



DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting

Nov. 19, 2024

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

This meeting summary serves as a review of the Nov. 19, 2024 Healthy Youth and Schools Commission Meeting held virtually. A recording is available upon request from the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) by contacting Kyle Flood (Kyle.Flood@dc.gov). The purpose of the Healthy Youth and Schools Commission (HSYC) is to advise the Mayor and D.C. Council on health, wellness, and nutritional issues concerning youth and schools in the District of Columbia.

Commissioners in attendance: Charneta Scott, Audrey Williams, Kristy McCarron, Marierose Mbinack, Tia Brumsted, Jessica Kirchner, Darien Thomas, Diana Bruce, Danielle Dooley

Welcome and Introductions

- Chairperson Kristy McCarron called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.
- Commissioners introduced themselves.

Recap of the Previous Commission Meeting

- Approval of Minutes
 - June 13, 2024 meeting minutes were unanimously approved.
Motion: Commissioner Tia Brumsted. Second: Commissioner Charneta Scott, all in favor.

Legislative Update

- Kyle Flood, OSSE Manager of Policy and Compliance, provided a legislative update covering recent school health bills, hearings held by DC Council and resolutions by the DC State Board of Education.
- Commissioner Tia Brumsted shared an update regarding the recent Chronic Absenteeism and Truancy Oversight hearing.

Commissioners' Current Work

- Commissioner Tia Brumsted introduced the Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) priority projects from OSSE three-year Strategic Plan for Fostering Student and Staff Wellbeing.
- Kyle Flood discussed the strategic initiative 5.1: Aligning Health and Education Systems.
- Celeste Brown, OSSE School Behavioral Health Outreach Specialist, discussed strategic initiative 5.2: Investing in the Mental Health of Students and Staff.
- Commissioner Tia Brumsted discussed strategic initiatives 5.3-4: Helping Build Inclusive Communities and strategic initiative 5.5: Reducing Chronic Absenteeism.
- Commissioner Danielle Dooley shared information about upcoming events by Children's National, including a community health event on Dec. 7, 2024, at Children's National THEARC (1801 Mississippi Ave. SE) and a [Community Town Hall on Tuesday, Dec. 10 from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Bus Boys and Poets – Brookland](#) as part of the Children's National community health improvement cycle focusing on health insurance coverage access and employment access for youth. Commissioner Danielle Dooley encouraged everyone to spread the word about the community health event to reach more families and increase access to childhood immunizations.
- Commissioner Diana Bruce shared an update of her work in support of the DC Public Charter School Board, including supporting schools as the Districtwide exclusion date approaches for students in key grades (pre-K 3, kindergarten, 7 and 11) who are not compliant with [District immunization requirements](#). She also discussed her work regarding welcoming, affirming and gender-inclusive policies in schools and the impact policy changes will have on the lives of District students. Commissioner Diana Bruce also shared that Transgender Awareness Week was held Nov. 13 through Nov. 19 and encouraged everyone to recognize and celebrate individuals in their community who identify as trans and non-binary.
- Commissioner Darien Thomas shared that Grassroots Health is hosting a middle school health fair on Dec. 10 and Dec. 12 at Georgetown University. They are looking for partner organizations to provide information and resources related to nutritional, sexual, and mental health education. Interested organizations may submit the [Grassroots Health Middle School Health Fair Community Partner RSVP Form](#).

Discussion: Future of Commission

- Chairperson Kristy McCarron shared her feedback and observations about the Commission during her term as a chairperson, which ends in Dec. 2024. Chairperson Kristy McCarron asked for feedback from commissioners and the public to inform the future of the commission, the commission 2024 report and recommendations to the Executive Office of the Mayor (EOM) and D.C. Council.
- Commissioner Tia Brumsted clarified the role of the commission in supporting not only OSSE but other District government agencies and local community-based organizations serving children and youth. Commissioner Tia Brumsted proposed revising the language and D.C. Code for the Commission, considering the current state of students and other commissions in the city. Commissioner Charneta Scott voiced support for adding school behavioral health services under this section of D.C. Code.
- Chairperson Kristy McCarron stated that she would draft the report and share with the commissioners for feedback and review prior to the next meeting.

Closeout and Priorities for Next Meeting

- Details and scheduling for 2025 public meetings will be made available soon.
- Chairperson Kristy McCarron adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.