



OSSE LEA LOOK-FORWARD: March 21, 2013—March 28, 2013 Key Events, Announcements, Updates and Deadlines

Office of Grants Management and Compliance

Enrollment Audit Report, SY 2012-2013

The annual enrollment verification process for the 20112-2013 School Year is complete. The final enrollment audit report was sent by F.S. Taylor and Associates, an independent contractor that conducts the enrollment audit, and is available on the OSSE website at <http://osse.dc.gov/publication/2012-fall-enrollment-audit-report-district-columbia-public-schools-and-district-public>.

OSSE Charter School Closure Policy

The OSSE Charter School Closure policy sets expectations and provides guidance and technical assistance with regard to the state-level issues related to the closure of a District of Columbia public charter school, also referred to as a Local Educational Agency (LEA). The policy is now available on the OSSE website at <http://osse.dc.gov/publication/charter-school-closure-policy>.

Sequestration: General Information and Potential Impact

The across-the-board cuts in education funding are estimated at **5 percent** nationally. Over the coming weeks, OSSE will continue to review all financial impact analyses in an effort to determine ways to lessen the burden on LEAs caused by such potential reductions in funding. In the meantime, OSSE will release a summary of the potential impact on funding to help LEAs plan and prepare for staffing, services, and program budgets for school year (SY) 2013-2014 no later than Monday, March 25, 2013.

Division of Specialized Education

Extended School Year Certification – Webinar Resource

The Division of Specialized Education (DSE) recently hosted two Extended School Year (ESY) Certification webinars on February 13, 2013 and February 27, 2013. These webinars were designed to assist local education agencies (LEAs) in successfully completing the annual ESY certification requirements. Please reference the link to the webinar PowerPoint presentation that contains information regarding federal and state ESY requirements, ESY eligibility framework and IEP documentation requirements, annual certification process requirements, and the Division of Student Transportation's (DOT) new Transportation Online Tool for ESY (TOTE).

To view the link, please click [here](#).



Division of Specialized Education (Continued)

Special Education Data System (SEDS)

As a result of LEA feedback, the OSSE has relaxed the rule requiring the selection of a Common Core standard for academic IEP goals in preschool and pre-kindergarten grades. Users are not required to associate a Common Core standard for academic goals for students in these grades though may do so if they wish.

This flexibility will allow IEP teams to both take advantage of quality assurance checks while having the ability to adequately document information for exceptional cases. OSSE will continue to respond to the needs of LEAs in order to ensure that SEDS is a tool that supports the very important work of developing appropriate programs for students with disabilities.

Special Education Quality Review Tool Training

In January 2012, OSSE's Division of Specialized Education (DSE) partnered with the American Institutes for Research (AIR) to launch a project designed to address special education program quality in the District of Columbia. As part of the project, AIR was tasked with supporting DSE to develop a set of quality indicators, based on research of special education program assessment tools as well as input from special education stakeholders. From that work, OSSE developed the Special Education Quality Review (SEQR) Tool, a web-based self-assessment tool to be used by schools, local education agencies (LEAs) to assess school-level programs for Students with Disabilities (SWDs) on selected quality indicators and to identify school level improvements needed to achieve best practice standards. We are very pleased to announce that the SEQR has been finalized, and OSSE has begun scheduling training on its use.

The next training on the tool will be held:

Presenter(s): OSSE, Division of Specialized Education

Target Audience: Administrators, General Education Teachers, Special Education Teachers, Special Education Staff

Date(s): March 26th and March 28th

Time: 9:00AM – 12:00PM

Location: Registration(s): 810 First Street, NE, 3rd Floor Computer Lab

March 26th <http://www.cvent.com/d/4cqrlq/4W>

March 28th <http://www.cvent.com/d/vcqlrz/4W>



Division of Specialized Education (Continued)

**OSSE Releases for Public Comment FFY 2013 Draft State Grant Applications for IDEA Part B
Draft Applications for Public Comment****

In order to receive a grant award under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) to support the provision of special education services to children with disabilities, each state must complete an annual grant application. To ensure an opportunity for the public to provide input, this application must be posted for 60 calendar days and open for public comment for 30 days within the 60 day period.

OSSE's Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2013 draft state application for IDEA Part B will be posted for 60 days on the OSSE website (from March 11, 2013 to May 9, 2013). Members of the public have the opportunity to make comments on the application until April 9, 2013.

**Please Note: The US Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has requested that OSSE notify the public that it does not have an appropriation yet. States should use last year's Part B spreadsheet for public participation purposes. As the FFY2013 allocations are not yet available, the numbers posted to meet the 60-day public participation requirement are "draft" and the State will post its 2013 spreadsheet as soon as it becomes available.

Individuals who wish to comment so should direct their comments to Ms. Desirée Brown, Special Assistant - Community and Parent Relations, Division of Specialized Education, by email at: osse.publiccomment@dc.gov. Should you have questions regarding this application or the public comment period, please direct them to the attention of Desirée Brown by email at desiree.brown@dc.gov or at (202) 741-0271.

Post-Secondary & Career Education

General Education Diploma Announcement

OSSE is letting adult learners in the District of Columbia know — *Your future is calling. With the GED test, you can answer the call!* The current GED® test is expiring at the end of 2013 and learners' partial passing scores will expire too if the test is not successfully completed by then. For learners who don't feel prepared, OSSE and local programs can help.

The OSSE Adult and Family Education Office and the DC Office of Cable Television (OCT) have partnered to produce a public service announcement encouraging District residents to finish the GED before the current test series expires on December 31, 2013. The PSA is running on DC cable television. View the GED message at <http://youtu.be/83olkMqsZHc>. Learn more about the GED campaign at <http://www.gedtestingservice.com/finishtheged/>.



Division of Wellness & Nutrition

Grant Application Solicitation for DC PAY Program

OSSE is soliciting grant applications for the District of Columbia Physical Activity for Youth (DC PAY) program. The purpose of this program is to increase the capacity of DC schools to provide physical activity to all students before, during, or after the school day.

Eligibility: Applications will be accepted from Washington DC public schools and public charter schools and organizations participating in the Healthy Schools Act (2010). Past award recipients are eligible. The total funding available for this award period is \$200,000; eligible schools may apply for an award amount up to \$10,000.

The Request for Applications can be found on the OSSE website by clicking here: <http://osse.dc.gov/publication/2013-dc-pay-request-applications>. Please contact Erin Watts at (202) 481-3755 or erin.watts@dc.gov with questions.

DC Free Summer Meal Program –Renewing and New Sponsors and Sites

LEAs--Want to continue your sponsorship of the FSMP? Or, do you want to sponsor or even be a site in the FSMP? Remember, the FSMP offers children free meals when schools are closed for the summer. New to the FSMP---Did you know that you can receive a higher reimbursement for meals served in the summer if you participate in the FSMP? Come hear more about this program. Attend the training to learn what's new for the 2013 summer program and discuss the application process.

The training will be held **Wednesday, April 17 and 18** at **OSSE**.

Location: 810 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002 (near Metro Union Station – Red Line)
4th Floor, Conference Room 4012

Time: **Renewing Sponsors** (*for those participating since 2012 summer*)
April 17 from 9 am – 12 pm
April 18 from 12 PM – 4 PM

New Sponsors or Sites (*for those who have submitted intent to participate or who want to participate*)
April 17 from 1 pm – 4 pm
April 18 from 9 am – 12 pm

Registration is required. Please contact Elisabeth Sweeting at Elisabeth.Sweeting@dc.gov or call on (202) 724-7628



Division of Wellness & Nutrition (Continued)

The Importance of Fidelity When Implementing and Adapting Evidence-Based Programs

OSSE will be hosting a free training on the Importance of Fidelity When Implementing and Adapting Evidence-Based Programs on March 26th for school and community-based health educators. Increasingly, federal programs are requiring the use of evidence-based health programs as proven intervention strategies, but not all evidence-based approaches or interventions are right for all communities. This interactive workshop will explore the importance of adapting evidence-based programs with fidelity to ensure successful implementation to meet the target population's needs. Resources for additional adaptation tools and methods will be provided.

Tuesday, March 26, 2013

4 to 6pm

Grand Ball Room- 3rd Floor

810 First Street NE Washington, DC 20002 (Nearest Metro Union Station -Red Line)

Registration deadline is Wednesday, March 20, 2013

Register at <http://adobe.ly/ZlPhfH>

Registration is required and space is limited.

Who Should Attend?

Teachers, DC educators, school personnel, curriculum committees/advisory boards, government employees, professionals who work on health education and school health, and community based organizations who work with schools using evidence-based curriculum within the District of Columbia.

Why attend?

- You want to make changes to a curriculum you implement
- You received a grant to implement health education programming
- You have agency-specific health curricula but are exploring other options
- You are interested in learning more about evidence-based curriculum
- You want to know the implications of adapting existing evidence-based curriculum in your program outcomes



Division of Wellness & Nutrition (Continued)

School Garden Grant Award Announcement for School Year 2013

The 2nd annual District of Columbia, school garden grant program awards have been released as a result of funding from the Healthy Schools Act. The purpose of this grant program is to increase the capacity of the school gardens as educational resources. The program is intended to provide institutional support to create meaningful learning experiences for students.

Last school year, OSSE funded 22 1-year garden grant projects to DC Public and DC Public Charter schools. This year, 24 schools will be funded up to \$10,000 each to implement *new* or *existing* school garden programs. The projects will include curriculum integration that is standards based and will allow schools to have school garden coordinators.

Congratulations to the following 24 grantees:

- 1) Mary McLeod Bethune PCS
- 2) Capitol City PCS
- 3) DCPS-Peabody Primary Campus
- 4) DCPS-Randall Highlands ES
- 5) DCPS-Hardy MS
- 6) DCPS-Murch ES
- 7) DCPS-JO Wilson ES
- 8) DCPS-Seaton ES
- 9) DC Bilingual PCS
- 10) DCPS-Eastern HS
- 11) EL Haynes PCS
- 12) Center City PCS
- 13) Cesar Chavez Preparatory PCS
- 14) Thurgood Marshall Academy PCS
- 15) DCPS-Stoddert ES (U.S. Department of Education, Green Ribbon School)
- 16) DCPS-Anacostia HS
- 17) DCPS-Miner ES
- 18) DCPS-Capitol Hill Montessori @ Logan
- 19) DCPS-Eastern HS
- 20) DCPS-Watkins ES
- 21) DCPS-School Within School@ Logan Annex
- 22) DCPS-Tubman ES
- 23) DCPS-Burroughs ES
- 24) DCPS-Cleveland ES



Division of Wellness & Nutrition (Continued)

Healthy Schools Act School Health Profile – Past Due

Under Section 602 of the *Healthy Schools Act of 2010*, each public school and public charter school within the District of Columbia is required to complete and submit the Healthy Schools Act School Health Profile form to OSSE on or before **February 15th** of each year. This is an online form, located in Quickbase (<https://octo.quickbase.com>), and links to the form and access instructions were sent to principals on January 10, 2013. If your school did not receive the link or someone other than the principal needs access, please call 202-481-3755 or email osse.hsahealthform@dc.gov. The information in the profile is reported annually to the Mayor and the City Council. Schools who do not submit will be out of compliance, and this will be noted in the report as well as on the OSSE website. A print version of the 2013 School Health Profile form can be found [here](#); however, the form must be submitted online through Quickbase. Please call if you would like to confirm OSSE's receipt of your school's School Health Profile.

Application Link: https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=h83xMnuRrug0Nkp*fwFK5w#

Using DoD Fresh to purchase local produce

The U.S. Department of Defense Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (DoD Fresh) allows schools to use their USDA Foods entitlement dollars to buy fresh produce.

What are the advantages of DoD Fresh?

Flexibility-States can adjust DoD Fresh allocations on a continuous basis allowing them to utilize USDA Commodity/Food entitlement more effectively.

Easy Ordering and Funds tracking-The values listed in the (Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Order/Receipt System) FFAVORS are adjusted on a weekly basis based on market conditions and reflect the amounts a school's entitlement will be deducted or the amount a school will be billed if entitlement is not available for the selected items.

How produce is ordered-In some states, districts/School Food Authorities/LEAs place orders with input from each school. The District of Columbia uses both models. For additional information please feel free to contact Program Specialist Major Langford at major.langford@dc.gov.

Professional Development Grant Opportunity

On March 1, 2013, OSSE released the Teacher Quality Improvement (TQI) competitive application. The purpose of the TQI grant is to fund programs designed to provide teachers with skills needed to positively enhance student learning and improve the quality of instruction. **The application deadline is Monday, April 22, 2013 at 5:00PM.** OSSE encourages District of Columbia LEAs, and schools of education and arts and sciences departments within institutions of higher education to form eligible partnerships and apply.

Please visit [OSSE's website](#) for more information on this grant opportunity and to download the Teacher Quality Improvement RFA.



Elementary & Secondary Education

Highly Effective Teacher Incentive Program Is Recruiting Highly Effective Teachers

Public schools in DC need talented teachers to contribute their time and energy to make a difference for students in high-needs schools. To accomplish this, OSSE has launched a pilot program to recruit 20 highly-effective educators to teach in four high-needs schools beginning in the 2013-14 school year.

Educators must make a commitment to teach for three years and will receive a range of incentives, including a \$10,000 bonus, \$5,000 in tuition assistance or loan repayment, and access to homebuyer assistance (details are forthcoming).

Candidates must have been rated highly effective by their LEA's evaluation system, have come from a low-poverty school (less than 50% free or reduced-price lunch) or from outside the classroom, and have taught for at least two years. Applications will be accepted between March 4th- April 19th with in-person interviews scheduled for April 29 or April 30 from 2:00PM-6:00PM. You may find more information about the program and an application at <http://osse.dc.gov/page/teacher-and-leader-evaluation>.

If you have questions, please contact Robin Chait at robin.chait@dc.gov.

Office of Data Management

DC CAS Roster Verification Process Kickoff!

On Monday, March 18, 2013, OSSE will begin the DC CAS Roster Verification Process. The goal of this process is to reduce the reporting burden for LEAs and to create one quality dataset for OSSE and LEAs' high stakes accountability measures. A DC CAS Roster Verification tab will be available on the SLED site for LEA SLED Security Administrators to access. Instructional webinars will be offered on **3/22** and **3/26**.

Invitations for the webinar will be sent to the LEA SLED Security Administrator. A how-to guide will be posted on OSSE's website at <http://osse.dc.gov/service/data>. Roster verification must be completed by April 19, 2013. Please contact Jessica Enos (202-535-2651, jessica.enos@dc.gov) with any questions.

ACCESS for English Language Learner (ELL) Roster Verification Process Information

In an effort to ensure that all student data is accurate and complete, OSSE will provide LEAs with student rosters for verification prior to LEAs' ordering ACCESS testing materials. On Thursday, February 28th OSSE held a webinar to outline the 2013 process for verifying the student rosters and pre-ordering Pre-test booklet ID labels for students. The slides and information from this webinar, and webinar FAQs will be posted at the following website address: <http://osse.dc.gov/service/access-ells>. For additional questions about this process, please contact Michelle Blakey-Tuggle: michelle.blakey-tuggle@dc.gov.



Office of Data Management (Continued)

Policy Guidelines for Calculating the Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate

OSSE is beginning the Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate (ACGR) verification process. On Friday, March 15, 2013, LEAs will receive the ACGR policy documentation, which includes a “DETAILED TIMELINE” and processes.

The timeline includes important deadlines. LEA(s) will have from April 1, 2013 to May 20, 2013 to verify students and provide documentation.

Responsibility	Process	Timeline
Phase I: Project Timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit project timeline to LEA(s) • Contact LEA(s) 	March 15, 2013
Phase II: Username & Password Dissemination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEAs receive username & passwords • DCPS receives data file format 	March 27, 2013
Phase II: Verification Tool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEA cohort verification begins • LEA(s) submit documentation 	April 1, 2013 – May 20, 2013
Phase III: Cohort Assignment and Verification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are verified and assigned to their appropriate cohorts • OSSE reviews documentation submitted by LEA(s) • Preliminary ACGR conducted 	May 30, 2013 – July, 2013
Phase IV: Graduates Data submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCSB and DCPS submits official certified graduates 	June 8, 2013 – June 15, 2013
Phase VI: Graduates Data Submission II (Summer Graduates)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCSB and DCPS submit official certified graduates (summer graduates) 	Aug 1, 2013- Aug 8, 2013
Phase VII: Data Analysis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OSSE conducts data analysis 	Aug 8, 2013-Sept 1, 2013



Mayor Gray Slated to Swear in Community Schools Advisory Committee

Advisory Committee Will Advise District Officials on Best Wraparound Practices for Students

On Tuesday, March 26th, Mayor Vincent C. Gray will administer the oath of office today to 19 newly appointed members of the District of Columbia Community Schools Advisory Committee during a ceremony at the John A. Wilson Building. Resulting from the historic enactment of the Community Schools Incentive Act of 2012, the committee was established to advise the Mayor on the progress of the Community Schools Incentive Initiative to include the development of a results-based framework and accompanying performance indicators with which to measure the success of the initiative; to participate in the selection process for Incentive Initiative grantees; to develop recommendations on how all public schools can become centers of their communities by opening school facilities for nonprofit and community use; to identify potential funding sources for the provision of eligible services; and to develop yearly measurable performance goals.

Mayor Gray appointed Kevin J. Clinton as the Committee's chairperson. Mr. Clinton currently serves as Chief Operating Officer for the Federal City Council (FCC), a non-profit organization that serves as a catalyst for progress in the District of Columbia by focusing the area's business and professional leaders on major challenges and opportunities facing the city, including education reform, transportation and infrastructure, job creation and job readiness, and fiscal stability and integrity. He supports the FCC's infrastructure, education, and government innovation initiatives and manages its internal operations.

Mayor Gray's interagency appointees are: Dr. Amanda Alexander (designee of the Chancellor), Scott D. Pearson (Director of the Public Charter School Board), Jennifer Leonard (Interim Deputy Mayor for Education), Laura M. Slover (President of the State Board of Education), Dr. Rachel M. Petty (designee of the University of the District of Columbia), Dr. Calvin Woodland (President of the University of District of Columbia Community College), Judith Ann Donovan (Director of the Department of Health), Lisa M. Mallory (Director of the Department of Employment Services), Jesus Aguirre (Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation), and Stephen T. Baron (Director of the Department of Mental Health).

Representing community-based or philanthropic organizations Mayor Gray named S. Joseph Bruno (President, Building Hope), Mary Wilson Filardo (Executive Director of the 21st Century School Fund), Nicole Helena Hanrahan (Chief Strategy Officer of the Latin American Youth Center), Nathan A. Saunders (President of the Washington Teachers' Union), and Dr. Sheryl Brissett Chapman (Executive Director, National Center for Children and Families) to the Committee.

Two Directors of public charter schools appointed to the Committee, Christie McKay (Executive Director, Education Strengthens Families (ESF) Public Charter School) and Alexandra Pardo (Executive Director, Thurgood Marshall Academy Public Charter School), as mandated by the Community Schools Incentive Act of 2012 will also be announced.

Following the swearing-in ceremony, the Committee will hold its first bi-monthly meeting.