Effective Educators in Every School
Additional Information on DC’s Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Draft State Plan

In December 2015, President Obama signed the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), the latest version of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. The law requires DC to set a new state education plan, with input from educators, parents, and the community. Below are highlights of strategies the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is proposing in DC’s draft plan to improve education for all DC students.

- OSSE will offer professional development opportunities for all educators. In the past, this has included conferences on English learners and science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) as well as specialized resources and supports for particular areas of interest and need such as restorative justice, a practice some schools have adopted that shifts the focus of discipline from punishment to learning and from the individual to the community.

- OSSE will continue to convene groups of effective educators from across DC to implement strategies that drive student success, provide feedback to OSSE on state initiatives, and lead professional development for other educators.

- Through the DC Staffing Data Collaborative, OSSE partners with interested schools, surveys teachers, and analyzes data to ensure more students have access to an excellent teacher. OSSE will continue to offer and strengthen this optional support in future years.

- While OSSE does not evaluate educators, OSSE will continue to support schools using the optional DC Model Teacher Evaluation System (MTES), which includes a framework for effective teaching, a corresponding rubric, a teacher action plan tool, and related resources.

- As an additional strategy to support human capital moving forward, OSSE plans to create the DC Teacher Talent Information Hub, an online job board where schools can post vacancies and receive information on available candidates, and create reports to identify and address staffing needs.

To read the draft DC State Education Plan and find more information on the development of the plan during the last year, visit OSSE’s ESSA webpage at OSSE.dc.gov/essa. Public comment may be submitted by emailing OSSE.ESSA@dc.gov or completing the survey available on OSSE.dc.gov/essa by March 3, 2017.