



MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AT THE COMMISSION MEETING ON MAY 24, 2023

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

AGENDA

Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting

May 18, 2022

3-5 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Recap of the Previous Commission Meeting

Approval of Minutes

Updates from the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE)

Immunization Attendance Policy

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response, Recovery and Restoration

Mental Health and Educator Wellness

School Meals

Data and Trends Update from DC Health

Indoor Air Quality Program Report

Comments from Commissioners on Current Work

Updates from Strategic Plan Working Groups

Final Discussions, Closeout and Priorities for Next Meeting

Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting

May 18, 2022

3-5 p.m.

Meeting Summary

This meeting summary serves as a review of the May 18, 2022 Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting, held virtually. A 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: Jeff Travers, Heidi Schumacher, Danielle Dooley, Kafui Doe, Audrey Williams, Taryn Morrissey, Akeem Anderson

Welcome and Introductions

- Chairperson Jeff Travers opened the meeting at 3:05 p.m. and welcomed Heidi Schumacher from parental leave.

Recap of the Previous Commission Meeting

- Chairperson Travers asked commissioners to review the minutes from the Feb. 16, 2022 meeting.
- Commissioner Morrissey motioned to approve the minutes, Commissioner Williams seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved by the commissioners.

Updates from OSSE

- Heidi Schumacher, Assistant Superintendent of the Health and Wellness Division at OSSE, provided general updates from OSSE including the acknowledgement of Tia Brumsted, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of the Health and Wellness Division, for covering during her parental leave. She also provided OSSE staffing updates and information on the strategic plan. Dr. Schumacher informed the Commission that fiscal year 2023 will have a budget of over \$1 billion and includes a 5.87% increase in the student per pupil funding formula. It also includes investments in facilities and HVAC, mental health, and the early childhood pay equity fund, which will provide additional funding to support the salaries of early childhood educators.

Immunization Attendance Policy

- Kyle Flood, Policy and Compliance Manager at OSSE, presented about the immunization attendance policy including the importance of health forms, background on immunization requirements legislation, steps to implement the immunization policy in schools, and medical and religious exemptions.
 - Additional information is available in the slides.

- Commissioner Williams asked if the COVID-19 vaccination mandate for school staff will continue into the new school year. Kyle responded that since the Mayor's Order expired with the public emergency, there is no universal mandate. DC Public Schools will enforce the vaccine requirement since they have their own mandate. Some charter schools are choosing to require the vaccine for staff.
- Commissioner Anderson asked the number of students that will be affected when the policy is enforced. Kyle responded that around 20,000 students could be removed from school with the implementation of the immunization attendance policy. Commissioner Anderson asked if there is anything that commissioners can do to support and ensure students are not removed from school for non-compliance. Kyle responded that it is helpful for everyone who has regular touchpoints with families to reach out and remind families about the requirements and importance of having well child visits and required pediatric immunizations. OSSE has [resources available](#) that can be shared with families.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response, Recovery and Restoration

- Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, shared a Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response, Recovery and Restoration update including the continued technical support provided by the Health and Wellness Division at OSSE.
 - Additional information is available in the slides.
- Tia Brumsted, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of the Health and Wellness Division, provided an update on the work and investments related to mental health and educator wellness.
 - Additional information is available in the slides.
- Liz Leach, Nutrition Programs Manager at OSSE, provided an update on school meals, including a background on meal access, proposed new waivers, and OSSE's multi-tiered systems of support to school food authorities.
 - Additional information is available in the slides.
- Commissioner Anderson asked how much it would cost if DC were to cover the cost of meals for all students to ensure meals are free for every student. Liz responded that the Food Policy Council is currently working on an initiative to propose a bill that would provide universally free meals to all students, and they are determining how much it would cost.
- Commissioner Williams asked if the School Food Authorities are Local Education Agencies (LEA). Liz responded that in DC most LEAs are a School Food Authority but there are also charter LEAs that are working with other charter LEAs under collaborative School Food Authorities, as it is a more efficient way of dividing the administrative load required to operate the programs.

- Marie Williams, Policy Analyst at OSSE, provided an update on the Indoor Air Quality Program included program details, lessons learned, program insights from the vendor and a case report.
 - Additional information is available in the slides.
- Dr. Anil Mangla from DC Health shared an update on DC's COVID-19 data and trends.
 - Additional information is available in the slides.

Comments from Commissioners on Current Work

- Commissioner Doe shared that DC Health's Youth Advisory Council is partnering with the Department of Behavioral Health and the Metropolitan Police Department to host a Virtual Youth Summit on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 10 a.m. The summit is for youth ages 14-21 and will cover topics related to mental health, violence, and healthy behaviors. Commissioner Doe encouraged sharing the [information](#) with youth.

Updates from Strategic Plan Working Groups

- There were no updates from working groups.

Final Discussions, Closeout and Priorities for Next Meeting

- Dr. Mangla thanked Dr. Schumacher for her leadership and thanked the Health and Wellness team for their work in keeping schools safe and their great collaboration with DC Health.
- Chairperson Travers asked to send topic suggestions for the next meeting on Aug. 17, 2022.
- Chairperson Travers closed the meeting at 4:53 p.m.