



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

**EDUCATION**

Community Schools Advisory Committee (CSAC)

Wednesday, May 18, 2022

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

### Draft Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order

- Chairperson Audrey Williams called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

2. Roll Call

- The following members were in attendance: Audrey Williams, DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB); John-Paul Hayworth, DC State Board of Education (SBOE); Kafui Doe, Department of Health (DOH); Natasha Herring, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR); Carla Mike, District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS); Laura Harding, Office of the Deputy Mayor of Education (DME); Megan Dho, Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA); Meghan Sullivan, Department of Behavioral Health (DBH); Kim Bookard, Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative, Inc. (FSFSC); Sarah Elwell, Washington Teachers' Union (WTU); Erica Louison, United Way of the Nation's Capital (UWNCA); Rustin Lewis, Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital, Inc. (CIS); Kristine DuPree, Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative (E/BFSC); and Gail Sullivan, Parent of DCPS student.
- The following staff from OSSE were in attendance: Melissa Harper-Butler, OSSE Division of Systems and Supports, K-12 (SSK12); and Whitney Meagher, SSK12.
- The following guests were in attendance: from John Campbell, Founder and CEO, FundED Strategies.

3. Ascertainment of Quorum

- A quorum was achieved for the meeting with eight voting members in attendance.

4. Adoption of the Minutes of the Jan. 19, 2022 meeting

- Motion made by Mr. Hayworth (SBOE) and seconded by Ms. Dho (CFSA) to adopt the meeting minutes from March 16, 2022.

5. Presentation from John Campbell, FundED Strategies

- FundED works with nonprofits and education agencies in DC and across the country to start, scale, and sustain their fundraising programs.
- Highlights from Mr. Campbell's presentation include:
  - Committee members shared challenges with obtaining funding for larger-scale programming, including staff salaries and operational costs, and having a viable plan for sustaining activities if they do not secure continued funding from larger grants.
  - As soon as funds are received and at the beginning of the grant cycle, programs should start planning for sustainability in the event funding is not received after the grant cycle ends. An announcement about the grant could create an opportunity to engage community members. Building and sustaining relationships with these individuals, may lead to creating opportunities for them to later invest in the program as an individual, or through their role in a business or organization.
  - Building relationships early is critical. Some funders may have longer grant cycles and it may take time for funding opportunities to become available. Meeting with potential funders can help you create opportunities tailored to what they are able to fund.
  - Programs should strategically look at who is in their community that might be willing to invest in their program. Records of political donors are publicly available and might be a source to find individuals willing to invest in their community.
  - People like the opportunity to invest in programs where they see tangible results. Programs should consider ways to engage funders, such as partner teaching or one-on-one site visits. Programs should also consider distributing periodic newsletters that highlight their recent successes.
  - The [Foundation Directory Online](#) is a good way to research large funding organizations. The directory can be accessed free at the public library or via purchase of a subscription.
  - It can be challenging for government entities to receive outside funding. They should consider partnering with community based organizations who may be better-positioned to efficiently receive funding meant for particular activities.
  - For the budget items that foundations and individuals are least likely to support, such as salaries, programs should consider finding government funding or other sustainable sources. They should consider how every other item in the budget might be paid through different and more flexible funding sources.
    - Mr. Campbell mentioned the funding provided by the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) for afterschool programs, for which Ms. Williams (PCSB) provided a link the in meeting chat: <https://learn24.dc.gov/page/funding-opportunities-0>
  - Programs shouldn't be discouraged from pursuing funding from a certain source just because a peer or partner has already received that funding.

The funding source may have additional opportunities available. Programs should also consider asking the program that received the funding more about the application process.

- Mr. Campbell plans to provide Ms. Williams with additional resources to be shared with the Committee.

## 6. Funding Discussion

- Ms. Williams (PSCB) asked Mr. Hayworth (SBOE) if he had been able to determine the amount budgeted in FY23 for the Community Schools Incentive Initiative grant. Mr. Hayworth (SBOE) shared that because the CSII grant does not have a specific line item in the budget, it is difficult to locate the specific amount of funding. A final vote on the budget would take place in early June. It is anticipated the grant will receive a similar amount of funding as last year. Mr. Hayworth (SBOE) encouraged OSSE staff to ask internally how much had been allocated to the CSII budget, once the budget is final.
- Ms. Williams (PSCB) asked Ms. Harper-Butler about the upcoming competitive application process. Ms. Harper-Butler shared that there would only be a continuation application process for FY23; as both cohorts would be continuing grantees. A competitive application process would be necessary in the event additional funding is added to the grant.

## 7. Membership Update

- Ms. Harper-Butler (OSSE) shared that Shana Townes, Kid Power, Inc. would be leaving her organization in June. Ms. Townes (KP) is interested in keeping her seat on the Committee, and she would be working at a different organization that is eligible for the same seat. Ms. Harper-Butler (OSSE) had consulted with the Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA), and MOTA had determined that Ms. Townes (KP) can change her organizational affiliation without any other action needed due to no change in seat designation.
- Ms. Elwell (WTU) shared that her last day at her current organization would be May 21, 2022. She will begin working at the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), which is the national organization of which the WTU is an affiliate. Ms. Elwell (WTU) is interested in staying involved with the Committee; however, she needs to determine if continued membership will be appropriate in her new role and organizational structure. Ms. Harper-Butler (OSSE) asked Ms. Elwell (WTU) to let the Committee know once a determination has been made.
- Ms. Harper-Butler (OSSE) announced that this would be her last Committee meeting and her last day at OSSE will be May 27, 2022. It has not been decided who will continue her work. The Committee members thanked Ms. Harper-Butler (OSSE) for her dedication to the Committee and community schools work.

## 8. New Business

- No new business was shared.

9. Opportunity for Public Comment

- No public attendees.

10. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Williams at 11:13 a.m.

The next meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, July 20, 2022, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Questions/Comments? Please contact Whitney Meagher at (202) 716-7238 or [Whitney.Meagher@dc.gov](mailto:Whitney.Meagher@dc.gov).