



DRAFT



**FAMILIES AND EDUCATION LEVY
LEVY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
Tuesday, December 11, 2012**

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tim Burgess, Elise Chayet, Michael DeBell, Lucy Gaskill-Gaddis, Cristina Gonzalez, Kevin Washington, Greg Wong

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathryn Aisenberg (OFE), Janet Blanford (SPS), Jeanette Blankenship (CBO), Ainsley Close (Mayor's Office), Jerry DeGriek (Mayor's Office), Matthew Fulle (Seattle Youth Commission), Sonja Griffin (OFE), Susie Murphy (OFE Consultant), Janet Jones-Preston (SPS/FSW), Pegi McEvoy (SPS), Holly Miller (OFE), Adam Petkun (OFE), Sid Sidorowicz (OFE), Kian Vesteinsson (Seattle Youth Commission)

Tim Burgess called the meeting to order. Introductions were made. The minutes from November 13, 2012 were approved. Holly Miller reviewed the agenda.

T. Burgess spoke about the local Race to the Top winner, the Puget Sound Educational Services District, in collaboration with the Road Map Project. Mary Jean Ryan began her presentation about the Road Map Project. In response to her comments about the College Bound Scholarship, Michael DeBell stated that scholarships help children feel better about themselves and therefore they do better in school. M. DeBell added that signing up children is the first step, then they need support throughout their school career.

Kevin Washington asked if the summer reading program is from specific funds. M.J. Ryan said no, they used a small amount of leftover funds, some of the funds were donated and the King County Library also helped by donating books.

Elise Chayet asked how many children in 2012 received the College Bound Scholarship and are on track to go to college. M.J. Ryan said approximately 1200 students are on track and are applying to colleges. She added that the colleges are excited about these students. M. DeBell asked how our sign-up rates compared to the rest of the state. M.J. Ryan answered that, in comparison to other parts of the state, we are way ahead with sign-ups.

H. Miller stated that the results for children prepared for Kindergarten represent the kids that are in formal Pre-K program.

K. Washington asked if districts are discussing new approaches to discipline given that suspensions and expulsions don't seem to be working and have been found to be counterproductive. M.J. Ryan stated that the districts are discussing this and are debating

whether or not they should be suspending or expelling students due to the fact these approaches do not seem to be beneficial.

Jerry DeGrieck asked if this is the first year we have done the World Language Credit for English Language Learners. M. DeBell stated that this is the second year. M.J. Ryan stated that there are more languages being added and that they stay in touch with ELL students to see what languages they want to learn. This is how they decide what languages to offer. K. Washington asked M.J. Ryan, after having been immersed in this program for a few years, are there areas she sees that could use improvement. M.J. Ryan answered that she is optimistic about these programs but they could be offered in additional areas and have a quicker turnaround. She added that everyone needs to work together to get this going all over.

T. Burgess stated that only two organizations won the maximum amount of Race to the Top funds. M. DeBell mentioned that the local Race to the Top application scored very well compared to the Washington state application made in the past. M.J. Ryan stated that they got the high score because of the huge collaborative commitments that were made.

The meeting was adjourned.