



# LEA LOOK FORWARD

February 26 - March 5, 2015



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## Special Message from the State Superintendent:

Greetings LEA Leaders:

In this LEA Look Forward, I am pleased to share some important updates.

### LEA EGMS Grant Snapshots

Today OSSE sent LEA leaders the first monthly OSSE Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS) LEA Grant Snapshot, which provides each LEA with an update on your grant allocations from OSSE. Along with this snapshot of your data, we want to remind you that you and your team can access live, up to date data regarding your LEA's applications, awards, and reimbursement requests within the EGMS application. This information can be found by accessing [grants.osse.dc.gov](http://grants.osse.dc.gov).

### PARCC Administration Supports

As you know, we will begin administering the new Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) state assessments next week. Much time and effort from teachers, school and LEA leaders, and education partners, including families, has been devoted to preparing for this transition to higher learning standards and better assessments.



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As we enter the first test administration window, we wanted to share some additional resources designed to support your success. Over the last several weeks, OSSE has held numerous parent and community meetings, and during these meetings, parents have requested additional resources on PARCC. To help address this feedback, we have developed a PARCC Parent Toolkit, which can be customized for each school. We are also sharing the model letter we shared with LEA test coordinators for schools to send to parents notifying them of PARCC - [click here](#) (please note that translated versions of the letter will be posted shortly).

Additionally, while your assigned Next Generation Assessment ambassador will continue to support you with responding to general questions, we have set-up a new PARCC Administration Help Desk to assist schools with problems that may arise during testing: (240) 270-2598 or email [osse.assessment@dc.gov](mailto:osse.assessment@dc.gov).

## Welcoming the New State Superintendent, Ms. Hanseul Kang

It is my great pleasure to welcome Hanseul Kang as our State Superintendent of Education, who will assume her role on March 23, 2015. I have truly enjoyed my time as interim State Superintendent, and I look forward to continuing to support your success as I return to the Division of Elementary, Secondary and Specialized Education.

Amy Maisterra

Interim State Superintendent

## District Highlights

- [OSSE Parent and Community Conversations](#)
- [Notice of Funding Availability for College, Credential & Career Ready Summer Initiative](#)
- [Save the Date: April 11, 2015 - Adult College Completion Fair](#)
- [It Takes a City: DC Does it Best! Call for Proposals](#)

## Getting Ready to Knock It Out of the PARCC: Next Generation Assessments Tips and Resources

- Resources for Schools
  - [PARCC Parent Toolkit](#)
  - [2015 DC PARCC Administrative Guidance on Timing and Cell Phones](#)
  - [DC PARCC Infrastructure Trial Guide](#)
  - [PARCC FAQs by LEAs](#)
  - [NGA Ambassador Information](#)
  - [2015 DC State Test Security Guidelines \(UPDATED\)](#)
- Resources for Parents/Community
  - [PARCC Parent Resources](#)
  - [SAVE THE DATE: OSSE Parent and Community Conversations \(PARCC\)](#)
  - [Want to see PARCC items in action?](#)



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- [Next Generation Science Standards \(NGSS\) Ideas for Parents](#)
- [Guide to the New PARCC Assessment \(For Parents\)](#)

[>>>Learn more](#)

## Important Dates and Deadlines

### Dates

- [2015 DC Assessment Timeline](#)
- [2/26: Parent and Community Conversations \(Multiple Locations\)](#)
- [2/28: FAFSA Assistance @ RISE Demonstration Center](#)
- [2/28: FAFSA Assistance @ LAYC](#)
- [2/28: OSSE and SBOE Community Meeting](#)
- [3/7: OSSE and SBOE Ward 8 Community Meeting](#)
- [4/22: DC SAA Workshop: Serving Student-Athletes with Disabilities](#)

[>>>View the OSSE calendar](#)

### Deadlines

- [4/1: PAEMST 2015 Award Nominations Open](#)
- [5/20: DC Free Summer Meals Sponsor Application Deadline](#)

## Announcements

### New

#### OSSE Celebrates School Bus Drivers and Attendants

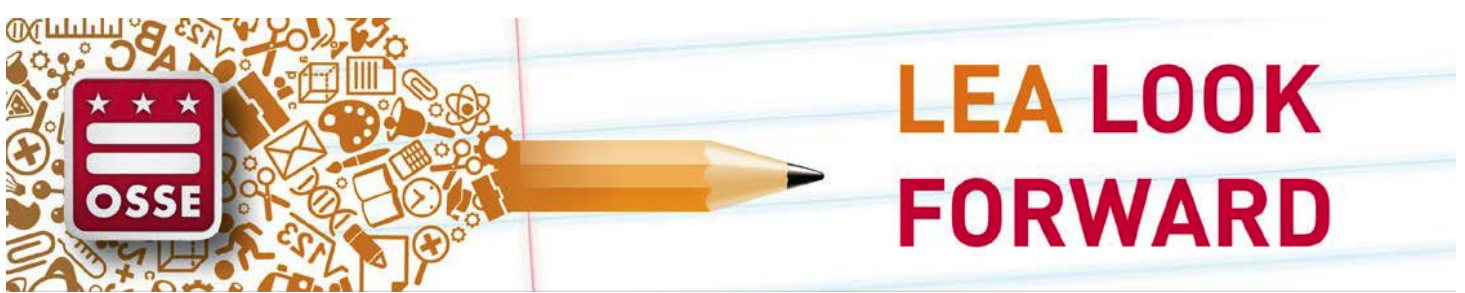
Please join OSSE's Division of Student Transportation (OSSE DOT) in recognizing the School Bus Drivers and Attendants of the Month for February 2015:

#### OSSE DOT Drivers of the Month

Russell James	5 <sup>th</sup> Street Terminal
Christopher Greene	Adams Place Terminal
Charon McKethean	New York Avenue Terminal
Quiana Lamons	Southwest Terminal

#### OSSE DOT Attendants of the Month

Don Davis, Sr.	5 <sup>th</sup> Street Terminal
Sheila Vaughan	Adams Place Terminal
Donna Richardson	New York Avenue Terminal



Rochelle Clark | Southwest Terminal

Each month, OSSE DOT recognizes one exemplary bus driver and attendant from each of its four bus terminals in DC (5th Street, Adams Place, New York Avenue and Southwest) as part of the division's [Recognition Program for Bus Drivers and Attendants of Special Education Students](#).

The drivers and attendants have been identified by DC parents, students, teachers and school staff as outstanding stewards of the community. Since the program's launch in May 2014, OSSE DOT has received over 600 [online](#) and [mail-in nominations](#) for DC bus drivers and attendants. Nominations are accepted year-long and counted the first Tuesday of every month. Recognize your school bus driver today!

### **Important Dates for NCSC and DC CAS Alt Science**

The following dates apply to the administration of the NCSC assessment and the DC CAS Alt Science Portfolio review.

#### NCSC

- March 2, 2015 : NCSC Student Enrollment window opens
- March 18, 2015: NCSC Student Enrollment window closes
- March 30, 2015: NCSC ELA/Mathematics testing window begins

#### DC CAS Alt Science

- February 25, 2015: DC CAS Alt Science Portfolio review training webinar hosted by Pearson
- March 6, 2015: DC CAS Alt Science Portfolio testing window ends
- March 13, 2015: Last date to ship DC CAS Alt Science Portfolio to Pearson

Link: <http://osse.dc.gov/service/national-center-state-collaborative-ncsc-and-dc-cas-alt-science>

Contact: [osse.assessment@dc.gov](mailto:osse.assessment@dc.gov)

### **Reminder**

#### **PARCC Test Development: Opportunities for Teachers and Administrators in the District of Columbia**

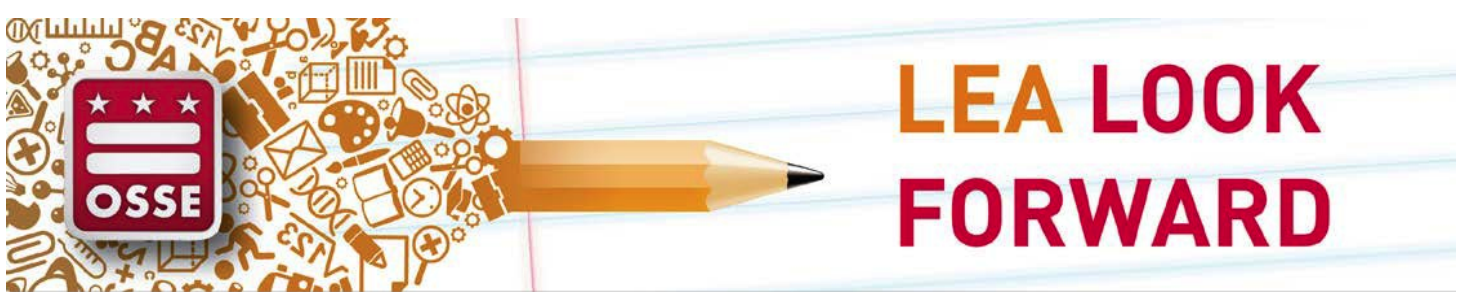
OSSE is pleased to offer several opportunities for teachers and administrators to participate in the ongoing development of the PARCC assessment. If selected for participation, travel, lodging, and food will be provided, as well as a daily stipend. Opportunities for participation include the following:

- Item Review
- Content and Bias Review
- Rangefinding









Location: 810 1st Street, NE, 4th Floor, Room 4002, Washington, DC 20002

[Register](#)

For questions, email [Blair Tucker-Gruchala](mailto:Blair.Tucker-Gruchala) or call (202)741-6481

### **It Takes a City: DC Does it Best! Call for Proposals**

Deadline for Proposals: March 27, 2015

OSSE is pleased to announce its final LEA Institute, [It Takes a City: DC Does it Best!](#), to be held May 1-2, 2015, in Washington, DC. OSSE is currently accepting proposals from researchers and practitioners that reflect high quality, innovative best practices.

Proposals should focus on one (or more) of the following strand areas of research and practice: (a) Early Childhood; (b) Special Populations (i.e., instruction, positive behavior supports, related service delivery, secondary transition, ELL); (c) Instruction and the Common Core; (d) STEM and the Next Generation Science Standards; (e) Positive Behavior Supports; (f) Parent/Family and Engagement; and (g) Educator Effectiveness.

The criteria for the proposals will be evaluated according to the following standards:

- Rationale for Presentation
- Participant Outcomes
- Relevance to Learners, Families, and/or Educators of Diverse Backgrounds
- Evidence of Effectiveness

To be considered, completed proposals must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST), Friday, March 20, 2015. Presenters will be notified of their selection no later than Friday, March 27, 2015. The State Institute Committee will review proposals. Sessions that include evidence- and/or research-based practices, emerging ideas, creative trend research, and strategic solutions to current issues that have potential high-yield results will be given preference. Proposals should encourage active learning and audience engagement, leaving time for discussion and interaction.

Interested individuals may submit proposals using the link provided on the Institute's website: [DC Does it Best!](#) For questions or difficulties in accessing the online form, please contact the OSSE Teaching and Learning staff at [osse.tta@dc.gov](mailto:osse.tta@dc.gov) or 202-724-7878.

## **Funding Opportunity**

**New**

**DC Physical Activity for Youth (DC PAY) Grant**



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The purpose of this grant is to increase the capacity of District public and public charter schools to provide physical activity to all students before, during, or after the school day. Applicants can apply for grants up to \$10,000.

The application submission deadline for the 2015-2016 DC PAY grant is April 3, 2015. All application information and materials are available at [grants.osse.dc.gov](http://grants.osse.dc.gov).

For additional information, please contact [Katie Lantuh](#).

## **Notice of Funding Availability for College, Credential & Career Ready Summer Initiative**

The Division of Postsecondary & Career Education is excited to announce an upcoming grant competition to increase the number of middle grades youth involved in college and career readiness programming during the summer months. OSSE will fund new or expanded programs that help students in grades 6 through 8 and their families to learn about college and career pathways, develop time management, organization, and goal-setting skills, and get ready for successful high school transition. The full Request for Applications (RFA) will be available March 9, and the competition will close April 9. The NOFA is available [here](#). For more information, please contact [Chloe Woodward-Magrane](#), Manager of Early College & Career Awareness.

## **Professional Development**

### **Reminder**

#### **ACCESS for ELLs Q & A live webinar**

The ACCESS for ELLs webinar is a live training event led by a Teaching and Learning specialist from WIDA. The session will serve as a review/overview of test administration expectations and procedures. By the end of this course, all participants will know what next steps to take to become approved test administrators.

Date: March 4, 2015

Time: 10 a.m.–11 a.m.

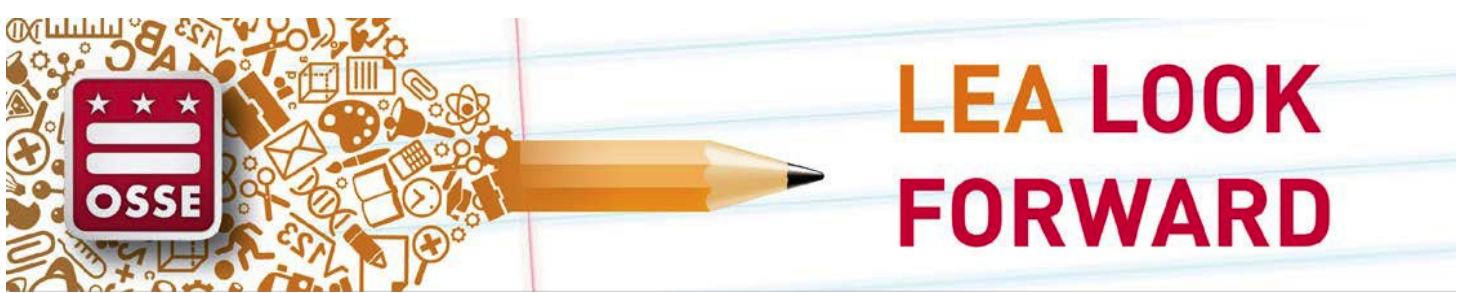
[Register](#)

#### **Student-led IEP Professional Learning Community Kickoff Meeting**

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) have been found to serve as an excellent resource for new teachers and veteran educators alike. Wednesday, March 25th is the first of several monthly Student-led IEP PLC meetings OSSE has planned for Spring 2015. Come network with your peers, share best practices around student involvement in the IEP process, and boost your learning around a variety of specific topics related to the shared goal of increasing students' self-determination, such as:

- Strategies for involving students with significant disabilities in their IEP meetings
- Strategies for engaging administrators in student-led IEP efforts





- Family engagement strategies
- Assistive technology demonstrations
- Cultural and linguistic diversity and student-led IEPs
- Creative approaches to embedding IEP preparation in day-to-day classroom lessons

For questions, email [Ms. Naté Dearden](#) or call (202) 741-0267.

Date: Wednesday, March 25, 2015

Time: 4:30 p.m.–6 p.m.

Location: OSSE, 810 First St, NE, Third Floor, Grand Hall Side A

[Register](#)

## Events

### New

#### **Adult College Completion Fair | Revisiting the Dream: College Access and Completion for All**

OSSE's Inaugural Adult College Completion Fair, Revisiting the Dream: College Access and Completion for All, will be held April 11, 2015, 10:00 a.m.-2 p.m. at the R.I.S.E Demonstration Center at St. Elizabeth's East. The fair is designed to educate adult learners who left college without obtaining a degree and first-time adult college students about the multiple pathways for college completion. The event will feature a community resource and college fair, college and career advising and workshops on college admissions, career exploration, financial aid and financial literacy. For more information, visit

<http://osse.dc.gov/service/adult-college-completion-initiative-acc>.