

Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes
Meeting Minutes
February 26, 2018 6:00pm – 7:30pm
One Judiciary Square, 441 4th Street NW, Old Council Chamber, Washington, DC 20001

Commissioners In Attendance: Tacharna Crump, Vanessa Gerideau, Councilmember David Grosso, March Hecker, Travaughn Kinney, Jeanette Kowalik, Jiselle O’Neal, Walter Peacock, Heather Peeler, Matthew Reif, Maggie Riden, Aurora Steinle, Mila Yochum (Acting Chairperson)

Commissioners Absent: Sheryl Hamilton, Darien Harris, Burnell Holland (excused), Anisah Rasheed, Margaret Siegel (excused)

Attending Staff Members: Lisa Rucker, Debra Eichenbaum

Call to Order

The Commission meeting was called to order by Yochum on February 26, 2018 at 6:01 pm.

Public Comment

Yochum explained the protocol to sign up as a public speaker. No public member present wished to speak. None of the three speakers who had registered were present.

Jackie Carter supplied written testimony (Appendix A)

Announcement of a Quorum

Yochum explained that Quorum would be defined as 10 members until such time as the bylaws are discussed and approved.

Introduction of Commissioners

Yochum invited all Commissioners to introduce themselves with name, affiliation and one item they bring to the Commission. Introduction of Commissioners proceeded

- Tacharna Crump – Executive Director, Youth Entrepreneur Institute, will highlight and bring the importance of equity into the conversation
- Vanessa Gerideau – Interim Chief, Community Recreation, Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), brings perspective of DPR and youth programming
- Councilmember David Grosso – Chairperson of the Committee on Education and At-Large Councilmember, will advocate for more money to Out of School Time (OST) and help connect the dots between schools and OST
- Mark Hecker – Executive Director, Reach Incorporated, will bring voices of young people
- Travaughn Kinney – Traffic Management Center Systems Operator, DC Department of Transportation, will bring innovative ideas because he is still a youth and knows the impact of OST
- Jeanette Kowalik – Associate Director of Women’s and Infant Health, Association of Maternal and Child Health, as a public health professional, will bring the lens of health and how OST addresses services provided and needed
- Jiselle O’Neal – Intergovernmental Relations and School Support Specialist at DC Public Charter School Board (DCPCSB), will bring Charter School experience and expertise

- Walter Peacock – Data Specialist Department of Insurance Securities & Banking, Bank on DC, will bring the experience of a recent Howard University graduate and the youth orientation perspective
- Heather Peeler – President and CEO, ACT for Alexandria, knows best practices of grants management and non-profit management
- Matthew Reif – Deputy Chief of Advanced and Extended Learning at DC Public Schools (DCPS), will bring transparency and assistance navigating DCPS
- Maggie Riden – ED at DC Alliance of Youth Advocates, brings a citywide lens of equity with respect to OST providers
- Aurora Steinle – Director Strategic Initiatives and Performance at the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education (DME), brings continuity to the process, ensures DME is supporting OST and will help build and bridge strategic initiatives between OST and other educational areas such as attendance
- Mila Yochum – ED of Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes, brings her passion for OST and four years of experience in Pittsburgh building a similar citywide model and will continue to engage the public in the OST work

Yochum provided updates about Matthew Reif’s temporary seat on the Commission as a designee for Lisa McNeill, currently on maternity leave.

Director Walker from Mayor’s Office for Talents and Appointments (MOTA) formally swore in Commissioners Hecker, Kinney, Peacock and Riden.

Ahnna Smith, Interim Deputy Mayor for Education welcomed the Commission.

Approval of the Agenda

Yochum introduced the agenda as presented. Commissioner Peeler moved to accept the agenda and Commissioner Riden seconded the motion. Unanimous approval, motion carried.

Comments from the Executive Director, Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes (Appendix B)

Yochum provided an update about the OST Office. Background of OST Office from dissolution of DC Trust in April 2016 to Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Establishment Act of 2016 introduced by DC Council in September 2016 to Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes (OST Office) established within the DME in October 2017. Learn24 is the public name for the OST Office.

The OST Office currently has 3 FTEs Mila Yochum, Executive Director; Lisa Rucker, Manager, The Institute for Youth Development (The Institute) at University of the District of Columbia (UDC) which is the quality and professional development arm of the OST Office; Debra Eichenbaum, Grants Management Specialist. Two remaining positions, the Data Specialist and Communications Specialist are yet to be filled and the OST Office is currently interviewing candidates. OST Commission currently has 18 members and under legislation is capped at 21 members. Partners in the OST system include United Way of the National Capital Area (UWNCA) as the current grant making partner; UDC which houses The Institute; current grantees; DPR and DCPS are members of the quality improvement pilot being implemented through The Institute using the David P. Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality Assessment (YPQA) which is an evidence based tool. The entire community of OST providers are important partners in this work.

Progress to date includes moving the grant timeline to align to when families need to make decisions; distributions of funds are now disbursements instead of reimbursement; improved competition by public release of the scoring rubric and mandated training for all grant reviewers. Innovation such as the new Request for Proposals (RFP) for summer programs at two DCHA sites, Woodland Terrace and Lincoln Heights, for the first time after realizing last summer only one application was received to provide programming at DCHA locations. Equity is important work; last year we hosted provider forums that engaged over 50 individuals around the topic. The current 2018 summer strong grant competition provides additional points for Ward 1, 5, 7, and 8 based on data provided in our needs assessment. Quality, as mentioned earlier, OST Office partnered with UDC to launch the Institute for Youth Development. In addition, there were a number of provider roundtables that engaged over 21 organizations to discuss how to measure and support quality programming. Through consensus with providers, the OST Office contracted with the Weikert Center for Youth Program Quality to use an assessment tool, called the YPQA that is also utilized in a number of cities. We are headed towards a more common understanding of program quality, not just program access.

The DME contracted with the DC Policy Center to complete the first part of a three part needs assessment. The first report looked at the population of youth and the number of programming slots available in afterschool and summer. As mentioned, this data has already been used to inform the Summer 2018 grant competition. There are two other additional parts of the reporting coming to include a funding landscape and feedback from parents and youth.

Early Outcomes of the OST Office include new partnerships and collaborations and the building of strong relationships across a number of public agencies, non-profit providers, and other partners. The DME values relationships and partnerships and makes intentional effort to reach out and engage the community.

A few data specific wins include the number of youth impacted by the school year grant School Year 2017-18. Grants of \$2M funding 40 organizations to serve 23,500 youth; as mentioned 22 sites in the quality pilot includes grantees, DPR and DCPS; equity roundtables engaged representatives from 48 organizations; quality roundtables engaged representatives from 21 organizations; Learn24.dc.gov with Program Finder for over 500 sites and newsletter reaching over 2,700 subscriptions.

Exciting work still to come from the OST Office includes two additional chapters of the needs assessment which are the Funding and Parent and Youth Survey reports; summer grants will be announced in March; with over 80 proposals received.

Commissioner Peeler requests all Commissioners be added to newsletter list. Commissioner Crump wanted clarification on who the OST Office is partnering and collaborating with, if UDC will be working with Commission and if OST Office is considering changing the current grant making partner of UWNCA.

Yochum explained that the OST Office has MOUs with some agencies and organizations and collaborates with others – for example UDC partnership is through an MOU and providers are collaborations, the Advancing Youth Development training and other workshops are provided at UDC directly to service providers. Whatever organization serves as grant making partner is the decision of the DME and while UWNCA will be the grant making partner for FY18, FY19 has yet to be decided, but this is not ultimately a Commission decision.

Public Comment

Yochum called registered speakers to provide comments to the Commissioners.

Ms. Gloria Hightower, The Friends of Carter Barron Foundation of the Performing Arts commented on what's happening with the new Commission and is appalled by the lack of seasoned people and disturbed by the requirement of a fiduciary that the providers need to pay 10% of grant funds. Ms. Hightower stated that the requirement to pay a fiduciary partner any of the grant money is not right and it shows a lack of understanding of how low income organizations operate and the barriers to funding.

Commissioner Riden asked Ms. Hightower for clarification on fiduciary duty.

Hightower stated that the payment of a fiduciary partner should not be the responsibility of any non-profit organization when DC requires good standing, clean hands and other documents.

Commissioner Crump clarified Ms. Hightower's comment that if an organization has a budget of less than \$250,000, a fiscal sponsor or an audit is required by UWNCA in order to apply for grant funds and that is an expensive proposition. Ms. Hightower feels that 990s should be sufficient and that summer outcomes should be realistic and achievable considering the time period.

Kendall Bryan, Executive Director, Amy Jacques Garvey Institute echoed Ms. Hightower's comments and added that for small non-profits the reporting process is overly burdensome and outcomes should be more realistic. East of the River in Wards 7 and 8 there are good organizations working with underserved youth and the Commission should help facilitate the good work those organizations are doing for children, youth and families. The Commission should advocate for OST.

Draft Bylaws

Yochum presented the draft bylaws and stated that much of the language was taken from an existing agency and direct from legislation, those items should not be changed. The timeline for the bylaws approval will be several months, a revision will be made for the next Commission meeting. If changes are acceptable at the next meeting, it will be voted on for approval in the following meeting. Time is required for public comment before any vote is taken.

Commissioner Grosso asked about the process to assign a designee and suggested that each office designate and place on file an alternative name.

Commissioner Riden suggested there be one annual meeting that all appointed Commissioners will be required to attend.

Commissioner Crump asked if MOTA would create designees. Yochum explained that there is no process for assigning designees currently in place, but Commissioner Reif is sitting in for Commissioner McNeill who is out of office and that Yochum will ask MOTA.

Yochum asked if missing two consecutive meetings is equivalent to resignation from the Commission was appropriate; Commissioners unanimously agreed.

Commissioner Grosso suggested changing the timeline from three day notice to seven day notice for special meetings.

Commissioner Peeler asked if there would be special circumstances that would create a need for a special meeting or an emergency meeting.

Commissioner Grosso suggested in case of emergency meeting that a super majority ruled.

Commissioner Riden suggested that 1/3 of voting members seemed low and would like time to consider.

Yochum explained that the Executive Director of the OST Office is a non-voting member. Commissioners agreed.

Commissioner Riden asked who else is a non-voting member. Yochum responded that currently there are none.

Yochum inquired about the ability for approve designee to have voting rights. Commissioners agreed that approved designees have voting rights.

Commissioner Riden suggested that officer's term limits are staggered to preserve continuity and will send recommendations for time limits.

Yochum defined the three Committees as 1) Strategic Plan which will need to happen by the end of the fiscal year, will oversee and create a plan, will be reviewed annually and every three years adopted and planned again, 2) Needs Assessment which will be completed annually and committee will determine the goals and scope of the assessment to be done and 3) quality will work to gather best practices about quality programming and support efforts by the OST Commission to ensure the highest quality programming throughout the city.

Commissioner Crump wanted to know where equity and grant making fit in to the committees work and wants a greater separation between the OST Office and the DME.

Chair Yochum explained that equity is a lens that the work will be done through across all committees. The work of the OST Commission is to ensure equitable access and distribution of resources. Yochum stated that grantmaking is not within the authority of the Commission but is under the purview of the DME and that the Commission cannot have control over the grant making authority to preserve conflict of interest and separation of the work between the Commission and DME. The Commission can make recommendations on the criteria or qualifications of the grantmaking partner but cannot make the decision on which organization that partner should be.

Commissioners Grosso and Steinle agree that the Commission should be able to provide input regarding the grantmaking entity but agree with the clarity of separating the commission from grantmaking.

Commissioner Hecker asked if these are the only three committees that should be created or if there are others that are necessary.

Commissioner Grosso suggested the need for a governance committee to support the Commission such as bylaws and conflicts of interest.

Commissioner Peeler agrees with the fourth committee especially with respect to conflict of interest.

Conversation ensued about whether leadership should be on standing committees and that leadership should be shared by all members and if community members could join the work. It was discussed that since public would be non-voting that there might not be any point in them joining committees but that public comments are always welcome.

Yochum stated that Commissioner Siegel via email suggested time limits for special committees.

Commissioner Grosso suggested that the Chair must have consent of the majority prior to calling for a special committee.

Commissioner Peeler suggested adding in time limits, possibly 12 months for each special committee.

Commissioner Riden suggested that special committees are revisited annually.

Yochum stated that with the addition of the governance committee as a standing committee the need for an executive committee may not be necessary. Commissioners agreed and the section will be removed.

Yochum asked that changes to the bylaws be sent via redlines by a date to be determined. The deadline date will be determined when the OST Office needs to have the draft bylaws available for the public to review and provide public comments.

Nomination of Officers

Yochum stated that nomination of officers cannot take place until the bylaws are adopted and passed which based on the timeline will occur at the earliest in April. Until such time as nominations occur, Yochum will facilitate Commission meetings. All current Commissioners should consider who to nominate as an officer. Self-nomination is also accepted.

Commissioner Peeler asked if it is helpful to have a special committee propose ideas, possibly an ad hoc committee in the interim. Yochum stated that would be up to the Commission.

Commissioner Grosso suggested putting something in writing for the March 22 meeting for a special committee if needed.

Annual Schedule (Appendix C)

Yochum present an annual schedule for 2018; the monthly meeting is needed for the OST Commission to be successful in developing a strategic plan within 12 months as stated in legislation. Therefore, based on availability of this space, holidays and events; a draft schedule was provided. No vote is required.

Commissioner Grosso stated that monthly meetings should not continue past the initial year, but would move to quarterly which is more sustainable as standing committees drive the work.

D.C. Policy Center Needs Assessment presentation (Appendix D)

Yesim Sayin Taylor from the D.C. Policy Center provided a presentation on the Needs Assessment. There were no questions from Commissioners.

Strategic Plan Process

Yochum stated to meet the deadline for achieving a strategic plan the following timeline will be followed. March, April and May will be used to allow the public and Commission to provide high level concerns and focus area of the strategic plan. Throughout these months of public comments, the OST Team will draft pieces of the strategic plan based on the comments provided by the Public and Commission. In addition, the OST Office will hosts forums and conversations with stakeholders in addition to the public hearings. In May, the OST Office will draft the Strategic Plan for public comment in June. A second draft will be available in July with a final draft in August. In September the strategic plan will be presented for a final vote.

Commissioners discussed the strategic plan timeline.

Commissioner Riden stated that was an aggressive timeline.

Commissioner Peeler requested sample plans from other cities.

Commissioner Crump asked who was responsible for making the changes to the strategic plan.

Chair Yochum answered that implementation occurs at the OST Office while changes to the plan will occur with the OST Commission.

Commissioner Kinney inquired about the process for funding.

Commissioner Gerideau asked about looking at the high level issues related to the grant making partner.

Commissioner Grosso suggested that Commission weigh in on who the grant making partner will be in the future.

Yochum stated that the ultimate decision of grant making partner lies with the DME but that the Commission guides that decision, for example, the Commission can determine that the grant making partner should have certain qualities.

Commissioner Crump stated that a committee on equity was important.

Commissioner Grosso wants to know if the OST Office can contract out and make grants themselves but knows the oversight of Council is useful so that the funding won't go through Council if the DME makes decisions that do not follow the Commission's recommendations. He also suggested that part of the plan is making the decision that grant making could come in house with the OST Office.

Commissioner Steinle stated that achieving equity is about the outcomes of grantmaking on the whole and that the Commission will establish a strategy and the DME will be held accountable.

Commissioner Kinney asked if group contact information could be shared so Commissioners could discuss items and processes.

Yochum stated that all meetings must be public so that that community has an opportunity to review all work and conversations. Contact information will be shared with Commissioners.

Commissioner Gerideau commented that the level of increased transparency is good.

Commissioner Grosso stated that he agrees with the accountability and referred to his inquiry at the Oversight hearing about when the OST Office will become an independent office.

Commissioner Kinney stated that the problem is all the bylaws and process and the need is to get the money to the underserved youth and programs.

Commissioner Crump asked to designate someone to oversee the strategic plan.

Commissioner Riden stated that OST Office will be held accountable for the equity process and accountability citywide by the Commission.

Adjournment

Commissioner Peeler moved to adjourn at 7:53, Commissioner Kinney seconded the motion. Unanimous approval, motion carried.

DRAFT

Appendix A

Greetings Everyone!

My name is Jackie Carter. I run an after school/ OST Theater Arts Company in Ward 8. Our organization train youth, ages 13 to 18 in all theater arts disciplines, and mentor youth in workforce development.

I asked myself: Why in the world would any intelligent group of people take art from children? The proposition is cruel and vicious.

Everyone in this room is aware of the following:

[NEA Research Report Shows Benefits of Arts Education for At-Risk ...](#)

[The Effects of Cultural Arts Programs on At-Risk Youth - ResearchGate](#)

Arts Programs for At-Risk Youth: How US Communities are using Arts to Rescue Their Youth and Deter Crime

<https://www.americansforthearts.org/.../arts-programs-for-at-risk-youth-how-us-comm...>

An increasing number of communities are realizing that **art** programs for at-**risk youth** offer an effective and more affordable alternative to detention and police-centered crime prevention.

Take a trip through the halls of Family Court, located at 500 Indiana Avenue, NW. All the artwork aligning the walls leading up to each court room was created by a DC Youth, who is trapped in the juvenile justice system. These young artist, ages 12 to 19, who for the most part participated in an community based arts organization program, who are naturally talented, but have no access to art in their schools, and can only hone their craft through community based art organizations, sit wearing their ankles monitors to enter the courtroom, opposed to waiting to enter an arts class. There is too much investment in the school-to-prison pipeline instead of investing in community based arts organizations.

So, what is this really about? Large not-for-profits who root out small grassroots not-for-profits, who are awarded the lion share of the grant money, who will in turn, hire the replaced grass root, who are knowledgeable and have their hands on the pulse, to continually effectively provide programs and services (for families and children), but, could not get enough funding to support the infrastructure of their community based not-for-profit.

Let's examine grant makers like the UNWCAR and other large funding sources, who construct road blocks with their financial reviews and audits that restrict the small grass root organizations from even applying for money to serve the at-risk population. The large not profits don't want to dig deep into the bowels of the grass roots communities to work with our youth, they are in by 3pm and out by 5pm 2 to three days a week. They are not available to provide services for the target population in Wards 7 and 8.

Or is this about gentrification? Let's define gentrification. Gentrification is defined as follows: Moving African-Americans out of a legacy of African American communities so that European communities can intrusively and disrespectfully, take them over.

Reduce and remove services for youth and families, remove and reduce funding for organizations that serve these youth, price them out, raise the rents on these families and the African are forced to leave their community. We can examine Barry Farms as a current model, and the take-over of Georgetown as documented in the records at Howard University.

So, what we have here is a systematic approach to exploit and extinguish Africans and their children and community based leaders and community based programming.

Of course, you can prove me wrong by killing this bill.

Thank you!

Appendix B

The Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes

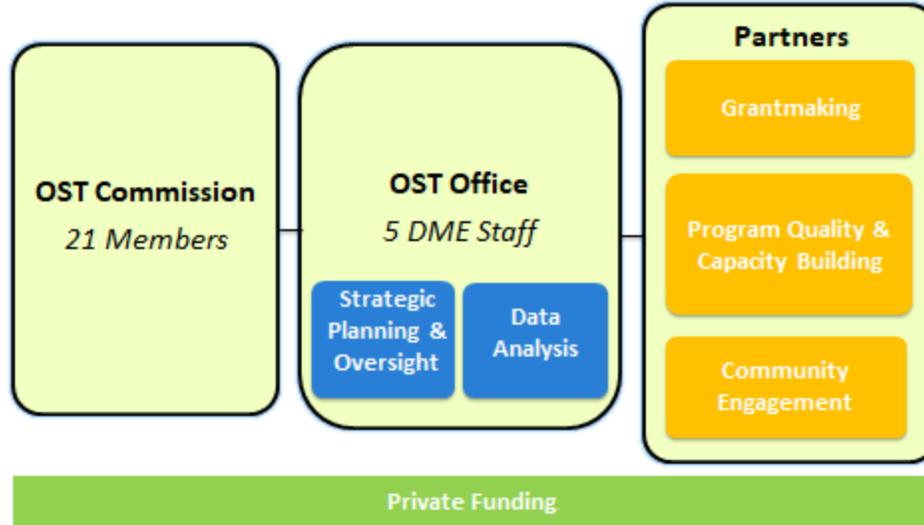


Background

- **April 2016** – D.C. Children and Youth Investment Trust Corp. (D.C. Trust) announced dissolution; DMHHS led wind down
- **May 2016** – DME took on transition of the D.C. Trust
- **September 2016** – Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Establishment Act of 2016 introduced by D.C. Council
- **February 2017** – OST System Set-up Team established at United Way NCA
- **October 2017** – Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes established within the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education



Building the OST System



Progress to Date (1 of 2)

Grantmaking

- **Timeline**
 - Revised grant competition awards aligns to when families need to make decisions
- **Distribution of Funds**
 - Grant awards are disbursements instead of reimbursement
- **Improved Competition**
 - Publicly released the Scoring Rubric
 - Mandated training for all Grant Reviewers
- **Innovation**
 - Issued new RFP for summer programs at DCHA sites for the first time



Progress to Date (2 of 2)

Equity

- Provider Forum - engaged over 50 individuals
- Prioritizing communities based on needs assessment: Ward 1, 5, 7, 8

Quality

- Launched the Institute for Youth Development at UDC
- Provider consensus on evidence-based quality assessment tools

Data

- Initial Needs Assessment completed
- Contracted for two reports about resources and student/family needs to be completed this spring



Early Outcomes

New Partnerships and Collaboration

- Providers and Organizations
- Cross-agency
- Philanthropy
- Higher Education

By the Numbers...

- School Year 2017-18 Grants of \$2M funding 40 organizations to serve 23,500 youth
- 22 sites in the quality pilot includes grantees, DPR and DCPS
- Equity roundtables engaged representatives from 48 organizations
- Quality roundtables engaged representatives from 21 organizations
- Learn24.dc.gov with Program Finder for over 500 sites
- Newsletter reaching over 2,700 subscriptions



Appendix C



Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes
Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 307 | Washington, DC 20004

Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes **Annual Schedule**

Time: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

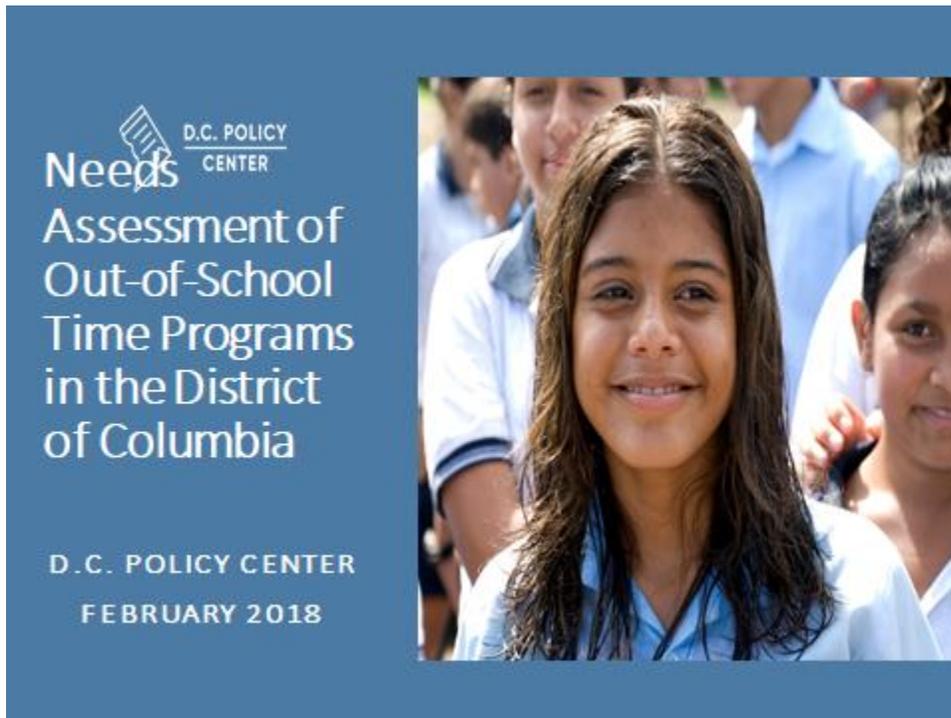
Location: One Judiciary Square
441 4th Street, NW
Old Council Chamber
Washington, DC 20001

Dates:

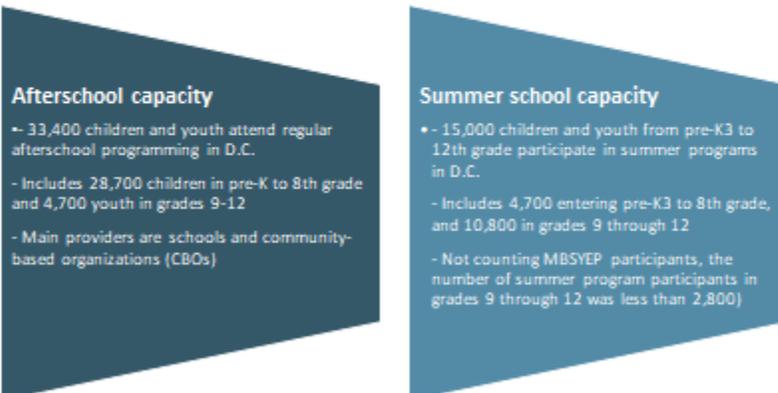
- Monday, February 26th
- Thursday, March 22nd
- Thursday, April 19th
- Thursday, May 17
- Thursday, June 28th
- Thursday, July 19th
- Thursday, August 16th
- Thursday, September 6th
- Thursday, October 4th
- Thursday, November 15th
- Thursday, December 6th

2019 calendar to be discussed and determination will be made if monthly meetings are necessary. If not, meetings to be scheduled on the third Thursday of every other month.

Appendix D



Key Findings: OST capacity



Four *potential* metrics of need for OST programs in D.C.

| Metric | Definition | Estimated need | | |
|---|--|------------------|-------------|--------|
| | | Pre-K to grade 8 | Grades 9-12 | Total |
| Universal Coverage | All children and youth in public schools (DCPS & DCPCS) | 66,300 | 17,100 | 83,400 |
| 130% of poverty line (broad income targeting) | Children and youth in public schools living in households under 130% of the poverty line | 40,200 | 10,400 | 50,500 |
| "At risk" children & youth | Children and youth in public schools determined to be "at risk" for academic failure | 30,300 | 9,000 | 39,300 |
| 100% of poverty line (narrow income targeting) | Children and youth in public schools living in households below the poverty line | 16,900 | 4,100 | 21,000 |

Rows may not sum to totals due to rounding.



Estimated gaps in OST program capacity under four policy goals

| | Afterschool | | Summer | |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | Pre-K3 to grade 8 | Grades 9 to 12 | Pre-K3 to grade 8 | Grades 9 to 12 |
| Universal coverage | -37,600 | -12,400 | -61,600 | -6,300 |
| 130 percent poverty | -11,400 | -5,600 | -35,500 | 400 |
| "At risk" status | -1,600 | -4,300 | -25,600 | 1,700 |
| 100 percent poverty | 11,900 | 600 | -12,200 | 6,700 |





I. Recommendations on data collection



| Study | Conduct | Develop |
|---|---|--|
| <p>Study OST provider costs, financing, and pricing models.</p> | <p>Conduct further research on challenges facing specific groups with additional barriers to academic success or other unique concerns.</p> | <p>Develop quality and effectiveness benchmarks.</p> |

II. Recommendations for additional research



01

Work with providers to extend program hours to meet the needs of families.

02

Consider supervised transportation options for program serving younger children.

03

Increase the number/range of opportunities for older youth; more effectively engage in programming.

04

More fully engage schools and other nodes in children and youth's informational networks as outreach partners.

05

Improve outreach and communication with families.

III. Recommendations on quality and effectiveness based on focus group discussions

D.C. POLICY CENTER

About the D.C. Policy Center

- Founded in 2016
- Non-profit, non-partisan think tank
- Local policy (D.C. and the metropolitan area)

Website: dcpolicycenter.org

Twitter: @dcpolicycenter

