access & Support**
- College Bound Scholarship
- Ready, Set, Grad
- GEAR UP
- 12th Year Campaign
- The Washboard.org
- Adult Reengagement

**Consumer Protection**
- Degree authorization
- Veteran’s benefits
- Complaint resolution
- Program compliance
- Student Loan Advocate
Work Aligned to State’s Attainment Goals

Employers need a highly skilled workforce to remain competitive.

Our residents are not earning the needed credentials.

Employers find talent elsewhere and our residents are not competitive for living-wage jobs.

Washington population ages 25-44
Four Critical Challenge Areas to Address

- Address regional workforce shortages.
- Engage and support local communities.
- Remove barriers for underserved students.
- Support underrepresented students.
- Provide multiple affordable pathways to a wider variety of careers.
- Address financial barriers associated with different pathways.
- Recruit and support adult learners.
- Target outreach and support to former students with credits.
Equity is Paramount to Reaching the State’s Goals

Example: The Hispanic community makes up the second largest group in Washington State, but two-thirds have not earned postsecondary credentials.

WSAC’s Role Addressing Equity in K12

**College & Career Readiness**
- theWashboard.org and Ready, Set, Grad resources for students and families
- GEAR UP – federal postsecondary preparation program supporting 26 high poverty districts
- SETuP – college and career preparation services for foster youth

**Academic Policies**
- **Accelerated learning** – analysis and policy development (Running Start, College in the High School, AP, IB, etc.)
- College admissions standards
- Dual credit look-up tool for AP and IB test scores

**Affordability**
- **12th Year Campaign** – financial aid application completion supports
- **College Bound Scholarship**
- Passport to Careers – aid and supports to foster and homeless youth

**Teacher Shortage**
- **Teacher Shortage** aid programs to diversify the teacher workforce and address critical shortage areas
Participation gaps remain in programs offering college credit in high school

- In WA, 55% of high school students enroll in at least one dual credit course, with CTE as the largest program.

- Overall, 19.8% of students completed an Advanced Placement course in 2016-17, but the rate was just 12.6% for low-income students and 13.3% for Hispanic students.

- Dual credit students are more likely to pursue postsecondary education and are more prepared.

- WSAC collaborates with educational partners in training, rules and research.
Financial Aid Application is key to accessing opportunities many students.

43% of Seniors did not complete a FAFSA

Source: https://portal.wsac.wa.gov/fafsacompletion/ WSAC summary display of OSPI and FAFSA matched records. Available at state, district and school level.

- WA currently ranks 42nd in the nation for FAFSA completion.
- Over 4,500 WASFA applications were submitted by non-citizens last year.
- 190 sites held 12th Year events to support families with application completion this year
College Bound Scholarship offers an early commitment of financial aid

- 61% of CBS Scholars are students of color.
- 22,000 recipients in 2019.
- Over 250,000 have signed up.
- All foster youth are automatically enrolled.
Building a pipeline of qualified teachers to address shortage concerns

- Conditional scholarship programs support students earning teaching credentials in exchange for teaching service
  - Support teacher recruitment and retention in shortage areas
- WSAC partners with the Professional Educator Standards Board (PESB) and monitors service obligations
  - Pipeline for Paraeducators for those with experience and no AA degree
  - Alternative Routes for those enrolled in block grant programs
  - Educator Retooling for teachers adding shortage endorsements

Teacher Shortage Conditional Grant

designed to recruit teachers underrepresented in the workforce

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Applications received</th>
<th>885</th>
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<td>Number awarded</td>
<td>56</td>
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Awardee Characteristics

<table>
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<th>Students of color</th>
<th>98%</th>
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<tr>
<td>Multilingual</td>
<td>95%</td>
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<tr>
<td>First generation</td>
<td>89%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>32%</td>
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<td>Median family income</td>
<td>$17,437</td>
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WSAC partners with state and regional leaders to approach these challenges in new ways.

Working together to achieve equity in:

- Affordability
- Student transitions
- College readiness
- Student success
Continue the conversation
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