



## **Youth Budget Commission Meeting**

Friday November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2021 1:30 – 2:30pm Minutes

Commissioners in attendance: Co-Chair Shaver, Commissioner Kazmi, Commissioner Montorio-Archer, Commissioner Zumdahl, Commissioner Crabb, Commissioner Krauss, Commissioner Thompson

Commissioners in attendance via proxy: Commissioner Cates, Commissioner Huelsmann

Non-Commissioners: Marci Johnson, Krish Mohip, Molly Uhe-Edmonds, Cara Wiley, Carly Ogletree, Ava Love, Chiamaka Onouha, Ali Schoon, Paula Corrigan-Halpern, Nikki Wegner, John Gordon, Andi Durbin

### **1. Welcome, Co-Chair Shaver**

Co-Chair Shaver welcomed the Commissioners to the meeting. He stated this will be a unique meeting because the Commission has some guests from the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) to discuss the proposed Commission recommendations. Co-Chair Shaver stated that Commission staff has asked the Governor's office to connect the Commission with experts in governmental entities that touch the issues the Commission works on. He stated he is grateful for the experts who have joined the call to help the Commission shape recommendations further.

Co-Chair Shaver discussed some of the ethics training requirements for the Commission. He stated that some Commissioners will be due for ethics training before the end of this year and some will not be. He reminded Commissioners to complete the training as instructed.

Co-Chair Shaver asked Eric Mayo to do the roll call and to ask that each commissioner state they are present, can see and hear, and approve the use of a voice vote. Mayo started the roll call and gained consent to a voice vote. Commissioners Shaver, Montorio-Archer, Zumdahl, Crabb, Krauss, Thompson, and Kazmi were present. Commissioner Lightford was present via proxy. All Commissioners stated they could see, hear, and consented to doing a voice vote for the remainder of the meeting.

### **2. Approval of Minutes (August, September, & October), Co-Chair Shaver**

Co-Chair Shaver asked the Commission to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Commissioner Montorio-Archer motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Zumdahl seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

### **3. Illinois State Board of Education, Krish Mohip, Deputy Chief of Operational Education**

Mayo reviewed the draft recommendations that the Commission proposed. Co-Chair Shaver introduced Krish Mohip, Deputy Chief of Operational Education, from ISBE to review some of their thoughts and feedback on the draft recommendations. Mohip stated that he was grateful to be participating in the meeting. He stated some of the recommendations resonated not only as part of his professional position but also as a parent. Mohip then introduced the rest of the people on the call from ISBE- Marci Johnson is the Director for Career Technical Education (CTE) and Innovation, Cara Wiley is the Director of School Wellness, Molly Uhe-Edmonds is the Director of Student Care. Mohip discussed the first recommendation from an ISBE perspective and Johnson provided an update on opportunities for CTE to focus on students who are in special populations and workforce issues. Johnson also reviewed some of her department's funding streams and how they provide funding for activities benefitting youth.

Marci Johnson discussed an update on CTE through the Perkins V to focus more on workforce and students who are in special populations. Looking at high wage high skill jobs are needed to be filled by some of our youth.

Mohip and Johnson then reviewed the second recommendation from the Commission and discussed their collaboration with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) to align education and workforce systems and scale up innovative ideas. Johnson also discussed how they utilize local needs assessments to get funding to areas that need it. Cara Wiley discussed their report card allows ISBE to look at the issues in Illinois and how additional data is used to learn more about what students are struggling with. She also reviewed ISBE's strategic plan where several strategies align with the Commission's recommendations such as remote learning, lessening achievement gaps, ensuring access to a safe/healthy learning environment, address mental health needs of students, etc. Wiley discussed some of the community-based organization grant opportunities that ISBE has opened for increasing access to resources for students. Mohip reiterated that they are hyper-focused on the social-emotional needs and safety of students. He stated that they need students to feel safe and have their basic needs met in order for them to learn and that is why ISBE is spending funding to impact those factors. Wiley added that it is important for ISBE to think about how to utilize funding to help students and educators navigate through this pandemic but also be thinking long-term about how to decrease achievement gaps and provide support for learning.

Mohip reviewed the third Commission recommendation and Wiley reviewed some of their staffing issues when it comes to supporting the mental health of students through counselors and social workers. She stated that ISBE has been thinking a lot about how to be innovative when removing barriers to mental health supports for students while solving for the workforce issue. One of those ideas includes creating a certificate of community health work for recently graduated students to stay in their own communities and provide assistance in those communities.

Mohip reviewed the fourth recommendation and Wiley discussed evidence-based funding and how ISBE's funding stream utilizes data to inform what to fund. Mohip reiterated that they want to be sure their funding is being equitably distributed and used appropriately for where needs are the most.

Mohip then went through the fifth recommendation and how ISBE partners with the Department of Juvenile Justice to provide education to students. Johnson went over some of the activities IDJJ has utilized to provide opportunities for youth in their care. She stated each site has different ways of doing this and one of them that they toured pre-pandemic has a barber shop that helps youth get their certification. She also reviewed some of the DHS funds for mental health for youth.

Mohip and Uhe-Edmonds reviewed some of the activities that ISBE is doing which align with the sixth recommendation from the Commission. Uhe-Edmonds discussed the ISBE Student Advisory Council and

their efforts to engage with youth across the state. She stated that the advisory council has diverse participation from youth and is a great opportunity for young people to have their voice heard.

Commissioner Thompson asked if ISBE planned to mandate the Illinois Youth Survey across the state. Wiley stated that there are two different youth surveys that ISBE utilizes when gaining feedback. She stated one is administered through ISBE (Youth Risk Behavior Survey) and the other is the Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) which is available to all students. Wiley stated there hasn't been talks about mandating the IYS because it may lose fidelity if it is mandated and ISBE plans to use their Youth Risk Behavior Survey to drive their plans moving forward. She appreciated when schools approach the rollout of surveys creatively because that is where ISBE gets the best outcomes. Wiley also explained that ISBE likes to compare both surveys, compare results, and see where they overlap.

Co-Chair Shaver stated that ISBE teams did a great job of addressing questions the Commission might have in regards to these recommendations. He asked if they had any feedback for the Commission on where Commissioners should spend more time on looking at where there may be issues. Mohip stated that metrics are difficult to get and that ISBE needs to improve on doing the analysis on their return on investment. Johnson stated that she would love to continue to be involved in how the Commission develops their recommendations because there is a lot of things ISBE is doing that many don't know about. Mohip stated that he has been in education for over 22 years and he appreciates that people on this Commission are coming together to provide support and change to young people. He reiterated that they are open to continue to partner with the Commission and learn together.

Co-Chair Shaver thanked ISBE again for their participation and agreed to continue to keep them informed as the recommendations were further developed.

#### **4. Department of Human Services, Chris Patterson, Assistant Secretary for Violence Prevention**

Due to time constraints, Co-Chair Shaver asked Chris Patterson from DHS if the Commission could push his portion back to the next Commission meeting in December. Patterson agreed that would work for him and be best to ensure they had enough time.

#### **5. Public Comment**

Co-Chair Shaver opened the floor for public comment. There was no public comment.

#### **6. New Business**

Co-Chair Shaver stated the next Commission meeting is Friday, December 17<sup>th</sup> from 1:30-2:30pm. He reiterated that the Commission will welcome back Chris Patterson, Assistant Secretary for Violence Prevention, to discuss some of DHS's initiatives for youth that align with the proposed recommendations. Co-Chair Shaver stated they will also have a brief outline of the past year during that meeting.

#### **7. Adjournment**

Commissioner Krauss moved to adjourn and Commissioners Zumdahl and Montorio-Archer seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 2:32pm.