MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AT THE COMMISSION MEETING ON JUNE 18, 2020

AUDIO IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST (CAITLIN.SHAUCK@DC.GOV)

AGENDA

Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting

Feb. 20, 2020

3-5 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Swearing in of New Commissioners

Recap of the Previous Commission Meeting

Approval of Minutes

Legislative Update

Update from OSSE

General Announcements
Capital LEAF Program
School Safety Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018

Behavioral Health

Immunizations Enforcement

Attendance Policy Update from OSSE
Family Outreach Update from Public Charter School Board

Updates from Strategic Plan Working Groups

Comments from Commissioners on Current Work

Final Discussions, Closeout, and Priorities for Next Meeting

Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting
Feb. 20, 2020
3-5 p.m.

Meeting Summary

This meeting summary serves as a review of the Feb. 20, 2020 Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting held at the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE, 1050 First Street NE, First Floor, Washington, DC 20002). An audio recording is available upon request (Caitlin.Shauck@dc.gov). The purpose of the Healthy Youth and Schools Commission is to advise the Mayor and DC Council on health, wellness, and nutritional issues concerning youth and schools in the District of Columbia.

Commissioners in attendance: Kafui Doe, Audrey Williams, Jeff Travers, William Dietz, Heidi Schumacher, Beverley Wheeler, Charneta Scott

Commissioners in attendance via phone: Akeem Anderson

Welcome and Introductions

- Chairman Jeff Travers opened the meeting at 3:07 p.m.
- Chairman Travers welcomed new commissioner Kafui Doe, and Commissioner Doe introduced herself.
- Chairman Travers announced that there is also a new student commissioner, Raven Carter, who was unable to attend the meeting.

Recap of the Previous Commission Meeting

- Chairman Travers asked commissioners to review the minutes from the November 20 meeting.
- Commissioner William Dietz motioned to approve the minutes, Commissioner Audrey Williams seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved by the commissioners.

Update from OSSE

- Commissioner Schumacher provided updates from OSSE.
    - OSSE is in performance preparation season, with the performance hearing being next Wednesday.
    - There are two new sets of resources available on OSSE's website: policies and resources around the School Safety Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 and immunizations attendance policy and resources.
    - The Cafeteria Staff Training Grant was awarded.
    - Bloomberg Health awarded OSSE and Children's National a grant for health information sharing.

Swearing in of New Commissioners

- Director Steven Walker from the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments completed the swearing in for Commissioner Doe's appointment and Chairman Travers's reappointment.

Update from OSSE (continued)

- Grace Manubay, Environmental Literacy Coordinator at OSSE, provided an update on the Environmental Literacy and Capital LEAF programs.
    - Additional information is available in the slides.
    - The Environmental Literacy Program is revising the District Environmental Literacy Plan, which is a multi-stakeholder process. A draft will be available for public review hopefully in May.
    - The DC Environmental Film Festival will show student's films on March 14.
        - Chairman Travers asked if any of the films will be put online.
            - Grace Manubay responded that she is not sure. The screening is free to attend.
        - Commissioner Dietz asked if the films do go online if they would live on the OSSE website.
            - Grace Manubay responded that they could.
    - OSSE is working with a contractor for the field test for the Capital LEAF program.
        - OSSE has selected a mix of elementary, middle schools, and high schools across the city for the field test.
    - Chairman Travers asked how much the environmental programs interact with the Department of General Services.
        - Grace Manubay responded the they have been involved in this project.
        - Chairman Travers asked if there are any other departments that are involved that the Act touches.
        - Grace Manubay responded that the following agencies are named: Department of Energy and the Environment, the Public Charter School Board, the State Board of Education, Department of General Services, the University of the District of Columbia, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Employment Services, and DC Public Schools.
- Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, provided an update on the School Safety Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018.
    - Additional information is available in the slides.
    - OSSE has launched resources on the website: model policies, policy development resources, curriculum guide, and adult training resources (coming soon).

- Chairman Travers asked how schools are being informed about the resources.
    - Caitlin Shauck responded that OSSE informed schools via the LEA Look Forward and plans to send out additional communications as additional resources become available.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if YRBS data are available by school.
    - Commissioner Schumacher responded that they are not available publicly.
    - Commissioner Dietz responded that there are questions on the YRBS about sexual assault in schools. YRBS could be used to identify hotspots
- Chairman Travers asked if individuals need to register to download the resources from the OSSE website so that OSSE knows who has accessed them.
    - Caitlin Shauck responded that anyone can download them.
- Commissioner Williams asked how schools will be held accountable for having the policies.
    - Commissioner Schumacher responded that OSSE's role is to develop the model policies, make sure schools are aware of the requirements, and have access to training resources. It is the responsibility of the LEA to make sure they are following the law.
- Chairman Travers asked if this could be added to the School Health Profiles.
    - Commissioner Schumacher responded that the School Health Profiles are wrapping up for this year. OSSE can consider adding a question for next year.
- Commissioner Dietz commented that OSSE could also look at sexual harassment by school to target schools with the greatest need.
    - Commissioner Schumacher responded that OSSE could. Or at least to make sure that schools are aware of the YRBS data. OSSE is increasingly focused on making sure that OSSE is not only sharing the data but also sharing resources.
- Commissioner Williams asked if there is a deadline that schools have to have this done by.
    - Caitlin Shauck responded that the legislation requires for schools to adopt and implement the policies in the 2019-20 school year and to implement the training requirements beginning in the 2020-21 school year.

Behavioral Health

- Commissioner Charneta Scott presented on the Department of Behavioral Health's mandated training for school staff.
    - Additional information is available in the slides.
    - It is mandated for administrators and teachers in public schools, public charter schools, and child development facilities.
    - The training came out of the South Capitol Street Memorial Amendment Act of 2012.
    - Percentages are estimates for public charter schools, as the Public Charter School Board does not have a list of staff for charter schools.
    - Participants complete a pre-test, a post-test, and a follow-up 60 days after completing the training.
    - Chairman Travers asked what "director" and "other" mean.
        - Commissioner Scott responded that some school leaders do not call themselves "principal." Anyone in the school can take the training. They have gotten some feedback that the scenarios are not relevant for the urban setting. They are discussing how best to modify the modules. The school bus driver is often the one who hears things from students.
    - Chairman Travers asked whether it can generally be assumed that the numbers from last year represent 75% and 95%.
        - Commissioner Scott responded yes, but stressed that they did not have the true number of employed staff for the charters.
        - Chairman Travers clarified that it is still good participation.
    - Commissioner Scott commented that the growth is needed in the child development centers.
    - Commissioner Scott noted that the referral module needs to be updated.
    - Commissioner Dietz commented that this is another opportunity to look at hotspots on a school-by-school basis from the YRBS.
        - Commissioner Scott commented that the schools do receive the data for their particular school.
        - Commissioner Dietz asked if the data that a school receives is just their data or their data in comparison to other schools.
            - Commissioner Schumacher asked David Esquith, Manager of Policy, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives at OSSE, whether the school level results are in comparison to the District as a whole or are just school-level.
            - David Esquith responded that he was not sure.
            - Commissioner Schumacher responded that OSSE could create the comparison. She noted that OSSE has been thinking about how to get more data to the appropriate individuals in school. OSSE created a fact sheet on mental health last year that relied on the YRBS data and

provided resources and tools on the bottom half of the page.

Immunizations Enforcement

- Commissioner Dietz commented that he thinks the initiative should have a different name than "No Shots, No School."
- Caitlin Shauck presented a background on the underlying law and regulations for immunizations requirements as well as an overview of OSSE's immunization attendance policy.
    - Additional information is available in the slides.
    - Chairman Travers asked if there is enforcement for private schools.
        - Caitlin Shauck responded that the law applies to all schools in DC. The regulations give OSSE authority for public and public charter schools. OSSE is still messaging to private and parochial schools.
        - Commissioner Schumacher commented that OSSE is clear that private and parochial schools are expected to follow the law.
    - Chairman Travers asked if we know roughly how many students are not in compliance with immunizations requirements.
        - Commissioner Schumacher responded that as of the end of last school year, about 78% of students in public and public charter schools were fully immunized, which means that around 20,000 kids are out of compliance. The vast majority of kids have access to health insurance and healthcare. This number is a combination of missing immunizations and missing documentation.
    - Commissioner Dietz asked if school nurses can immunize kids.
        - Caitlin Shauck responded that they cannot.
    - Caitlin Shauck commented that OSSE has been engaging closely with DC Health, DC Public Charter School Board, and DC Public Schools on a communications plan to ensure that the information is getting in front of school leaders and families.
    - Chairman Travers asked what happens if some students are removed from attendance for a long period of time.
        - Caitlin Shauck responded that schools will follow their normal protocols for unexcused absences, which may include outreach to families, referral to Student Support Teams, and referrals to the Child and Family Services Agency and the Office of the Attorney General for truancy and educational neglect.
    - Commissioner Akeem Anderson asked what communication is going out to parents during the MySchoolDC lottery process.
        - Kyle Flood, Manager of Policy and Compliance at OSSE, responded that the MySchoolDC team sends out

communications when a student is matched with a school and they give instructions on what to do next, including returning health and immunization forms. This is a part of the normal communication.
        - Commissioner Schumacher commented that promotional materials and flyers were given to all parents who attended the MySchoolDC EdFest.
- Commissioner Williams presented an overview of the Public Charter School Board's efforts to ensure schools are informed of the policy and have access to resources.
    - Additional information is available in the slides.
    - Commissioner Williams commented that students who are more at-risk or poorer are more compliant with immunizations.
- Chairman Travers asked whether OSSE will be reviewing the immunizations database.
    - Commissioner Williams commented that the immunizations team sends out monthly reports to schools already.
    - Commissioner Schumacher responded that OSSE will have access to regular streams of data as well. OSSE will monitor compliance and support messaging to schools. DCPS central office and some of the other larger LEAs have asked for central office reports. OSSE is also thinking about how to get this information in front of every single youth-serving organization in the city so that no one can say that they did not know this was coming. OSSE is also trying to dispel any myths among any individuals who have seen the "No Shots, No School" messaging over the years and may not realize that enforcement will take place this year.

Updates from Strategic Plan Working Groups

- Commissioner Wheeler provided an update from the nutrition education and meals working group.
    - Additional information is available in the slides.
    - "Hear the Crunch" is on March 5 to celebrate national school breakfast.
    - The USDA has new proposed rules for school meals and summer meals.
    - Lindsey Palmer, Director of Nutrition Programs at OSSE, commented that OSSE did the waiver last year and will do it again this year.
    - Commissioner Dietz asked why the USDA rescinded waivers.
        - Commissioner Wheeler did it to make it easier with less paperwork.
        - Lindsey Palmer commented that there was a large OIG investigation for the largest states, and the USDA went

through those waivers. OSSE has dealt with it. It is not affecting the children. It does take away from the programmatic side every time OSSE needs to fill out additional paperwork.

- Commissioner Dietz provided an update from the data working group.
    - OSSE's priorities are absenteeism, breakfast, and mental health. The group is thinking about analyses that can be done in these areas. For example, school breakfast participation and attendance or school breakfast participation and standardized test performance.
    - Sparked by today's discussion, the group will look into hotspots, particularly around sexual abuse in schools and the relationship of these variables with suicidality.
- Commissioner Travers commented that the ACEs working group is still in hibernation.
    - They are working on getting a meeting scheduled in the next couple of weeks.

Comments from Commissioners on Current Work

- Commissioner Anderson announced that the sunscreen and access to medical marijuana bills have been combined, and Council voted on February 4 on final reading. The Mayor has until March to sign it. All indications say that she will sign it. It will then go to Congress. Both emergency versions are in place until the law is fully in effect.

Final Discussions, Closeout, and Priorities for Next Meeting

- Commissioner Dietz motioned to adjourn. Commissioner Wheeler seconded. All were in favor.