WEIAOB Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2026
1:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members Attending:
Ashraf (Ash) Awad, Collin Bannister, Jane Broom, Ruben Flores, Nate Humphrey, Charles Knutson, William (Bill) Lyne, Maddy Thompson, and Jeff Vincent.

Staff Attending:
Joel Anderson, Kimberly Hetrick, Amy Keltner, Isaac Kwakye, Grace Nelson, and Sarah Weiss.

Meeting called to order at 1:02 p.m.

Introductory Comments

Presenters: Jane Broom

- The Board's last meeting of the year will be on October 22, 2026, via Zoom.
- The Board still has two vacancies for business representatives and is actively looking for new members.

Presentation: 2026 Interim Updates

Presenter: Joel Anderson
Materials: 2026 Interim Updates

- The 2026 supplemental operating budget continued increasing the share of higher education appropriations coming from WEIA (27.0%). Key drivers of this shift include the supplantation of $400 million in costs from General Fund-State (GF-S) in Fiscal Year 2027 (FY2027), one-time reductions of GF-S appropriations in FY27, and increased WA Grant caseloads.
- The June 2026 revenue forecast for WEIA included a small increase for the 2025-27 biennium and small decreases for the 2027-29 and 2029-31 biennia.
- The June 2026 caseload forecast for WA Grant included small decreases 2025-26 and 2026-27 academic years.
- The 2026 supplemental operating budget created a new Joint Legislative-Executive Committee on Budget Transparency and Fiscal Sustainability. It will be supported by Pew Charitable Trusts (at no cost to the state) and issue recommendations over the next two years for how to improve Washington state's budgeting process.

Presentation: *Washington Completes FAFSA* Campaign

Presenters: Amy Keltner, Sarah Weiss (WSAC)
Materials: Meeting Slides

- The *Washington Completes FAFSA* Campaign was started by Executive Order 25-08 from Gov. Ferguson in September 2025. The intent of the campaign has been to align and coordinate statewide FAFSA/WASFA completion efforts. Targeted goals included:
    - Ensure 46,000 seniors complete the FAFSA or WASFA.
    - Raise free and reduced-price lunch (FRPL)-eligible student completion by at least 6% or more in at least 150 high schools.
    - Close the gap in FAFSA completions between FRPL and non-FRPL students.
    - Reduce disparities in FAFSA completion rates, especially among students from underrepresented racial/ethnic groups.
- The campaign has relied on various strategies to improve outreach, including expanded partnerships; targeted messaging and marketing; new resources, training, and event support; and a new FAFSA completion dashboard.
- Lessons learned so far have included emphasizing the "why" of applying for financial aid, understanding the value of 1-on-1 support from trusted messengers, and supporting families through each step of their financial aid applications.
- WSAC will be working to improve the campaign in the future through actions like:
    - Promoting pathways to pre-qualify for financial aid, like Early Path to WA Grant.
    - Exploring whether increased financial aid applications are leading to increased postsecondary enrollment.
    - Strengthening data privacy for students completing financial aid applications.
    - Partnering with institutions of higher education and other stakeholders to encourage financial aid completion.

Action: Approving the Meeting Agenda for July 23, 2026

Motion made to approve the Board's meeting agenda for July 23, 2026.
Motion seconded.
Motion carried.

Action: Approving Meeting Minutes for April 23, 2026

Motion made to approve the Board's meeting minutes for April 23, 2026.
Motion seconded.
Motion carried.

Action: Election of Co-chairs for 2026-27

Presenters: Joel Anderson, Jane Broom

- Jane Broom (business representative) and Rep. Dave Paul (legislator) were re-elected as Board Co-chairs for 2026-27.

Presentation and Discussion: 2027 Legislative Advisory Committee

Presenters: Joel Anderson, Jane Broom
Materials: 2027 Legislative Advisory Committee Summary

- The committee will review recent appropriations from WEIA, prepare a decision package and agency request legislation to submit via WSAC on behalf of the Board, write the Board's 2026 legislative report, and develop draft recommendations for the 2027 legislative session.

Action: Creating a 2027 Legislative Advisory Committee

Motion made to create a 2027 legislative advisory committee for the Board.
Motion seconded.
Motion carried.

Public Comment

No meeting attendees provided public comments.

Closing

Presenters: Jane Broom

- The next Board meeting will be on October 22, 2026, 1:00-3:00 p.m., on Zoom.

See Appendix

Meeting Adjourned: 2:18 p.m.

Appendix A

TVW meeting recording 7-23-2026

Appendix B

2026-07-23 15:15:37 From Maddy Thompson to Everyone:
Maddy Thompson, Acting ED, Workforce Board (she/her) - Present!
2026-07-23 15:44:52 From Maddy Thompson, ED (Acting), Workforce Board (she/her) to Everyone:
Is there a way to raise my hand?
2026-07-23 15:45:21 From Jane Broom to Everyone:
We will call on you
2026-07-23 15:49:49 From Joel Anderson (he/him) | WSAC to Everyone:
Here's more information on our initial implementation of the SNAP-WA Grant pathway: Early Path to WA Grant | WSAC
2026-07-23 15:59:49 From Amy Keltner to Everyone:
WSAC Statement on Financial Aid Applicant Privacy | WSAC
2026-07-23 16:03:35 From Charles Knutson to Everyone:
Sorry, I need to drop at 2pm, thank you!
2026-07-23 16:10:40 From Joel Anderson (he/him) | WSAC to Everyone:
2026-04-23 WEIAOB Meeting Minutes
2026-07-23 16:10:56 From Joel Anderson (he/him) | WSAC to Everyone:
2026-07-23 WEIAOB Meeting Agenda
2026-07-23 16:11:10 From Maddy Thompson, ED (Acting), Workforce Board (she/her) to Everyone:
I second
2026-07-23 16:14:10 From Joel Anderson (he/him) | WSAC to Everyone:
2026-07-23 WEIAOB 2027 Legislative Advisory Committee