C4DC Newsletter

Coalition for DC Public Schools and Communities (C4DC) is a coalition of groups and organizations that share values and priorities essential to excellent and equitable District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS).

January 16, 2023

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Announcements and Opportunities:

Social Studies Standards - Review Prior to SBOE Vote: A robust social studies curriculum is an essential component of increasing student agency and literacy, empowering students to combat misinformation, and the key to creating inclusive school spaces.

OSSE is seeking public comment on the draft of the revised Social Studies State Standards. On Dec. 16, 2022, OSSE published the revised draft of Social Studies Standards, and is accepting public comment on the draft up through Monday, Jan. 30.

View the revised standards here. For more information about the standards revision process and timeline, and to provide comments and input on the new standards draft, please visit the OSSE Social Studies website. For questions, please contact the OSSE Division of Teaching and Learning at OSSE.TTA@dc.gov.

http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/
Open Meetings Requirements for DCPS and Charter Schools - OMA video for DCPS/Charter schools. DC LSAT OMA training video

Council Education Oversight Hearings - Save the Dates:

https://www.dccouncilbudget.com/schedules Feb 8th - 9:30am to 6pm Office of Neighborhood Safety : Feb, 28th - noon to 6pm Department of General Services : March 1-9:30am to 6pm DCPS, OSSE, DME, PCSB, SBOE, Student Advocate, Ombudsman  For full draft list of oversight hearings: look here.

The Office of the Student Advocate in collaboration with Ward 7 DC State Board of Education representative Eboni-Rose Thompson will host a workshop for parents 6pm January 26th at the Dorothy Height/Benning Library. The workshop, Parent Leadership: Tools for Effective Advocacy and Organizing, will be an opportunity for parents, caretakers, and community to learn advocacy skills to help organize and amplify their voices. All are welcome to join. Please see the attached flier for additional information and details. Anyone wishing to participate can register for the event at this link. If translation services are needed please indicate so during registration. We appreciate you sharing this information with your parents and networks and look forward to seeing you at the event.

Dyslexia: The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) must implement the following as outlined by DC Law 23-191. Addressing Dyslexia and Other Reading Difficulties Amendment Act of 2020. You can now find the most recently published 2022-23 School Year Approved Kindergarten - 2nd Grade Universal Screeners and the Universal Literacy Screener Guidance on the dyslexia landing page. For questions, please contact Dyslexia Specialist Charmelle Smith at Charmelle.Smith@dc.gov.

Dyslexia Awareness Module

OSSE is pleased to announce a new three-part dyslexia awareness module that will focus on the characteristics and identification of dyslexia; understanding and recognizing reading difficulties; and implementation of instruction that is systemic, cumulative, explicit, diagnostic, multi-sensory and evidence-based to meet the educational needs of students with reading difficulties as required by DC Code §§ 38-2581.02 and 38-2581.03.

This interactive course is ideal for all educators serving kindergarten through grade 12 who lead and support literacy instruction and language development.

http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/
Participants can earn up to 16 professional learning units (PLUs) for completion of all three modules. Please register here. For questions, please contact Charmelle Smith, dyslexia specialist, at Charmelle.Smith@dc.gov.

**Digital Equity DC**  See the 2023 Digital Equity Budget Recommendations here.

**Register today for the annual D.C. Area Black Lives Matter at School Curriculum Fair** to take place Saturday, January 21 from 11:30AM-2:30PM ET (8:30AM-11:30AM PT), hosted by Teaching for Change's D.C. Area Educators for Social Justice (DCAESJ). This online event is open to all educators, not just those in the D.C. area, with the purpose of preparing educators for the National Black Lives Matter at School Week of Action and Year of Purpose. Learn from and collaborate with educators in workshops designed to uplift the 13 Guiding Principles and national demands of Black Lives Matter at School.

**DCPS Strategic Plan Engagement**  Review all of the input that has been submitted for the next DCPS strategic plan. [https://dcpsstrong.com/strategic-plan/](https://dcpsstrong.com/strategic-plan/)

**DC Youth Summit**  
Tuesday, January 18, 2023  5:30pm to 8pm at the Thurgood Marshall Center at 1816 12th Street, NW  Register at [Https://BIT.LY/3SQPZP](https://bit.ly/3SQPZP)  
[https://twitter.com/BlackSwanAcad/status/1612182632405630976/photo/1](https://twitter.com/BlackSwanAcad/status/1612182632405630976/photo/1)

**DC Policy Center**: Join us virtually on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 at 10:00 AM for a look at the report’s findings, and panel discussion with Abigail Smith, former D.C. Deputy Mayor for Education and Partner & Co-Creator, Seeding Disruption; Dr. Natalie Neris, Chief of Community Engagement at Kids First Chicago; and Dr. Genevieve Siegel-Hawley, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership at Virginia Commonwealth University.  Register and get more information here.

**New Community Service Graduation Requirement**

For the past three years, to accommodate for the impacts of the pandemic, DC Council has waived the requirement that high school students complete 100 hours of community service to  
graduate. This year, OSSE is promulgating regulations to stagger the reimposition of the community service requirement over four years. In addition, the regulation will permanently reduce the hours requirement for transfer students new to the District. Find a complete summary of the changes to the graduation requirements here.

For students graduating in the 2022-23 school year, the key requirements are:

- Students must have 12 hours of community service to graduate
- Graduating seniors who transferred into a District public or public charter school from a non-DCPS or DC public charter school this year are exempted from the 12-hour graduation requirement

For questions, please reach out to Andrew Gall at Andrew.Gall@dc.gov.

**National Coalition on School Diversity and LTLT host live performance of Between the Lines:**

On Friday, January 27th from 4 to 5:30pm, live performance and panel discussion. It is a student led play created by Epic Theatre Ensemble. The play, which was commissioned by the Poverty and Race Research Action Council (PRRAC) and NCSD, explores the connection between housing policy and segregation/inequity in schools. Where: 740 15th St NW, Suite #300, Washington, DC 20005 (and Zoom)

**UPSFF- Uniform Per Student Funding Formula Meetings:**

Recordings of the meetings can be found [here](#). The report will be public later this month.

**Globalize DC:**

This is just a sample of the opportunities available on [this website](http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org):

For Students:  **Hung Tao Choy Mei African Drumming Classes** - Programs Dates: SY2022-23Free Saturday djembe African drumming classes for DC school children ages 6-18

For Teachers: **US Department of State Teacher Suite of Online Courses** Program Dates: Open Nov 1, 2022-Apr 1, 2023 Four free, self-paced online global education professional learning courses for US educators, administered by IREX
Fund For Teachers Program Dates: Summer 2023 App Deadline: Jan 19, 2023 Grants of up to $5,000 for individuals or $10,000 for teacher teams for self-designed summer learning experiences.

**DC Auditor Report on DGS** The report describes DGS’s implementation and use of a Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) procured from Salesforce, a cloud-based software firm. The CMMS was intended to help DGS manage work orders across the District and throughout a repair lifecycle, from initial request through completion and documentation of labor and materials, including DCPS facilities. Auditors found serious shortcomings in DGS use of the tracking system, including failure to provide documentation or be fully transparent with those initiating work orders. Within a universe of more than 48,000 work orders reviewed the most frequent requests for maintenance were interior services (locks and doors), electrical services (lighting), and HVAC services (heating and cooling). Auditors also found that eight DCPS facilities were among the 20 District buildings or locations with the highest number of work orders, and DCPS work orders made up 43% of all D.C. work orders during the audit's time frame.

**DC Facilities Master Plan for Education:** C4DC will be working on this working to see that it fulfills the requirement and promise that it is a 10 year plan with a vision that goes well beyond efficient, modernized and well maintained facilities. It has to reflect what we want to see going forward.

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education's two solicitations for the 2023 DC Education Master Facilities Plan (MFP) and the 2023 Student Assignment and Boundary Study. Proposals were submitted through the Office of Contracts and Procurement (OCP) online system by 2pm, November 21, 2022. Solicitation Links on the OCP Website  2023 MFP amd 2023 Student Assignment and Boundary Study

**Study Overviews** 2023 DC Education Master Facilities Plan (MFP). The 2023 MFP will describe the current landscape of Washington, DC’s public schools and will provide recommendations to address the following three goals, while affirmatively advancing equity and excellence in public schools in Washington, DC.

This plan will be developed in close consultation with DCPS, the Department of General Services (DGS), public charter LEAs, and school communities. The process will result in a report with recommendations and publicly-available data, as well as foundational information to help inform the concurrent Student Assignment and Boundary Study. The Office of Contracts and

http://www.c4dcpulschools.org/
Procurement, under the behalf of the DME, has released a solicitation for contractual support. The project will launch in January 2023 and be completed no later than December 2023.

2023 Student Assignment and Boundary Study. The 2023 Student Assignment and Boundary Study will develop systematic and school-level recommendations to address the following three goals, based on analytic findings and stakeholder input, while affirmatively advancing racial equity and socioeconomic equity and excellence in public schools in Washington, DC. The three goals include:

- Students have clear assignments to schools by right based on DCPS attendance zones and feeder pathways,
- There is adequate capacity in the DCPS facilities at PK3, ES, MS, and HS, including feeder pathways, and
- There is equitable access among District students to high-quality public schools.

This study will have robust community engagement consisting of an advisory committee, town hall meetings, individual school community meetings, and online feedback. The study will build upon foundational information from the 2023 DC Education Master Facilities Plan. The Office of Contracts and Procurement, under the behalf of the DME, has released a solicitation for contractual support. The project will launch in January 2023 and be completed by December 2023.

Upcoming SBOE and Council Hearings:

- **C4DC website blog** has member testimony on recent Council hearing on the Budget bills. You can review them [here](http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/).
- **SBOE**. Sign up [here](http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/) to testify at SBOE meetings. Working meetings are the first Wednesday - available to watch. SBOE meetings are on the 3rd Wednesday.
- **Committee of the Whole Hearings and Roundtables**. Hearing Notices, Witness Lists, and Submitted Testimony for hearings can be viewed [here](http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/). Check the hearing notices for additional information about providing testimony.
- **DC Council Committee of the Whole Upcoming Education Hearings : Draft Council Oversight Hearings for FY24 can be found [here](http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/)**.

Use the links below to register for upcoming Committee of the Whole Hearings and Roundtables. If you have logistical questions, please refer to the hearing or roundtable notice. For all other questions, including interpretation requests, email

http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/
cow@dccouncil.us or call (202) 724-8196. Please submit your written testimony to cow@dccouncil.us at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. The deadline to sign up for most hearings is 5pm on the second business day before the hearing. Please refer to the hearing notice. Hearing Notices, Witness Lists, and Submitted Testimony for the hearings below can be viewed here. Check the hearing notices for additional information about providing testimony.

News

DC COME BACK PLAN:
https://static1.squarespace.com/static/59cebe6ff09ca495d3b4a940/t/63bc296a9eb5c344a3b4d39e/1673275755220/DC%27s+Comeback+Plan_Full1923.pdf

Standing Meetings: Ward Councils and C4DC Members

Information and Meetings- click to get to websites

- **Ward 2 Education Council**: Email: Ward2EdCouncil@gmail.com Website: www.Ward2EdCouncil.org Meetings:
- **Ward 3 – Wilson Feeder Education Network** Email: w3ednet@gmail.com Meetings: Monthly on second Monday of the month.
- **Ward 4 Education Alliance** Email: Ward4edalliance@gmail.com Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the month
- **Ward 5 Education Equity Committee** Email: contact@ward5eec.org Meetings: 3rd Tuesday of the month (September to June), email for Zoom link.
- **Ward 6 Public Schools Parent Organization (W6PSPO)** Email: m.godec@att.net or chpspo@gmail.com Meetings: Third Tuesday of every month
- **Ward 7 Education Council** Email: ward7ed@yahoo.com Meetings: 1st Thursday of every month from September- June from 6:30pm - 8:00pm The registration link is:https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUvfuGsrTkuHtU118LyT8F4_v0bK7nztDoCAfter registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCl7P8PZrJPQzZGsPjBtRCg
- **Ward 8 Education Council** Email: ward8educationcouncil@gmail.com - meetings the 3rd Thursday of the month - look on Ward 8 Council facebook page
- **Senior High Alliance of Parents, Principals and Educators (SHAPPE)** Email: dc.shappe@gmail.com Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each month on zoom
- **Public School Partnership Program – The Washington Lawyers’ Committee**
- **Media Partners:** We Act Radio/Education Townhall https://educationtownhall.org/about/ and Educationdc.net: https://educationdc.net/educationdc

http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/
“The Catchup”: Useful DC Education Videos and Links

- Educationdc.net - read the latest blog here.

http://www.c4dcpublicschools.org/