



Agenda

Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting

March 01, 2017

3:00-5:00 pm

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| 3:00-3:15 | Welcome/Introductions |
| 3:15-4:05 | HSA Revision Update |
| 4:05-4:15 | Improving Accuracy of Data from School Health Profiles |
| 4:15-4:35 | Commission Priorities |
| 4:35-5:00 | Other topics & announcements |



Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting
Wednesday, March 1, 2017
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Meeting Summary

This meeting summary serves as a review of the March 1, 2017 Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting. The purpose of the Healthy Youth and Schools Commission is to advise the Mayor and the Council on health, wellness, and nutritional issues concerning youth and schools in the District of Columbia.

Commissioners in attendance: Jeff Travers, Donna Anthony, Bill Dietz, Lauren Biel, Audrey Williams, Beverley Wheeler, Charneta Scott

Others in attendance: Sarah Baldauf, Sam Ullery, Erica Walther, Nazneen Ahmad, Senora Simpson, Rob Jaber, Marie Williams, Kristen Rowe, Natalie Walker, Liz Leach, Beth Gingold, Tanisha Douglas, Valentine Breitbarth, Joni Eisenberg, Nichelle Johnson, Patrille Hernandez, Lindsey Palmer, Justin Tooley, Paige Thornton

Phone-In: Nia Bodrick, Lane Cidlowski, Danielle Dooley, Annessa Bontrager

• **HSA Revision Update**

- OSSE submitted recommendations to Council and had a call with the Commission to review. OSSE's recommendations are not being endorsed by the Commission; however, they do align with some things that the Commission is recommending.
- OSSE Assistant Superintendent of Health and Wellness and Commissioner, Donna Anthony, provided a presentation on OSSE's recommended HSA revisions. It was OSSE's goal and intention to introduce the recommendations at the first Commission meeting of 2017; however, Councilmember Cheh's office was already drafting amendments so we needed to get these to her as soon as possible. OSSE conducted analysis, review, and research from September through December, developed recommendations from December through February, and submitted the recommendations to CM Cheh in February. Although, submitted, feedback from the Commission is encouraged.
- The recommended revisions include Nutrition, Physical Education & Physical Activity, Grants, Central Food Services and Training Facility (Study), and School Health Profiles. The PowerPoint presentation of the recommendations is attached.
- The inclusion of mental health was raised by Dr. Charneta Scott. Mental health was flagged as an issue for 5 years and placed on the back burner. We want to be able to address this properly so that it receives the attention it deserves. We want to create an entirely separate process as we've done for PE/PA. Yair Inspektor will send out latest from South Capitol and School Climate.
- Lead in water at schools was also discussed. Charter schools need more support around lead testing. The question was asked as to whether any amendments were included in the Act to ensure support is ongoing? Currently, there are other lead bills going through Council



to assist with this, but the Commission can certainly have a larger discussion around lead support and how facilities are supporting schools.

- **Improving Accuracy of Data from School Health Profiles (SHPs)**
 - Commissioner Bill Dietz introduced interest in improving the accuracy of data from the Healthy Schools Act (HSA) School Health Profiles. There is interest in how much physical activity (PA) and physical education (PE) students receive in schools and concerned about what is self-reported on the SHPs. It is not known whether the minutes schools report are per year or per semester. This needs to come back to the Commission for discussion. It's important because we need reliable data to determine if students are actually meeting the required minutes.
 - NC requires principals to sign off on reports which provides for a higher level of accountability and something for serious consideration in DC, particularly if proposed amendments around recommended standards for Pre-K and K-8 will be accepted. The question then becomes: How will we know we actually succeeded in implementation? One suggestion is to include PA and PE on school schedules, obtain those schedules, and OSSE would perform the cross check. If differences are found: How do we hold schools accountable and what recourse is there for not meeting required minutes?
 - The concern with school schedules is that they don't capture or show PA in the classroom (i.e. brain boosts, PA breaks); they don't show if all students have access to PE; and OSSE doesn't collect schedules for any other reasons so it would be challenging to do so for this one area. PA and PE are audited when OSSE goes out to schools for monitoring purposes.
 - Discussions with Superintendent Kang are exploring a variety of options for acquiring information such as the report card with ESSA and the accountability framework. Also, when parents complete the common lottery application they're looking up key data fields about each of those schools and priority, so there is an opportunity to put some of this data out there for consumers to drive data accuracy and make us more accountable.
 - Historically, OSSE has posted PDF versions of each school's SHP making analysis challenging for schools; however, the file is so commonly requested that is being vetted now so we can post the Excel file to make analysis easier.

- **Commission Priorities**
 - **HSA Amendments** will be a priority until the Act is revised by Council.
 - **Healthy Schools Act Grants** will be another priority area as we work to strengthen the grants process and make it more transparent. It would be great to create workshops in high need neighborhoods to help schools apply for grants. OSSE will need to be mindful of any conflicts of interest. **We will schedule a conference call around this prior to next Commission meeting for all who are interested in brainstorming and coming up with ideas.** OSSE will look into the feasibility of funding for the Commission for activities such as hosting grant writing workshops.
 - **Mental Health/Behavioral Health** needs to be a part of a broader conversation, can form subcommittee to focus on this area, but parameters will need to be spelled out specifically; we can do a presentation around what's currently being done around mental health and social, emotional learning at the next HYSC Meeting; this will help us determine the steps we need to take. Commission will communicate with CM Cheh's Office that this is an area



of focus for this year and one that should be considered in the future as an amendment to the Act. May be able to build upon the existing legislation around physical activity and physical education and show the correlation between PA/PE and the effects on the mind and mental health. Can connect the mental health piece to the current PE/PA conversation with showing the effects on the brain and build out the conversation. The first step to this may be to catalog existing pieces of legislation and regulations that impact mental and behavioral in schools.

- **Data** will be an area that the Commission will continue to work on with OSSE and improving accessibility and accuracy as discussed earlier.
- **Other topics & announcements**
 - National School Breakfast Week March 6-10; March 7th Hear the Crunch (all students and those wanting to participate with them) bite into an apple at the same time; can participate with DC Hunger Solutions and post on social media.
 - Next Commission meeting is scheduled for May 24, 2017 from 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM at OSSE (810 First St. NE, 8th Floor, Rm. 806 A&B)