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

**Meeting Minutes**

**March 25, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

**Virtual Meeting**

[**https://youtu.be/z4npyTLP7G4**](https://youtu.be/z4npyTLP7G4)

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Margot Berkey, Myles Cliff, Tacharna Crump, Vanessa Gerideau, Gary Hill, Vice Chairperson Burnell Holland, LeKisha Jordan, Jiselle O’Neal, Chairperson Walter Peacock, Heather Peeler, Margaret Siegel (6:16), Jason Spector, Mila Yochum

**Absent:** Laura Harding, Mark Hecker, Kenneth Taylor

**Attending Staff Members:** Renee Abdullah, Vonia Bowie, 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 6:05 p.m.

**II. Public Comments**

Tyler Grigsby provided public comment. Tyler is a program facilitator at One Common Unity, a Learn24 grantee. Tyler testified about the importance of OST programming, ways to improve performance, and the need to continue to fund OST programs. Written testimony was provided and is [attached](../March%2025/Tyler%20Grigsby's%20Testimony%203_25.pdf). There were no questions by Commissioners.

**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 Jordan motioned to approve the agenda. Commissioner Peeler seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Agenda approved.

**V. Approval of the Minutes**

Commissioner Gerideau motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Jordan seconded the motion. Commissioner O’Neal abstained. All other Commissioners approved. Minutes approved.

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

Yochum presented on the Tax Check-Off, which supports afterschool programs for at-risk youth. In FY20, $156,928 were received to support programs at DC Housing Authority (DCHA) and Department of Human Services (DHS) sites. Additionally, Yochum provided updates regarding the FY20 Oversight Hearing and the upcoming FY22 Budget Hearing.

Cataldo presented an update on The Institute for Youth Development with 24 events and 178 unduplicated attendees thus far in FY21. Additionally, The Institute is conducting program site visits for FY21 School Year grantees. To date, 31 site visits have been completed, 17 are scheduled, and 36 grantees are still pending a site visit. Some highlights of observations are youth engagement- youth are actively engaged throughout the lesson and staff encourage participation from all youth. Connections- staff are connecting activities to a goal or lesson plan and this connection is explained clearly by staff. Time- most site visits are starting and ending on time and programs are scheduling enough time to complete the planned activity. Cataldo also invited Commissioners that are interested in joining a site visit to email him to coordinate.

Vonia Bowie, Supervisory Grants Management Specialist, was introduced. Bowie started with the OST Office in November 2020 and provided updates regarding School Year 20-21 grantees and shared some success stories. Bowie provided updates on the 2021 Summer Strong grant competition, explained that award and denials had been communicated, 38 organizations will receive up to $2.92 million in summer grants, and that the OST Office is working with DCPS to assist with placing programs that are interested at school sites for Summer Acceleration Academies. Finally, Bowie explained that the School Year 2022 RFA is planned for a late April release, after the date that the Mayor will announce the FY22 budget and that the OST Office will need assistance garnering grant reviewers.

A discussion question was presented to the Commission on how to support OST with ways to scale and expand. How do we deploy support and resources across the District outside of providing additional grant funding and how should we allocate those resources? Commissioners suggested ideas from offering trauma and readjustment supports; transportation challenges; and offering guidelines and templates for the transition to in-person. Commissioners asked the office to explore the question with providers.

**VII. Commission Updates**

There is a reappointment process currently ongoing for Commissioners Hecker, Peeler, Siegel, Taylor, and Chairperson Peacock.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Commissioner Siegel made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Holland seconded the motion. Unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.