

Cradle-to-Career Governing Board Staff Report

Date Report Issued: July 26, 2023
Attention: Members of Cradle-to-Career Governing Board
Subject: **Elections for the Chair Elect**
Staff Contact: Marykate Cruz Jones, Chief of Strategic Initiatives and Partnerships

At this meeting, the Governing Board (Board) will have the opportunity to elect a new Chair Elect.

Requested Action:

After review and consideration of the statement of interest submitted by a fellow Board member, Staff recommends that the Board vote to elect a new Chair Elect.

- ❖ Move to approve Gavin Payne for Chair Elect of the Board.

Background:

Amy Fong, current Chair of the Board will be transitioning out of leadership and Robert Tagorada, will become the new Chair of the Board. Given this transition, there will be a vacancy in the Chair Elect position.

The [Governance Manual](#) states that the Board will elect a Chair to serve two-year staggered terms. In the first year of the term, the newly elected Chair Elect will support the existing Presiding Chair. In the second year of the term, the Chair Elect will become the Presiding Chair. The Chair Elect and the Presiding Chair may not be from the same institution. All eligible board members who are interested in serving as the Chair Elect will submit a statement of interest for discussion and a vote at the first Governing Board meeting of each fiscal year.

The Office received one statement of interest, which can be found in Attachment A.

Responsibilities of the Chair Elect:

The Chair Elect will be responsible for convening topical committees for tasks such as appointing Advisory Board members, onboarding new Board members, conducting exit interviews with outgoing Board members, and working with the Office to onboard new Advisory Board members.

Gavin Payne
Candidate Statement: Board Chair-Elect

I am submitting my name to my fellow Board Members for consideration to be Chair-Elect.

As we know, with Cradle-to-Career, California is creating a best-in-class public system that harnesses data from throughout the state. That information will inform good decision-making at multiple stages in the educational paths of our young people to help them live their best, most productive, and most fulfilling lives.

As a long-time believer that good information begets good governance, and vice-versa, I have advocated for a comprehensive data system like this in California for over 2 decades in every role in which I served. As such, I pressed for proper investment, good guidance, effective linkages, and deep public engagement; culminating in the incredible process used to develop the C2C, and now with service on its Board.

The actions we have taken so far -- and the crucial work we still have ahead of us -- will help fully realize the potential of the C2C System. I would be honored to help lead us in that process.

While on the Board, I have been proud to serve as Chair of the Governance Manual Ad Hoc Committee and the Advisory Board Selection Ad Hoc Committee; and have served on the Strategic Planning Ad Hoc Committee and the Executive Director Performance Ad Hoc Committee.

Brief Biography:

I currently consult nationally on K-20 education policy issues with philanthropy, not-for-profits, advocacy organizations, and businesses.

Previously, I served for three years as the U.S. Director of Policy, Advocacy, & Communications for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Prior to that, I served for over two decades in California as its Chief Deputy Superintendent of Public Instruction and as a Chief of Staff in the State Senate.

Currently, I sit on the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards as well as the C2C Board. I served previous stints on the boards of the California Teachers Retirement System, the Newt Elder Education Foundation, WestEd, and Heath House.

When my now-grown daughters were in public schools, I was active on district school-site councils.

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