



Commissioner Franklin Donahoe  
Representing Snohomish County

Commissioner Sara Franklin – Phillips  
Representing South King County

Commissioner Al Herron  
Representing King County

Commissioner De'Sean Quinn  
Representing South King County

Commissioner Sheila Reed Trahan  
Representing Tri-Cities

Commissioner Dr. James Smith  
Representing King County

Commissioner Dorian Waller  
Representing Pierce County

Commissioner Sandra Williams  
Representing Eastern Washington

Commissioner Dolly England  
Representing Southwest Washington

Executive Director Edward O. Prince

## Public Commission Meeting Minutes Centerstone

722 18<sup>th</sup> Ave., Seattle, Washington 98337  
November 3, 2017 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Vice-chair Reed-Trahan, Commissioners Franklin-Phillips, Smith, Waller, Executive Director Edward Prince and Executive Assistant Charlotte Kerney

Absent: Commissioners Donahoe, Herron, Williams, Quinn

**1:30 PM** – Meeting called to order.

**1:35 PM** – Motion to accept previous meeting minutes as written. Motion passed.

**1:40 PM** – Director's Report to be supplied at a later date.

### **1:50 PM –Dept. of Corrections Update Stephen Sinclair, Secretary**

- 16,700 beds. Capacity at 103%. No prisons are being built. A new facility would take 6 years to construct. Currently 41<sup>st</sup> in the nation in rates of incarceration. Overcrowding affects DOC's ability to provide services. The rate of incoming inmates is increasing. Average length of sentence is 27 months. Over 8K of people are released yearly.
- There is a push for some level of sentencing reform.
- 50% of the people serve less than 10 years. The average age of an inmate is 38 years, so the geriatric costs begin to increase.

**Reintegration:** Sinclair states the pathway to reintegration begins upon entry into the system. Launching new risk assessment system on December 15, 2017 to determine the level of an offender's risk to reoffend.

- The department seeks more community mentorship. Will be launching a community mentorship drive. Encourages participation.
- Inmates are learning CAD design within Correctional Industries (CI) Upon release, ex-felons are getting family-wage jobs. Other programs prepare ex-felons with soft-skills to keep their jobs. Ex-felons working for at least 3 years post-release, if they've been through CI, they're employed 4 times more than someone who has not been through CI.
- Brings in employers to conduct mock interviews with inmates pre-release.

**2:10 PM** – Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dixie Gruenfelder

**Graduation and Team Effort Initiative / Collective Impact Initiative** organizes community and school partnerships to look at graduation as a collective effort.

Key initiatives under Superintendent Reykdal: seeks to increase graduation rates for all students and promote post-secondary aspirations. His key initiatives are to:

- Using data to close the opportunity gap. Efforts include extending the school year, dual language for all students K-8, dual credit opportunities and eliminating high-stakes assessments as a graduation requirement. The department has already started seeing some improvements since Superintendent Reykdal came aboard a year ago. Some efforts are expected to be long-term in nature.
- Uses performance indicators established by the American Institute of Research as key to graduation. The department adopted their indicators to boost graduation rates in our state about four years ago.
- The Performance Analytic is viewable down to the district-level on the OSPI website, [www.ospi.k12.wa.us](http://www.ospi.k12.wa.us) they are working on a more detailed reporting system at this time.
- The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Failure data is a new accountability measure called The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade On-Track. It finds that students on track after the 9<sup>th</sup> grade are four times more likely to graduate. Currently looks at data for the number of courses attempted vs. earned in English, Math and Science. What they see over time, course failure has decreased for African American students. Has had a few pieces of legislation to fund
- Tech Prep is in need of some clean-up. Its supposed to be articulation agreements between schools and technical colleges and universities. Schools are reporting any class that has the potential [to be college-level]. The agreements haven't been kept current, so their numbers are extremely inflated. As data cleans up and the agreements are updated, the numbers will drop.
- Helping students and parents connect to the school. The department spends time on mentoring programs and relevance for those high school and beyond programs.

**Chronic Absenteeism:** Washington State is second in the nation when it comes to chronic absenteeism. Some of it is because of the conservative nature of the definition of an absence – if a student is on a school-related activity or engaged in sports – its counted as an absence. OSPI finished a rule-making session regarding school absences on October 31, 2017 to examine the impact on students.

**The new Office of School Improvement** looks at school improvement. Previously, about 200 schools were in improvement for comprehensive or targets supports. The new system using the disproportionality filter, will yield about 900 schools identified as being in improvement due to disproportionate outcomes with student sub-populations.

**3:30 pm – Public Comment – No public Comment**

**4:00 pm - Adjournment**