

Chair Kathleen Jeskey called the meeting to order at 11:06am, Sunday, March 19.

The purpose of the meeting was to elect new officers. Two other items were added to the agenda with consent: Support for SB 1066 and support for local school boards.

New Officers Elected:

Chair: Laurie Wimmer, Brian Gardner also ran but was not present. Laurie won by unanimous vote.

Comments: She has been a strong education advocate and lobbyist and has a strong background in education policy.

Vice Chair: Deb Barnes, elected by acclamation.

Comments: Deb is a teacher and has held several leadership roles in education advocacy. She emphasized the importance of standing up for quality school boards.

Communications Secretary: Liz Marlia-Stein, Elected by acclamation.

Recording Secretary: Lisa Stiller, Elected by acclamation.

Treasurer: Mary Thamann, Elected by acclamation.

SCC Delegate: Dr. Sami Al-Abdrabbuh, Elected by acclamation.

Comments: Sami is a member of the Corvallis School Board and is instrumental in electing progressive school boards.

SCC Alternate: Louise Currin (Martin Mendelson expressed interest but stepped aside after hearing about Louise's qualifications.) Elected by acclamation.

Comments: Louise has been an education advocate for about 40 years holding many leadership positions including union advocate.

Laurie thanked Kathleen for her years of service to the Education Caucus.

SB 1066

Laurie told us that SB 1066 which is coming up for a hearing on March 30 is being drafted. She asked members to support the bill by giving testimony in person or by submitting written testimony. The bill will create a task force to ensure that For-Profit, Virtual Schools are held accountable as there have been two audits by the Secretaries of State showing poor results. It is currently in the Senate Committee on Education. More information can be found here:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Measures/Overview/SB1066>

School Board Elections

Sami reminded us of the extreme importance of these races coming up in May.

Kathleen Jeskey thanked everyone for their support of her and Scott over the past few years.

Announcements:

Sami also thanked Kathleen and reminded us to take the DPO elections seriously.

Gregg Hancock: Reminded us to work on communications about school board elections.

Lisa Stiller: Announced that Washington County CC meeting on March 22, 6:30pm will have a panel of progressive school board members talking about challenges, priorities, and the importance of school board elections with a question & answer opportunity. The meeting will be held at the PCC Willow Creek Campus, 241 SW Edgeway Drive, Hillsboro. The Washington Co Dems Ed Caucus is putting on this event!

Candy will assist with getting necessary VAN access and other communication tools we need! (Thanks Candy!)

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Stiller, Recording Secretary