



**MINUTES WERE ADOPTED AT FEB. 27, 2019 FULL COMMISSION MEETING**  
**AUDIO IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST ([CAITLIN.SHAUCK@DC.GOV](mailto:CAITLIN.SHAUCK@DC.GOV))**

**AGENDA**

**Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting**  
**Nov. 7, 2018**  
**3-5 p.m.**

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Recap the Previous Commission Meeting**

Approval of Minutes

**Update on Healthy Youth and Schools Commission**

Approval of 2019 HYSC Public Meeting Dates

**Update from OSSE**

General Announcements  
Health and Wellness Personnel Update  
YRBS Factsheets  
Project AWARE

**Update from the Physical Activity Subcommittee**

**Legislative Update**

Healthy Students Amendment Act of 2018  
LGBTQ Health Data Collection Amendment Act of 2018  
Student Safety and Consent Education Act of 2018  
School Safety Act of 2018  
Student Certificate of Health Amendment Act of 2018

**Environmental Literacy Presentation**

**Comments from Commissioners on Current Work**

**Final Discussions, Closeout, and Priorities for Next Meeting**

## Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting

Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2018

3-5 p.m.

### Meeting Summary

This meeting summary serves as a review of the Nov. 7, 2018 Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting held at the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE, 1050 First Street NE, First Floor, Washington, DC 20002). An audio recording is available upon request (Caitlin.Shauck@dc.gov). The purpose of the Healthy Youth and Schools Commission is to advise the Mayor and DC Council on health, wellness, and nutritional issues concerning youth and schools in the District of Columbia.

**Commissioners in attendance:** William Dietz, Heidi Schumacher, Charneta Scott, Jeff Travers, Beverly Wheeler, Audrey Williams

**Commissioners in attendance via phone:** Robin Diggs

### Welcome and Introductions

- Chairman Jeff Travers opened the meeting at 3:10 p.m. by welcoming everyone in attendance. All commissioners at the meeting introduced themselves.

### Recap the Precious Commission Meeting

- Chairman Jeff Travers asked commissioners whether they had a chance to review the meeting minutes from the Aug. 22 commission meeting. Commissioners agreed they had reviewed the minutes and had no edits. Commissioner Bill Dietz motioned to approve the minutes, and the minutes were unanimously approved by the commissioners.

### Update on Healthy Youth and Schools Commission

- Chairman Jeff Travers announced the dates for the 2019 Healthy Youth and Schools Commission meetings: February 27, 2019, May 22, 2019, August 21, 2019, and November 20, 2019. The dates will be posted in the DC Register.

### Update from OSSE

- Commissioner Beverly Wheeler announced that DC is number one in the nation for afterschool meal participation. She thanked all that work on these programs. She highlighted that there is still more work to be done to make sure that even more students participate in afterschool meals. DC is also number one in summer meal participation, and number three in breakfast participation.

- Commissioner Heidi Schumacher asked for everyone in the room who works on afterschool meals to stand for recognition.
- Suzanne Henley, Program Manager for Wellness and Nutrition Services at OSSE, provided an overview of the afterschool meals program.
  - The afterschool meals program runs through the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). It serves children school-aged through age 18 at community-based organizations, childcare facilities, or schools.
  - When the program began, OSSE reached out to all facilities who were already serving an afterschool snack about the opportunity to serve an afterschool meal.
  - Schools are enticed by the reimbursement for serving meals, which is higher than the reimbursement for serving snacks.
  - Sponsors can help afterschool programs participate in CACFP by taking on the administrative burden. This has helped to grow the number of students receiving afterschool meals.
  - Staffing can be a burden to participating in afterschool meals. Sponsors help to ameliorate this burden.
  - Chairmen Jeff Travers asked what kind of organizations are sponsors. Suzanne Henley stated that sponsors are nonprofits whose business is helping with these programs. The Capital Area Food Bank is one sponsor.
  - Commissioner Beverly Wheeler explained that the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is one of the best sponsors for summer meals. The Healthy Parks Act encourages DPR to become a sponsor for afterschool meals. This would hopefully increase participation even more. Suzanne Henley stated that OSSE has been trying to work with DPR on this for a while. In the meantime, OSSE has been able to connect DPR with a sponsor so students can receive afterschool meals at their locations. OSSE is in support of DPR taking over the afterschool meals program.
  - An audience member representing DCPS said that DCPS is serving even more afterschool meals than last year.
- Erica Walther, NSLP/FFVP Compliance Manager at OSSE, stated that OSSE received four applications for the Cafeteria Staff Training Grants. They are currently being reviewed by the external reviewer panel. OSSE is hoping to make the awards in the last week of November.
- Erica Walther, NSLP/FFVP Compliance Manager at OSSE, stated that the OSSE Division of Health and Wellness celebrated National School Lunch Week in October by visiting schools. The USDA Acting Deputy Under Secretary Brandon Lipps visited Eagle Academy Public Charter School to help serve lunch.
- Erica Walther, NSLP/FFVP Compliance Manager at OSSE, stated that OSSE celebrated Growing Healthy Schools Month in October at all public schools.

Each week had its own theme: Recycle Right, Get Outside, Love your Lunch, and Get Active. An awards ceremony has been postponed until next month.

- Kyle Flood, Policy and Compliance Manager at OSSE, introduced the new members of the Policy, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives Team in the Division of Health and Wellness at OSSE: Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst, Marie Williams, Policy Analyst, and Whitney Carrington, Management Analyst.
  - Chairmen Jeff Travers asked what the epinephrine program is, whether it is in all schools, whether it includes training, and what it means for students who have prescriptions for EpiPens. Whitney Carrington explained that the program provides access to emergency epinephrine via undesignated EpiPens in all public and public charter schools. The pens can be used for all students, but schools are encouraged to first use the designated pens for students who have a prescription. The program also includes training for school staff.
    - Commissioner Heidi Schumacher clarified that the designated EpiPens for students who have a prescription are stored in the nursing suite. OSSE's program is for undesignated pens for any person in the school building who is experiencing an anaphylactic reaction. The program trains school staff so that they are equipped to administer a pen.
    - Chairmen Jeff Travers asked if this is a national model and whether DC is leading the way. Whitney Carrington explained that many states recommend having undesignated pens, but not many states have it as a requirement, as DC does.
    - Kyle Flood stated that the EpiPen program is in its third year, so OSSE is looking at analyzing how the program has done over that time span.
    - Chairmen Jeff Travers asked about how many pens get used in a typical year. Whitney Carrington stated that five pens are normally used per school year, but that number has already been used so far this school year.
    - Commissioner William Dietz asked about the data regarding the cost of having EpiPens available versus the cost of transporting the child to the hospital. Whitney Carrington explained that the EpiPens are currently donated, and a discount program is also available. Kristen Rowe, Manager of Health Services at DCPS, explained that students who have a prescription are required to bring their EpiPen to school. Commissioner Heidi Schumacher stated that the medical best practice is to administer an EpiPen as soon as possible.
- Aimee McLaughlin, Manager, Data and Strategic Initiatives at OSSE, presented two factsheets that OSSE created using Youth Risk Behavioral

Surveillance System (YRBS) data. One factsheet includes information on youth suicide, and the other includes information on chronic absenteeism. Both highlight DC resources. The factsheets are available on OSSE's website.

- Chairman Jeff Travers asked how the factsheets are being distributed. Aimee McLaughlin stated that they are on the OSSE website and have been shared via emails to various stakeholders, social media, and a press release.
- Kerriann Peart, Health Education Manager at OSSE, presented on the grant for the school-based mental health initiative (Project AWARE). The funding will focus on personnel and infrastructure-building in the focus schools. The mayor will also fund data collection. OSSE will be partnering with DBH for clinical evaluation. More schools will participate in grant years 3-5.

### **Update from the Physical Activity Subcommittee**

- Commissioner William Dietz announced that the shared use agreement was passed by DC Council. The approval will no longer be the responsibility of school principals and will instead be concentrated in a single authority. There will also be a mechanism for cost defrayment. There are now two task forces (one created by the mayor and the other by DC Council).
  - Chairmen Jeff Travers asked if there is any money connected to this. Commissioner William Dietz explained that the money collected previously went into the general fund but that will not occur anymore. It is still unclear how the money will be allocated between groups that can pay and those that cannot.
  - Commissioner William Dietz explained that there will now be an online reservation system.
  - Jen Scheck, George Washington University, worked with Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School last year to do objective physical assessments of about 700 students in grades kindergarten through 5 using accelerometers. Four schools will participate this year: Garrison Elementary School, Miner Elementary School, Tyler Elementary School, and Ludlow-Taylor Elementary School. She will research physical activity, social support, and food literacy for students in a cross-section of grades. She will also survey teachers for stress-levels and diet.
    - Commissioner William Dietz commented that it is important that this study provides hard data and not self-reported metrics.

### **Legislative Update**

- Kyle Flood provided an update on the Healthy Students Amendment Act of 2018. The Act would do following:

- clarify definitions of key terms,
- change reimbursement rates for breakfast and lunch,
- change the reimbursement rate and frequency for alternative breakfast serving models,
- change requirements for vegetarian meals,
- require schools with 40 percent of students who qualify for free and reduced-price meals to implement alternative breakfast serving models,
- require the Office of Planning to create a report on the viability of a central kitchen,
- require food service providers to share information about meals with OSSE,
- require OSSE to work with DPR to increase summer meal participation,
- require DCPS to submit a report on implementing the Good Food Purchasing Program (GFPP),
- encourage schools to implement physical activity throughout the school day,
- amend the time requirements for physical activity,
- require schools to work with OSSE if they are not meeting the physical activity time requirements,
- require that at least 50% of physical education is devoted to moderate to vigorous activity,
- clarify that students with disabilities must be included in physical education,
- give OSSE the authority to withhold grant funding from schools that do not complete school health profiles and/or local wellness policies,
- and include the Healthy Youth and Schools Commission in the grant review process.
  - Chairman Jeff Travers asked whether the community is generally happy about the central kitchen report requirements in the Act. Kyle Flood explained that there is a long history of different studies occurring on this topic. DC Council wants a revised study to be completed.
  - Chairman Jeff Travers asked if OSSE has the capacity to support schools that are not meeting the physical activity time requirements. Commissioner Heidi Schumacher stated the OSSE would need to ensure that the work is sustainable and balance providing guidance while also maintaining flexibility at the school level.
  - Chairmen Jeff Travers asked if there is any word on when the Act will be voted on. A member of the audience said that the next Committee on the Whole Meeting is on November 13.

- Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, presented on the Student Safety and Consent Education Act of 2018. The Act would require schools to adopt and implement a policy to prevent and address sexual harassment, sexual assault, and dating violence among students, and it would amend the Healthy Schools Act to require local education agencies to provide age-appropriate instruction on consent.
- Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, presented on the School Safety Act of 2018. The Act would require all schools to adopt and implement a policy to prevent and address child sexual abuse, and it would require all DCPS and public charter schools to vet potential hires, including by checking the national licensing database.
  - Commissioner Charneta Scott asked if the bill includes any specifications for how the training would be presented because some of the testimony included thoughts on this. Caitlin Shauck explained that the current bill does not specify how the training should occur. Kristen Rowe, Manager of Health Services at DCPS, said that DCPS has concerns about funding and capacity for these trainings.
- Commissioner Audrey Williams stated that the Public Charter School Board has been working on developing a model policy on sex abuse for public charter schools. They are meeting with all school leaders in early December to review the policy and offer the opportunity for leaders to provide comments.
- Kyle Flood, Policy and Compliance Manager at OSSE, presented on the LGBTQ Health Data Collection Amendment Act of 2018, which has been voted out of the Education Committee. The Act would require OSSE and DC Health to continue to include questions on the LGBTQ community on the YRBS and the BRFSS. Aimee McLaughlin, Manager, Data and Strategic Initiatives at OSSE, provided background on the administration of the YRBS and presented data from the 2017 YRBS related to the health and well-being of LGBT students in DC.
- Kyle Flood, Policy and Compliance Manager at OSSE, provided an update on the Student Certificate of Health Amendment Act of 2018, which would require DC Health to implement a digital universal health certificate. There is no update on movement at this time, but it will be considered by DC Council.

### **Environmental Literacy Presentation**

- Grace Manubay, Environmental Literacy Coordinator at OSSE, presented on OSSE's Environmental Literacy Program.
  - The Healthy Schools Act includes environmental literacy. Additionally, the Mayor has committed to this work through the Sustainable DC Plan, with the goal to ensure that all children are

educated in sustainability and prepared for a changing green economy.

- The Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement also contains goals related to student engagement and sustainable schools.
- The US Department of Education's Green Ribbon Schools program recognizes schools that are doing well in areas of school operations, health and wellness, the intersection of health and the environment, and health education.
- Almost every state is in the process of creating and adopting an Environmental Literacy Plan.
- A majority of schools in DC are indicating on the school health profiles that they are doing environmental education, but it is unclear what that education looks like in each school.
- Six schools and one university have achieved Green Ribbon Status in DC.
  - Chairman Jeff Travers asked how many schools nationally have achieved Green Ribbon status. Grace Manubay explained that some states have none, while other states have robust programs whereby schools first apply for a state-level award before applying for the national award. The schools that have Green Ribbon status in DC are the ones that were already doing this work.
  - Commissioner William Dietz asked if there is a ceremony as an incentive for when a school becomes a Green Ribbon School. Grace Manubay said that there could be; the US Department of Education does hold a ceremony in DC. Kyle Flood, Policy and Compliance Manager at OSSE, stated that schools receive a plaque and a banner, and many states do a media push.
  - Kristen Rowe, Manager of Health Services at DCPS, asked how the opportunity is announced. Grace Manubay said that it included in the LEA Look Forward email and the charter schools' Wednesday bulletin. It is also posted on the OSSE website. Commissioner Heidi Schumacher clarified that there may be other networks to push this information to.
- Grace Manubay explained that there are opportunities for collaboration. OSSE has an Environmental Literacy Leadership Cadre, which is a two-year commitment. Participants identify and developing environmental activities for each grade and share ideas across schools.
- OSSE has developed resources with DC teachers for their colleagues on incorporating environmental literacy.
- OSSE offers Environmental Literacy Advancement Grants to provide an environmental education experience to all classes of one grade



level for the elementary schools in the Environmental Literacy Leadership Cadre.

- OSSE offers the School Garden Grant to support the inclusion of garden-based teaching into their instruction.
- Grace Manubay stated that there is a need for a local DC program to help schools achieve Green Ribbon School status. She requested input from the commissioners and suggested the possibility of a subcommittee that could also look more closely at environmental provisions of the Healthy Schools Act.
  - Chairman Jeff Travers asked commissioners for thoughts on putting more emphasis on this work moving forward.
  - Commissioner Heidi Schumacher asked what expertise Grace is looking for so that the commissioners can determine whether that expertise exists on the commission.
    - Grace Manubay said it is unclear who has the authority to decide what the program is and who authorizes the award. She thinks that the commission is a good body to make these decisions.
  - A member of the audience said that they have divided the Green Ribbon Schools application into smaller pieces because the application is convoluted, and there is not really anyone in schools who is assigned to complete the application. Schools need someone to help them move applications forward.
  - Commissioner William Dietz asked if the commission has the authority on something like this. Chairman Jeff Travers said he is not sure. He thinks that the commission should determine if there is interest in pursuing this and then look for expertise among the members.
  - Commissioner William Dietz asked if the commission could delegate to OSSE to form a group on this topic. He asked if this fits within the Division of Health and Wellness at OSSE. Heidi Schumacher stated that Grace Manubay is highlighting that these activities are beyond the scope of work of a single team or agency.
  - Chairman Jeff Travers asked if there is an environmental award at the Healthy Schools Awards, or a local Green Ribbon Schools award. Commissioner Heidi Schumacher said no. Grace Manubay explains that this could be one of the commission's recommendations.
  - Commissioner William Dietz clarified that this should be a subcommittee. He noted the potential to include DOEE and people from the universities.

- Commissioner Charneta Scott asked whether DC already has a mechanism for schools to know what standards they should meet to apply for the award. Grace Manubay explained that this is how the current Green Ribbon School application is, as it measures improvement.
- Commissioner Charneta Scott expressed concern about schools knowing who at their school is responsible.
- Chairmen Jeff Travers explained that because the commission landed at OSSE for administrative support, it tends to focus on a lot of things that fall into OSSE's purview, but there are other agencies involved. The area of environmental literacy has gotten some of the least attention.
- A member of the audience stated that there is a question on transportation on the Green Ribbon School application, so they worked with the DC Department of Transportation. The Cadre system and its mentoring model has worked well to ensure equity across schools.
- Commissioner Audrey Williams clarified that all public charter schools have been tested for lead and the information is on their websites.
- Commissioner Heidi Schumacher clarified that the environmental literacy portfolio is interested in providing technical assistance to schools, which is different from an advisory body from the commission that would be policy focused. She explained that they need to be clear on what group would be charged with doing.
- Chairman Jeff Travers stated that the group could say that there needs to be more robust technical assistance, but the subcommittee would not be providing that assistance.
  - A member of the audience stated that the subcommittee could be set up to eventually provide the technical assistance, but there might be other strategies that work even better.
- Kristen Rowe, Manager of Health Services at DCPS, asked who is in charge of environmental literacy in the Healthy Schools Act. Grace Manubay stated that the Act created a position at OSSE to lead a program.
- Chairman Jeff Travers stated that the commission would continue talking about this to determine what a subcommittee might look like.

### **Comments from Commissioners on Current Work**

- Chairman Jeff Travers noted that the commission needs to complete the annual report.

### **Final Discussions, Closeout, and Priorities for Next Meeting**

- Chairman Jeff Travers concluded the meeting at 4:45 p.m.