

Commission to Study School Funding
Public Engagement Work Group Notes

August 17, 2020

Attendees: Mel Myler, Corinne Cascadden, Jon Morgan, Susan Huard, Dave Luneau, Jay Kahn.
Not present: David Ryan. Also in attendance: Bruce Mallory, Sarah Boege, Carrie Portrie,
Jordan Hensley, Jenn Foor. 6 public attendees.

Just after 1pm Rep. Myler called the work group to order, called roll, and reminded members of the commission's shared group agreements. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved unanimously by work group members in attendance.

Carrie gave some updates on the educator survey findings, noting that the analysis is going well. Her and Sarah's analysis is finding some challenges in the reliance on the property tax and challenges facing communities around funding and community-level decision making involving taxes and education. Carrie and Sarah discussed the methodology behind the analysis of survey data and using codes/categories. A fuller report of survey findings will be forthcoming in the next several weeks. Dave – is there a difference in revenue source when looking at the local education property tax vs a statewide property tax? Technically those two taxes are supposed to behave differently, but curious what the difference in rates between the two and people's understanding looks like. Carrie noted that preliminarily there may be some misunderstandings of how the property tax works. May want to discuss in fiscal policy on the 31st of August.

Next, the work group reviewed the [current draft](#) of the questions that will be placed on September's Granite State Poll. Members of the UNH Survey Center reviewed the questions and provided comments/feedback to the Commission. Commission members reviewed the comments from the UNH survey center and continued to edit and modify questions to best achieve the Commission's goals in getting a representative sense of what Granite Staters think about various Commission topics. The full document can be found on the Carsey-Commission website, as can the video of the discussion.

Following discussion of questions on the Granite State Poll, the work group moved to discuss the engagement [work group's tasks and timeline](#). Upcoming tasks include student voice events, a second set of stakeholder focus groups, legislative learning exchanges, and the creation of a final report.

Dave noted that the public comment period on August 12 went quite well. There may be action items that come from public comment that the Commission needs to make sure to follow up on.