

January 16, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Regents
FROM: David L. Buhler
SUBJECT: 2018 Annual Report

The 2018 Annual Report summarizes the efforts and accomplishments of the Board over the past year including four presidential searches, significant effort in establishing system wide metrics and the efforts of the Regents' Working Groups. The Report also identifies important themes that have emerged from the Working Groups, results of the stakeholder qualitative study, the public option poll, and the Board's priority initiatives. The Report briefly reviews the current initiatives moving into 2019: Tuition policy changes and study, Statewide College Advising Corp, and continued efforts in student safety and wellness.

Commissioner's Recommendation

1. Adopt the 2018 Annual Report, with any adjustments deemed necessary by the Board.
2. Direct the Commissioner and staff to suspend activities related to the Utah College Acceptance Letters until the Statewide College Advisors program is fully implemented with advisors to assist students directly in each high school.
3. Direct the Commissioner to develop a work plan for FY2020 that identifies deliverables (including necessary resources, milestones and timeline) for the fiscal year in support of the priority areas, to be considered by the Board in May 2019.
4. Begin development of an updated Strategic Plan based on the research efforts of the Gardner Policy Institute to identify a possible "stretch goal" related to postsecondary educational attainment in Utah.

David L. Buhler
Commissioner of Higher Education

DLB/SJ