



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

Community Schools Advisory Committee (CSAC)

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

10 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Final Meeting Notes

1. Call to Order

- Chairperson John-Paul Hayworth called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

2. Roll Call

- The following members were in attendance: Audrey Williams, DC Public Charter School Board (PCSB); John-Paul Hayworth, DC State Board of Education (SBOE); Kafui Doe, Department of Health (DOH); Carla Mike, District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS); Megan Dho, Child and Family Services Agency (CFSA); Meghan Sullivan, Department of Behavioral Health (DBH); Kim Bookard, Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative, Inc.; Keith Gordon, Fight for Children; Shana Townes, Kid Power, Inc.; Sarah Elwell, Washington Teachers' Union (WTU); Rustin Lewis, Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital, Inc. (CIS); Kristine DuPree, Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative (E/BFSC); George Garcia, Latin American Youth Center (LAYC); and Gail Sullivan, Parent of student in DCPS.
- The following staff from OSSE were in attendance: Melissa Harper-Butler, and Whitney Meagher.
- Laura Harding, Office of the Deputy Mayor of Education (DME) attended as replacement for Mila Yochum.

3. Ascertainment of Quorum

- A quorum was present for the meeting in terms of membership with eight voting members present.

4. Adoption of the Minutes of the May 19, 2021 meeting

- Motion made by Mr. Gordon (Fight for Children) and seconded by Ms. Williams (PCSB) to adopt the meeting minutes from July 21, 2021.

5. Goals Discussion

- Before the discussion began, members shared their experiences attending the ongoing virtual site visits of Community Schools Incentive Initiative (CSII) grantees that OSSE is hosting in September. Many members expressed that the visits had not only given them a chance to see how the community schools operate, but they also provided motivation for their work in supporting community schools.
- Ms. Townes (Kid Power, Inc.) and Ms. Elwell (WTU) shared their draft plan for youth/student voice representation. Committee feedback welcomed.
 - Ms. Dho (CFSA) suggested that internships or other opportunities for students to be directly involved at the school level could be one way to get student buy-in to community school activities that could lead to more intense engagement (such as participation in the grant selection process) in the future.
 - Mr. Hayworth (SBOE) shared there is a question in the CSII grant application regarding student and parent engagement. He suggested the question be separated in to two questions; one for parent/families and one for students; with the question for students focusing on student engagement in the development of programming over grant period.
- Mr. Gordon (Fight for Children) and Ms. Williams (PCSB) shared their draft plan for marketing community schools across the District. The plan includes the creation of a toolkit that can be personalized by each community school.
 - The Committee discussed the feasibility of either hosting a table at OSSE's EdFest, and/or encouraging community schools to more explicitly publicize their programs at their school tables.
 - The Committee also discussed the possibility of creating a map that highlights where each community school located in the District. Mr. Hayworth shared a map had been previously created by SBOE staff. He will identify SBOE staff to update the map and develop a listing of all community schools in the District.

6. Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Discussion

- Mr. Hayworth (SBOE) led a discussion on the fiscal year 2023 (FY23) budget process:
 - District agencies are starting the process of developing their budget proposals for FY23, which begins a year from now. The Mayor's budget is proposed in the spring, but agencies have to submit budget proposals to the Mayor's office in the fall.
 - If the Committee is asking OSSE, or other District agencies, to include items in their budget requests, now is the time. He suggested that the Committee ask OSSE for the same priorities as the previous year:
 - Funding for a study on the efficacy on the grant program and how it has impacted student outcomes,

- More funding for the CSII grant program,
 - Creation of a new grant program, for schools who have gone through CSII initiation grant, that would fund the salary of the Community School Coordinator position.
 - There was discussion about requesting funding specifically for Community School Coordinators, and not broadening the request to include funding for program activities.
 - Currently, many schools re-apply for CSII grants at the end of their three-year award. This means fewer new schools can join each time a new cohort begins, restricting the ability of the program to grow, which was the initial intent.
 - It can be hard to fundraise for salaries, and currently grantees typically use most of their budgets for personnel costs.
 - It can also be difficult to sustain the full breadth of programs after funding ends, and community schools sometimes end up having to decreasing or ending activities, which leads to a less holistic implementation of the model.
 - The Committee also discussed the feasibility of leveraging the funding for the provision of social services in different District agencies as a way to offset the need for more funding for program activities. For example, Ms. Dho (CFSA) mentioned that CFSA has created Family Success Centers where community agencies receive funding to operate in a way that is similar to community schools. But she is not sure how much the Family Success Centers currently coordinate with schools in their community. Mr. Hayworth suggested having some from Family Success Centers at a future meeting. Ms. Mike (DCPS) has contact with Family Success Centers through DCPC Connected Schools initiative.
- Mr. Hayworth (SBOE) will draft a letter with their FY23 budget recommendations for review and adoption and the Committee's next meeting in November 2021.

7. Membership Update

- Laura Harding (DME) will be replacing Mila Yochum (DME) as the designee for the Office of the Deputy Mayor of Education. Ms. Harper-Butler (OSSE) will reach out to the Mayor's Office for Talent and Appointments to schedule her swearing-in.

8. New Business

- Ms. Townes (Kid Power, Inc.) announced that they are hiring part time instructors. She will provide a flyer to be circulated with the meeting minutes.
- Mr. Gordon (Fight for Children) asked when the Committee might begin meeting in person. Per Ms. Harper-Butler (OSSE), OSSE is not able to host guests in their office at this time. Meetings will continue to be held virtually until further notice.
 - Mr. Hayworth (SBOE) suggested that the Committee expect to meet in person through the end of the calendar year, and revisit this decision at the start of 2022.

- Ms. Elwell (WTU) asked if there was any information available about changes in enrollment for SY21-22. Ms. Meagher (OSSE) said that OSSE begins an enrollment audit process on Oct. 5 each year, and typically releases enrollment data a few months later.
- Ms. Elwell (WTU) mentioned that there seemed to be stricter enforcement this year of student immunization requirements (not related to the COVID-19 vaccination). She asked if any community schools were hosting immunization clinics. Ms. Doe (DOH) offered to share information about school-based immunization clinics, to be circulated with the meeting minutes.

9. Opportunity for Public Comment

- No public attendees.

10. Adjournment

- Mr. Gordon (Fight for Children) made a motion to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Ms. Williams (PCSB). The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson John-Paul Hayworth at 11:52 p.m.

The next meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Questions/Comments? Please contact Melissa Harper-Butler at (202) 478-2409 or Melissa.Harper-Butler@dc.gov.