



Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Good morning OSSE Team,

I hope everyone had a great Columbus Day weekend and enjoyed the gorgeous weather. It's hard to believe that it's already been a week since our first All Hands Meeting! Thank you all for being there and all the positive energy. We must keep that same level of energy and spirit of cooperation going strong in the months (and years) ahead. I'd love to hear what you thought about the All Hands. Your comments and ideas about this and future meetings are very important to me. Please be sure to send Rehva (rehva.jones@dc.gov) an email with your suggestions or comments about our All Hands Meeting. For those of you who may have been sitting on questions at the All Hands or didn't get a chance to voice your questions, please send them to me at OSSETransition@dc.gov.

Also, if you haven't taken the OSSE survey already, please consider doing so. The link to the survey is: http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=daq6IEM1h6PFYOdYaLpntw_3d_3d. Your feedback is valuable and continues to inform transition and integration efforts.

After last Monday's All Hands, we had the opportunity to get together in our respective divisions and discuss duties and responsibilities with our Deputy Superintendents. We will continue this series of meetings over the next few weeks so that you all have the chance to meet with your managers and discuss what your unit will focus on, what your priorities are, what's important and what's urgent, and how you will work together. Specifics on these meetings will come from your supervisor. As I mentioned last week, new OSSE staff who previously held both state and local responsibilities with DCPS should begin working with their managers and supervisors to ensure that non-state responsibilities are reassigned to the appropriate DCPS personnel.

Disaggregating these responsibilities as soon as possible will facilitate a smoother physical transition in the coming months.

An orientation session for OSSE managers and supervisors will be held on Thursday, October 11th from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Old Council Chambers at 441 4th Street, NW (Judiciary Square). Details on this session will be disseminated to managers and supervisors by close of business today.

The District's Performance Management Process (PMP) is due to start in October. We will be distributing information and guidance for you about this shortly. Training for staff new to the OSSE will be provided. It is important for each of our individual goals and objectives to fit with the goals of the unit that we are a part of. To this end, we must all work closely with our direct manager.

Finally, please be advised that the correct mailing address for the State Board of Education is now:

441 4th Street NW, Suite 723 North
Washington, DC 20001

I wish everyone a very productive work week and I look forward to our next All Hands meeting which will be held on Monday, October 22nd from 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. We are returning to Van Ness Elementary School -- without the sausages, balloons, tablecloths or coffee, but with a microphone and, hopefully, cooler temperatures. Juan Garcia, my scheduler, will be sending an Outlook invite later this week.

Best,

Deborah

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