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

**Meeting Minutes**

**January 21, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

**Virtual Meeting**

[**https://youtu.be/S1GsXpNqqYM**](https://youtu.be/S1GsXpNqqYM)

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Margot Berkey, Myles Cliff, Tacharna Crump, Vanessa Gerideau, Mark Hecker, Gary Hill, Vice Chairperson Burnell Holland, Chairperson Walter Peacock, Heather Peeler (6:30), Margaret Siegel, Jason Spector, Kenneth Taylor, Mila Yochum

**Absent:** LeKisha Jordan (excused), Jiselle O’Neal, Laura Harding

**Attending Staff Members:** Renee Abdullah, Alex Brown, Kevin Cataldo, Debra Eichenbaum, Tristan Kirkman, Jyothis Sreekumar

**I. Call to Order**

The commission meeting was called to order by Chairperson Peacock at 6:13 p.m.

**II. Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

**III. Announcement of a Quorum**

Twelve (12) members were present at time of roll call and quorum was announced.

**IV. Approval of the Agenda**

Commissioner Holland motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Hecker seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Agenda approved.

**V. Approval of the Minutes**

Commissioner Berkey motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Siegel seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Minutes approved.

**VI. Updates: Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes**

Jenn Comey, Director Planning and Analysis, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education presented report findings from a recent survey conducted by EmpowerK12 regarding COVID-19’s Impact on Student Achievement in the District of Columbia. The report shows, in part, that “at-risk” youth are being particularly impacted in both reading and math. The full report can be found here: <https://www.empowerk12.org/research-source/covid-impact-achievement-dc>

Director Walker swore in Commissioners Jason Spector, Burnell Holland, and Heather Peeler.

Yochum shared the OST Office response to COVID-19 as it related to School Year 2019-20 grantees, Eichenbaum provided information on the FY20 Annual Report which is available at Learn24.dc.gov, Kirkman presented information on the data exchange with OSSE and the FY19 demographics of the youth served, and Cataldo presented an update on The Institute for Youth Development with 93 events and 840 unduplicated attendees offered in FY20. The quality cohort found ten program sites have improved quality year over year, and 36 program sites participated in the quality cohort in FY20.

Yochum shared information on the Audit Report that was completed by the DC Auditor, the findings, and any changes being made as a result. It was reported that grants program is managed by the OST Office in FY21 and that United Way NCA is no longer the grantmaking partner. One reason for the change is, as a result of budget cuts, it was determined that the OST Office could hire additional staff and perform the grants management work in-house and use the additional funds for grant awards. As a result, four additional FTEs were added to the OST Office. Those positions are, a new Data Analyst, Jyothis Sreekumar who started in January, a Grants Supervisory Management Specialist who is currently on paid family leave, and the two Grants Management Specialists positions will be filled in the coming weeks. The OST Office is in the final process of posting final rulemaking for the grant program. There are currently 91 School Year 2020-21 grantees and Summer 21 grants are in the review process. For Summer 21 grants, there will be no reduction in funding.

Eichenbaum shared the grants timeline for School Year 2019-20 and Summer 21 grants. Summer 2021 grant competitions closed on December 7, 2020 and 69 applications were received. Announcements are expected in March. School Year 2021-22 Requests for Applications will be released in April 2021.

**VIII. Commission Update**

Chairperson Peacock and Vice Chairperson Holland have agreed to serve another term. No objection was noted.

There was discussion on priorities for School Year 2021-22 Requests for Applications with issues of capacity building, high intensity tutoring, SEL impacts and needs, and prioritization of wards being noted.

The Needs Assessment requirement was discussed. In FY20 the OST Office went ahead and requested a waiver that was granted. Due to COVID-19, Commissioners request that it be waived for FY21. The OST Office will make the request of DC Council.

Commissioner Hecker motioned to approve the draft calendar. Commissioner Crump seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

**X. Adjournment**

Commissioner Peeler made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Hill seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.