



**MEETING MINUTES**

**MINUTES UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED AT COMMISSION MEETING ON SEP. 11,  
2019**

**AUDIO IS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST ([CAITLIN.SHAUCK@DC.GOV](mailto:CAITLIN.SHAUCK@DC.GOV))**

**AGENDA**

**Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting  
May 22, 2019  
3-5 p.m.**

**Welcome and Introductions**

**Recap of the Previous Commission Meeting**  
Approval of Minutes

**Update from OSSE**  
General Announcements  
Health and Wellness Personnel Update

**DC School Breakfast Scorecard**

**DC Green School Program**

**Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Strategic Plan**

**Comments from Commissioners on Current Work**

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

**Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting**  
**May 22, 2019**  
**3-5 p.m.**

**Meeting Summary**

This meeting summary serves as a review of the May 22, 2019 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, Jeff Travers, Audrey Williams, Kristy McCarron, Taryn Morrissey, Charneta Scott

**Commissioners in attendance via phone:** Danielle Dooley, Maggie White

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Chairman Jeff Travers opened the meeting at 3:07 p.m.
- Each of the commissioners in attendance introduced themselves.
- Chairman Jeff Travers announced that the presentation on the DC School Breakfast Scorecard will be moved to the August meeting.

**Recap of the Previous Commission Meeting**

- Chairman Jeff Travers asked commissioners to review the minutes from the February 27 meeting. Commissioner Taryn Morrissey motioned to approve the minutes, Commissioner Audrey Williams seconded, and the minutes were unanimously approved by the commissioners.

**Update from OSSE**

- Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, gave an update from OSSE. OSSE is still waiting to hear about the finalized budget for funding for the Healthy Students Amendment Act and the School Safety Omnibus Amendment Act.
- Aimee McLaughlin, Manager of Data and Strategic Initiatives at OSSE, gave an update on the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS).
  - OSSE is finishing up data collection this week. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will complete data analysis and share results with OSSE in October. OSSE will publish initial findings on the website, and then OSSE will complete additional analysis before publishing the DC report for 2019.

- With one week of data collection left, the overall response rate for high school is 74% and for middle school is 81%. 92% of high schools have participated, and 93% of middle schools have participated.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if there are questions on the YRBS that are only asked in DC.
  - Aimee McLaughlin responded that there are two questions that are only asked in DC and there are a handful that are on CDC's optional questionnaire that other states may choose to ask. The two questions unique to DC are: what ward the student lives in and a question about discipline.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if it is possible to identify hot spots at individual schools from the data.
  - Aimee McLaughlin responded OSSE does not publicly share data by school. OSSE could internally analyze the data in this way, but OSSE does not externally share that data.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if OSSE has the data capacity internally to do data analysis.
  - Aimee McLaughlin responded that the CDC does much of the initial analysis, but OSSE does have the capacity to do additional analysis.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if we can target areas with zip codes and if you can locate students.
  - Aimee McLaughlin responded that OSSE does not collect zip codes through the YRBS and cannot locate students, which is why OSSE added the question this year about ward of residence. She suspects that there will be a number of students who do not know their ward of residence or misreport it, so it may not be the most helpful data point.
- Kyle Flood, Manager of Policy and Compliance, noted that OSSE does give school-level data to schools so that school leaders can see hotspots for themselves.
  - Commissioner William Dietz commented that schools would need comparative data to determine which schools are hotspots. He asked if OSSE has the ability to do comparisons across schools.
  - Aimee McLaughlin responded that it gets tricky because some schools have low participation rates.
- Commissioner Kristy McCarron asked for clarification on whether the ward question is where kids go to school or where they live.
  - Aimee McLaughlin responded that it is where they live.
- Commissioner Taryn Morrissey commented that the ward of residence and the ward of school attendance are often not the same.

- Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, announced a few upcoming OSSE-sponsored events.
  - On June 5, Strawberries and Salad Greens Day, schools and early learning centers will participate by serving these foods during their meals.
  - On June 9, the Annual School Garden Bicycle Tour, co-sponsored by District Hardware & Bike, FoodCorps DC, and Slow Food DC, will highlight the budding school gardens across DC.
  - On June 11, OSSE's Division of Health and Wellness will host its Spring Summit, focused on orienting stakeholders to the Whole School, Whole Community, Whole Child (WSCC) model.
- David Esquith, who has joined OSSE's Division of Health and Wellness as the Director of Policy, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives, introduced himself. He then introduced Lisvette Garcia-Acosta, Management Analyst at OSSE. Lisvette will lead OSSE's epinephrine program.
  - Commissioner Jeff Travers asked when the epinephrine program will roll out.
    - Lisvette Garcia-Acosta explained that she is currently updating the trainings and action plans to roll out for the start of the school year.
- Kyle Flood, Manager of Policy and Compliance at OSSE, invited any of the commissioners to attend Strawberries and Salad Greens Day.
  - Commissioner William Dietz asked if the strawberries are grown in the gardens.
    - Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, responded that they are locally grown if schools do not grow their own.

### **DC School Breakfast Scorecard**

- Chairman Jeff Travers reminded everyone that the presenter for the DC School Breakfast Scorecard was unexpectedly unable to attend the meeting. This presentation will be included at the August commission meeting. He encouraged everyone to read through the slides.
- Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, announced that the slides are available on Open DC.

### **DC Green School Program**

- Grace Manubay, Environmental Literacy Coordinator at OSSE, and Rebecca Davis, environmental educational consultant and representative from the DC Environmental Education Consortium (DCEEC), presented a proposal to establish a DC healthy, green, and sustainable schools program on behalf of a stakeholder group. More information is available in the slides.
- Grace Manubay commented that the stakeholder group thinks it is important for the program to have a formalized structure.

- Chairman Jeff Travers asked a question to clarify that DC does not currently have a pipeline to get schools to US Green Ribbon School status.
  - Grace Manubay confirmed that is correct.
- Chairman Jeff Travers asked how many DC schools are currently in the Green Ribbon program.
  - Grace Manubay responded that there are six.
  - Rebecca Davis added that there have not been any in the last two years.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked whether student health and nutrition includes sustainable foods, such as reducing meat consumption.
  - Grace Manubay responded that it could be. A lot of what it includes is student-directed, so the students will be involved in some type of survey or data collection.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if transportation refers to physical transport.
  - Rebecca Davis responded yes and explained that it is transportation for the students and the teachers. She explained that they do not want to be too prescriptive so that the bar is set too high. They want there to be graduation through the tiers. There will be more incentives and kudos for the schools at higher tiers.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if waste is food waste.
  - Rebecca Davis responded that it is all waste.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if the practices at the school and student level are scaled.
  - Grace Manubay showed the brainstormed scale. More information is available in the slides.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if schools compost.
  - Grace Manubay responded that some do.
- Commissioner Taryn Morrissey asked if this is only for public schools or if it is also for early learning facilities, child development centers, or private schools.
  - Grace Manubay responded that they have not identified that yet. Most of their programming is for DC public schools and charter schools. There would not be a problem with an early learning center doing the program, but there are sometimes issues with who owns the building. She commented that maybe there could be a separate version for them.
  - Commissioner Taryn Morrissey asked what the Green Ribbon Schools program is designed for.
  - Grace Manubay responded that states can nominate up to four schools. One can be a private school, and one can be an institution of higher learning. In DC, Sidwell Friends and George Washington

University have receive Green Ribbon School recognition. She is not sure if they make the distinction with early learning spaces.

- Chairman Jeff Travers commented that it seems like there could be a light version for the early learning centers.
- Chairman Jeff Travers asked if they think there is money floating around for this since it does not seem like it would cost a ton of money.
  - David Esquith, Director of Policy, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives at OSSE, responded that OSSE is not aware of any money.
- Commissioner Taryn Morrissey asked if any of the pieces of legislation calling for this had funding attached to them.
  - Grace Manubay responded that she does not think that they did. The Sustainable DC plan often tries to align action and goals with other agency priorities when they do not have funding.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked Commissioner Taryn Morrissey if her students at American University and students from George Washington University would be able to do this evaluation for their internships and culminating experiences, which would put oversight in the hands of faculty.
  - Commissioner Taryn Morrissey commented that American University always has master's students interested in capstone and practicum experiences.
  - Rebecca Davis responded that developing the program with OSSE with some funding to develop the program would work best. A lot of successful projects have started with a pilot program and a little pot of money—not no money. In order for the program to get roots, it needs a pot of money and to incentivize the schools to come in at first. Then it can be assessed through interns and graduate students.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if there are philanthropies in the District that would fund the program development.
  - Rebecca Davis commented that they have not thought through the money number.
- Chairman Jeff Travers commented that the reason they are here today is to start this thinking over the next couple of months if there is consensus that this is an appropriate thing for the commission to be working on.
- Commissioner Kristy McCarron asked about the difference between the Maryland and Fairfax County programs. In Maryland schools can apply, but in Fairfax County anyone can apply and be a part of it. She asked if they see one as better than the other.
  - Rebecca Davis responded that the Maryland system has been around for a while and is very robust. Fairfax County's dashboard is transparent and has a lot of potential but not so much on the instruction part of it.
  - Commissioner Kristy McCarron asked if the Maryland system incentivizes schools that are already doing really well.

- Rebecca Davis responded that that is not always the case because some schools do not get past the application phase.
- Grace Manubay added that the Maryland association that runs the program does not provide support to schools to become green schools, so they have organizations that have received external funding to help schools.
- Commissioner William Dietz asked if they have explored the other departments in the city that might be interested, such as the Department of Energy and the Environment, the Department of Transportation, and DC Water.
  - Rebecca Davis explained that they had a meeting with the Department of Transportation a few years ago and thinks they would jump on board because they have a similar program.
  - Commissioner William Dietz responded that he was thinking that they might have money that the schools do not have.
- Commissioner Taryn Morrissey asked a question to clarify that in Maryland schools pay to apply.
  - Grace Manubay responded that they pay \$75 which helps to cover administrative fees.
  - Commissioner Taryn Morrissey asked if they are finding that it is peer pressure from other schools getting the recognition that are causing more to apply or pressure from parents.
  - Rebecca Davis responded that the kids get excited about the recognition event.
- Chairman Jeff Travers asked if there is consensus among the commissioners that the commission should work on this, with a formal vote in August.
  - The commissioners indicated consensus.
- David Esquith, Director of Policy, Planning and Strategic Initiatives at OSSE, suggested that the commissioners be given options and background on the four recommendations before the August meeting.
  - Grace Manubay explained that some of that information is in the document that commissioners were given to review.

### **Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Strategic Plan**

- Chairman Jeff Travers provided background information on the commission's strategic plan process. The commission has met over the past couple of months to formulate a strategic plan for the next two years. There are four working groups that have been meeting. The commission is also looking for people to join the working groups.
- Commissioner Kristy McCarron presented on the nutrition education working group. More information is available in the slides.
- Commissioner William Dietz presented on the data working group. More information is available in the slides.

- David Esquith, Director of Policy, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives, commented that OSSE is very interested in actionable data, which is part of the strategic plan, so the commission might want to consider ways that it can focus on making data actionable for schools.
- Chairman Jeff Travers presented on the ACEs working group. More information is available in the slides.
  - Chairman Jeff Travers commented that the commission is still looking for a lead for this working group and the meals working group.
  - Tia Brumsted, Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Health and Wellness at OSSE, suggested a pre-action step of cross-walking for each of the bullet points, as many of these are already being worked on by other agencies and groups.
  - Commissioner Taryn Morrissey recommended having a shared spreadsheet with data sources, as most of the working groups will need data.
- Chairman Jeff Travers presented on the meals working group. More information is available in the slides.
  - Commissioner William Dietz asked if the commission has a student member.
  - Caitlin Shauck, Policy Analyst at OSSE, responded that there is not currently a student member.
  - Chairman Jeff Travers commented that they can forward potential student members to the mayor's office
- David Esquith, Director of Policy, Planning, and Strategic Initiatives at OSSE, commented that he sees two strands of work, with the Data and ACEs group and the nutrition and meals group. They could then breakoff into subgroups from there.
- Laura Cochrun, Specialist for Nutrition and Compliance at District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), commented that it is important to talk to students in different wards as there are different barriers. There also might be an opportunity to collaborate with DCPS, as they are doing School Food Advisory Board meetings every quarter.
  - Chairman Jeff Travers asked how the meetings have been going.
  - Laura Cochrun responded that they have been going well. Attendance has ebbed and flowed. The next meeting will be Monday, June 3, where they will be reviewing their Good Food Purchasing Program baseline results. Their February meeting had about 100 people present, and the most recent meeting had about 70 people in attendance.
  - Commissioner William Dietz asked what DCPS does with the feedback from the meetings.



- Laura Cochrun responded that DCPS works with DC Greens to categorize the feedback they receive, look at it over time, and inform their next steps.
- Commissioner Kristy McCarron asked about the breakdown of attendees.
- Laura Cochrun responded that it is about 20% parents and students and a lot of community partners and food advocates. They would love ideas about how to recruit parents more effectively. They have been working with PTAs, and they are considering having the meetings at different times of day.
- Chairman Jeff Travers asked for a motion to adopt the strategic plan. Commissioner Audrey Williams motioned to approve, Commissioner William Dietz seconded, and the strategic plan was unanimously approved by the commissioners.

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

- Commissioner Audrey Williams commented that the Public Charter School Board is hosting a conference on preventing and managing sexual abuse in schools on Tuesday, May 28 at Gallaudet University. There will also be a panel discussion on sex trafficking.

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

- Chairman Jeff Travers asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Charneta Scott motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Commissioner William Dietz seconded. All commissioners were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:22 p.m.