



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

Community Schools Advisory Committee (CSAC)

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Draft Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order

- Co-Chairperson Keith Gordon called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2. Roll Call

- The following members were in attendance: Francina Boykin, Department of Health (DOH); Abigail Hable, District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS); Meghan Sullivan, Department of Behavioral Health (DBH); Kim Bookard, Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative, Inc. (FSFSC); Keith Gordon, Fight For Children (FFC); Shana Townes, Kid Power, Inc. (KP); 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: Kyle Flood, OSSE Division of Health and Wellness (OSSE) Kelly Rudd Safran, OSSE Division of Systems and Supports, K-12 (OSSE); Sylvelt Walker, OSSE Division of Systems and Supports, K-12 (OSSE); and Whitney Meagher OSSE Division of Systems and Supports, K-12 (OSSE).

3. Ascertainment of Quorum

- A quorum was not achieved for the meeting with four voting members in attendance.

4. No Shots, No School Campaign

- Kyle Flood (OSSE) provided an update about the Immunization Attendance Policy (No Shots No School campaign), which involves enforcement of the District's immunization laws and regulations. Students are required to meet all immunization requirements for the 2022-23 school year. Students who are missing immunizations at the start of school will be required to submit immunization certification (or exemption) within 20 days of notification from the school in order to continue attending.

- Many students are behind on key appointments and immunizations, which puts schools at risk of a communicable disease outbreak. The COVID-19 public health emergency has demonstrated how such outbreaks impact school operations and students' readiness to learn.
- The goal of the campaign is to encourage families to schedule well child visits now to catch up on immunizations over the summer so students won't be at risk of missing school. This includes all routine pediatric immunizations and COVID vaccines for all eligible populations, as required by District law for certain ages.
- Health forms are required for PreK-12 students in all District schools. The forms are a way to demonstrate that the child is receiving annual care, and they provide key info to school nurses, such as medication that needs to be administered during the school day, or other types of accommodations the student may need.
- School nurses use a District-wide system that allows immunization records to follow students from school to school (District of Columbia Immunization Information System [DOCIIS]).
 - Providers in the District are able to update student immunization records in this system, but many students see providers that are not located in the District, such as in Maryland and Virginia. In those cases, the schools are able to update the student's record in that system.
- Immunization requirements have existed since 1979. DC Health regulates which vaccines are required, and DC Council can also pass legislation to require certain vaccines.
 - New this year is the *Coronavirus Immunization of School Students and Early Childhood Workers Amendment Act of 2021*.
 - This law mandates that all childcare facility staff must be vaccinated.
 - This law also requires students who are of an age that makes them eligible for fully-approved COVID vaccines to be vaccinated as a part of the regular schedule of required vaccines. As of July 8, 2022, the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has fully approved the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 for individuals age 12 and older. This means that next school year, any student age 12 or older will need to be vaccinated against COVID. Students have 70 days from their birthdate or further FDA approval to submit proof of vaccination to the school.
 - There is also a 70-day window from the point of approval for eligible students to become vaccinated. So students who are between the ages of 12 and 15 have 70 days from July 8, 2022 to become vaccinated, which is Sept. 16, 2022.

- Mayor's Order 2021-109 – COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement for Adults Regularly in Schools or Child Care Facilities and for Student-Athletes has been in place over the last school year.
 - This previously required all school staff and student athletes to be vaccinated. This has meant that many students who participated in athletics have already submitted vaccination documentation. The Mayor's Order expired with the expiration of the District's Public Emergency.
 - Students from six months to 11 years old are not required to get the COVID-19 vaccine, because it is not yet fully FDA-approved, but it is strongly recommended for this age group. Booster doses are also not required, but strongly recommended for eligible ages.
 - Students who are up-to-date with their vaccines are not recommended by CDC to quarantine after COVID-19 exposure. This can be another incentive for families to vaccinate students, in order to keep them in school, and learning.
 - If a student is not up-to-date on vaccines, the school is required to notify their family and to give them 20 school days to come in to compliance, which can mean submission of proper records, which may include proof of full vaccination, or starting a multiple-vaccination series, or proof of medical or religious exemption.
 - After these 20 school days, student absences will be classified as unexcused. Once the student provides the documentation, they can return to school and the unexcused absences will be reclassified as excused absences.
 - Schools are encouraged to create School Health Teams. These Teams are encouraged to meet regularly, especially at the start of the year when a lot of immunization documentation needs to be processed and notifications issued.
 - Many resources have been created by District agencies to help schools understand the process, and for schools to distribute to families about the policy.
 - DC Health is coordinating a District-wide education campaign, which includes the following:
 - Flyers distributed at: citywide events, in backpacks, and at summer meal programs;
 - Personal phone calls and robocalls to families that have been identified as missing immunizations, which pointing them to resources;
 - Bus ads, postcards, letters, and information provided to families through health providers.
 - Efforts have also been made to expand immunization access:
 - It is first recommended that families schedule appointments with their primary care provider to ensure continuity of care, but appointments can fill up quickly at the start of school.

- Area health providers have been encouraged to create immunization-only appointments and to send notifications to families that they know are behind on their immunizations.
 - The School Based Health Centers that are located at DCPS high schools have vaccination appointments available for all students. Families can make a vaccine appointment at any of the School Based Health Centers regardless of where the student is enrolled.
 - School-based mobile health clinics are currently going to several school sites per week. DC Health and OSSE are calling families to inform them of the mobile clinics and families can also register for appointments online.
 - Schools can sign up to host their own clinics through the Vaccine Exchange Program, which has worked well with COVID-19 vaccines.
 - Community-based partners that have touch-points with families are assisting, and community-based resources, such as COVID Centers, are being used.
 - Patient Care Technicians (PCTs) and 40 new health aids are being sent to DCPS and public charter schools.
- In response to a question from Ms. Sullivan (parent), Mr. Flood (OSSE) clarified that there are two types of exemptions: medical and religious. Religious exemptions can be obtained directly from DC Health annually.
- Ms. Dupree (E/BFSC) asked about the availability of the flyers that has been shown in the slides. Mr. Flood (OSSE) responded that they are creating a media kit for this purpose, and he can work with Whitney Meagher (OSSE) to distribute it to the Committee.
- The slide deck was made available for review during the meeting and attached.

5. Community Schools Incentive Initiative Update

- Kelly Rudd Safran (OSSE) and Sylvelt Walker (OSSE) provided an update about the Community School Incentive Initiative grants:
 - The 17 current grantees will be funded through FY23.
 - All carryover funds should have been received by grantees if relevant.
 - By August 5, 2022, OSSE will release a continuation plan.
 - There will not be a competition this year.
 - OSSE is in the process of hiring a Program Analyst to support Community Schools.
- Ms. Dupree (E/BFSC) asked if the annual site visits would take place in person this year, or remain virtual.
 - Ms. Rudd Safran (OSSE) stated that the site visits would remain virtual but after further discussion let the Committee know they could do site visits in person.
- Mr. Gordon (FFC) stated that, in the past, the site visit scheduled was typically shared with Committee members in late August, so they can sign up for September site visits.

- Ms. Rudd Safran (OSSE) stated that Committee members would receive information about the site visit schedule within the next two weeks.

6. Membership Update

- Ms. Meagher (OSSE) stated that a few Committee members had left their positions at their organizations, and would need to be replaced.
- There was some discussion about whether or not the Committee meetings would remain virtual. Ms. Meagher (OSSE) stated that they had been virtual since March 2020 because OSSE was not able to have guests in the building. She would find out more information about the current policy. If guests are allowed in the building, the Committee could decide to change the format moving forward.

7. New Business

- No new business was shared.

8. Opportunity for Public Comment

- No public attendees.

9. Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned by Co-Chairperson Gordon at 10:52 a.m.

The next meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, September 21, 2022, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Questions/Comments? Please contact Kelly Rudd Safran at (202) 215-3235 or kellyrudd.safran@dc.gov.