



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
WASHINGTON STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COUNCIL

917 Lakeridge Way SW · PO Box 43430 · Olympia, WA 98504-3430 · 360-753-7800 · [www.wsac.wa.gov](http://www.wsac.wa.gov)

March 19, 2013

**VIA HAND DELIVERY**

The Honorable Jay Inslee  
Governor, State of Washington  
PO Box 40002  
Olympia, Washington

Re: Submission of Executive Director Candidates

Dear Governor Inslee:

Pursuant to RCW 28B.77.040, the Washington State Student Achievement Council is pleased to submit three candidates for your consideration for appointment as its Executive Director.

In December 2012, the Council appointed an Executive Director Search Committee which was chaired by José E. Gaitán, J.D., and hired DiversifiedSearch, LLC, to assist with its search. DiversifiedSearch is a top tier executive search firm that for 37 years has conducted senior leadership searches and has an outstanding record in conducting nation-wide inclusive searches.

The Search Committee, after outreach to literally hundreds of sources, developed an Executive Director Position Description which it used to guide its recruitment and assessment of candidates. A copy of that Position Description is enclosed.

The search process included outreach to more than 250 sources, prospects, and candidates from which the top 25 candidates' credentials and interests were identified and considered by the Council's Search Committee. The top 25 candidates were separated into three separate panels from which we narrowed the candidates to nine individuals. We then selected five individuals with whom we conducted interviews to assess their fit for the Executive Director position. The Committee then identified the top three candidates and received unanimous approval of the Council to submit these names to you.

These candidates are:

Mr. Christopher M. Thompson  
Dr. Jana L. Carlisle  
Dr. Gene C. Sharratt

The Honorable Jay Inslee

March 19, 2013

Page 2

Complete résumés for these outstanding education leaders are also enclosed for your review.

I would be glad to meet with you or your staff to discuss these candidates or other matters pertaining to the Council's mission. We recommend these exceptional individuals for your consideration and are confident that any one of them would be an excellent choice to lead the Washington Student Achievement Council and guide our work together.

Thank you for your consideration of these three candidates.

Very truly yours,

Hon. Brian Baird, Ph.D.  
Chair, Washington Student Achievement Council

Enclosures