



## CLASSROOMS FIRST INITIATIVE COUNCIL MINUTES

**General Meeting – March 15, 2016 11:30 A.M.**

**Location:** Kitchell Corporation  
Training Room  
1707 East Highland Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

**Members Present:** Co-Chair Jim Swanson, Alicia Alvarez, Brian Capistran, Tim Carter, Susan Chan, Janna Day, Annie Gilbert, Kenneth Hicks, Beth Maloney, Greg Miller, Kathy Senseman, and Dawn Wallace

**Members Absent:** Governor Doug Ducey, Superintendent Diane Douglas, Ashley Berg

**Staff Present:** Carmen Ronan, Kristin Sorensen

### **Call to Order, Welcome & Introductions**

Jim Swanson called the meeting to order at 11:33 A.M.

Mr. Swanson then called for an approval of the December 2, 2015 Council meeting minutes as presented. Greg Miller motioned for approval of the minutes, Susan Chan seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

### **Introduction of New Councilmembers**

Mr. Swanson introduced new Councilmembers. Kathy Senseman, President of the State Board for Charter Schools will be taking Janna Day's place on the Council, and Ashley Berg of the Arizona Department of Education will serve as Superintendent Diane Douglas' designee to the Council when the Superintendent is unable to attend.

### **Update on Council Developments**

Mr. Swanson stated that in January he held check in meetings with each Council member. Councilmembers were united in their desire to use the report issued to the Governor on December 2 as the guardrails for making future recommendations.

### **Review of Council Framework**

Mr. Swanson stated that the Council will seek recommendations in line with the *K-12 School Finance Findings* report to Governor Ducey, i.e., the Council framework, moving forward.

### **Call for Proposals**

Annie Gilbert reported that the Council is seeking proposals representing diverse perspectives that address the K-12 funding formula and fall within the Council findings guardrails. She added that recommendations provided by stakeholders will need to be directly linked back to one or more of the

Council findings. She said proposals must be submitted by May 27 via the Governor's Office of Education website at: <http://education.azgovernor.gov/edu/form/submit-proposal>, and Council members will review proposals.

### **Proposal Evaluation by Councilmembers**

Beth Maloney described that the Council feels its role has changed. The Council began by spending a significant amount of time learning and gathering information from consultants and local communities to better understand policy options and implications. Now the Council will be moving into more of an evaluative role as it seeks proposals from the community.

### **Next Meeting**

Mr. Swanson announced that the next meeting will be in early June.

### **Public Comments**

Ken Garland of the Flagstaff Unified School District asked what is meant by revenue-neutral. Mr. Swanson responded that the Council defines revenue neutral as determining what can be done to make a more equitable formula without changing the number of dollars that goes into the system. Dawn Wallace added that the Council is focusing on modernization of the current system with the acknowledgement that there are conversations happening outside the Council around increasing funding. Greg Miller encouraged Mr. Garland to read the second finding in the Council report under Equitable Funding Structure.

### **Adjourn**

With no further business before the Council, Mr. Swanson adjourned the meeting at 11:57 A.M.