Tacoma Public Schools
Head Start Policy Council

Policy Council Meeting Minutes – June 10, 2026 (STAR Center)

Meeting called to order at 1:05 p.m.

Roll Call - The following sites were represented at the meeting:
20 sites with elected members, 6 sites in attendance (30%)

- Blix (Alt.)
- Downing (Rep.)
- Fern Hill (Rep.)
- Larchmont (W.S.A.)
- Lister (Rep.)
- Travis (Rep.)
- PC Chair

Approval of May's Minutes
Motion made by Downing Rep. to approve May's meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Fern Hill Rep. Motion approved.

WSA Report
Natasha Williams, the Council's WSA rep. provided a flyer from the Washington State Head Start and ECEAP association advocating for parent advocacy on Early Learning legislative items on both state and federal levels.

Natasha Williams is the WSA Rep. Please connect with Natasha if you are interested in learning more about how to advocate for Early Learning.

Director's Report

Staffing: Interviews for the Mann 47 teaching position will occur over the summer. Any parents interested in participating in the interview panel, please connect with Karen Thompson.

Continuation Grant: The submitted grant application only had one small mathematical error. It has been fixed and resubmitted.

COLA: The program just recently heard about a Head Start COLA that was approved by Congress. It will be a .006% increase.

Preschool Applications: The communication office has been running ads on social media to advertise the free preschool programs that TPS offers to help increase the number of applications.

Budget Report
The operational budget, which includes salaries, benefits, and discretionary (supplies & services) was shared with the Council. Training budget was also shared. A credit card report showing charges for May 2026 was reviewed.

Action Items:

Field Trip Policy – A motion was made to approve the Field Trip policy by the Travis Rep. The motion was seconded by the Fern Hill Rep. Motion approved.

Mental Health Policy – A motion was made to approve the Mental Health policy by the Downing Rep. The motion was seconded by the Travis Rep. Motion approved.

Component Reports

Family-Community: The following sites have low enrollment numbers for next year (as of the date of the meeting): Lister, Mann, Stanley, and Travis. There is anticipation of an increase in applications come late August. Parents were encouraged to participate in end of year family gatherings at their child's school.

Heath: Parents will need to pick up any remaining medications left in the classroom for their child by the last day of school. Parents are encouraged to schedule well child physical and dental exams. PC members were encouraged to stay and participate in the Health Services Advisory committee meeting which immediately followed the Council meeting.

Education: Families can request a transition conference if they would like one. Families will also be receiving their child's final report card for the year.

In-kind
Stanley had the highest total for the previous month. Most improved was Birney. There will be a more in-depth discussion on in-kind in regard to Head Start Performance Standards at the first 26-27 Policy Council meeting. WSA Rep. Williams suggested that Policy Council members visit low performing sites and do an in-kind presentation. She also suggested an in-kind committee.

Share Out

The Director thanked members for volunteering their time to the program by participating in Policy Council. Policy Council members play a key role in the operation of the program. Thank you to parents for partnering with program staff to better serve children and families.

Meeting adjourned
Meeting adjourned at 2:01 p.m.