

Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 307 | Washington, DC 20004

**OUR SCHOOLS LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

District of Columbia Department of Human Resources (DCHR)
1015 Half St. SE, Washington, DC 20003
8th Floor
Monday, July 9, 2018 9:30am – 11:30am

MEETING NOTES

- I. Welcome
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 9:40am
 - b. Attendance

Name	Role	Name	Role
Sylvia Burwell	Committee Co-chair	Tumeka Coleman	Committee member
Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis	Committee Co-chair	Antwayne Ford	Committee member
Jeanie Lee (phone)	Committee member	Victor Reinoso	Committee member
Danielle Hamberger	Committee member	Steven Walker	Director, Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments
Rosa Carillo	Committee member	Ahna Smith	Interim Deputy Mayor for Education
Arnebya Herndon	Committee member	David Jones	Associate Director, Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments
Nicky Goren	Committee member		
Sean Gough	Committee member		

- II. Member Introductions
 - a. Members introduced themselves and shared what they’re looking forward to as part of the process.
 - b. Co-Chair Sylvia Burwell: excited to be part of this effort; has two children in the schools (5th grader and 3rd grader).
 - c. Jeanie Lee (present by phone): ED of DC Ed Fund; has been in in DC for 20 yrs; kids heading into 1st grade at Lafayette; has personally made significant investment in system

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(many years working in DCPS); looks forward to learning from others on the committee and hopes we come out with a great recommendation for DCPS to kick-off the new year.

- d. Danielle Hamberger: Director of Education Initiatives for the A. James and Alice Clark Foundation. She believes in education and it's important for future of the city and country
- e. Rosa Carillo: She has a 7 year old at Oyster. She previously served on Chancellor search committee. She is pursuing a master's in bilingual curriculum; has been a substitute teacher in DCPS for last six months and previously was an educator in Peru. She is excited to share her experience--having seen the system as a parent and as a teacher. She works on language access services in her day job.
- f. Arnebya Herndon: She has a recent Ellington grad headed to UMES, and currently has a rising 10th grader at Banneker and 4th grader at Anne Beers. She works for DCRA and also teaches technical writing at UDC. She looks forward to serving as a voice for Ward 7 families.
- g. Nicky Goren: She is a DCPS parent and President and CEO of the Eugene and Agnes E. Meyer Foundation. She currently has a rising sophomore at Wilson and served on the last Chancellor search committee. She is excited about participating as her work at Meyer is focused on solutions to build an equitable Washington; educational equity and racial equity.
- h. Sean Gough: He is a 5th generation Washingtonian and an alum of Coolidge HS. Professionally, he works on government relations and community affairs for a school system in DC. He is glad to be part of this committee because he believes parents shouldn't have to wait for a great education for their children.
- i. Tumeka Coleman: She is a DCPS teacher in her 19th year. She looks forward to bringing the teacher point of view to the discussions.
- j. Antwayne Ford: His professional life is a technology consulting firm and he is also the chair of the Workforce Investment Council (WIC). He was briefly co-chair of youth committee of WIC and has experience working with On Ramps to Careers, which is focused on getting kids access to internship opportunities.
- k. Victor Reinoso: He has a rising sophomore at Wilson and a rising 7th grader at Oyster Adams. He was formerly an elected member of the Board of Education, and was formerly Deputy Mayor for Education. He looks forward to ensuring DCPS continues a positive trajectory.
- l. Co-Chair Dr. Charlene Drew Jarvis: She emphasized her focus on outcomes; she hopes that we will prioritize identifying and understanding what our students need to be successful, and selecting a Chancellor who will focus on that.

III. Swearing-In of Our Schools Leadership Committee members

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- a. Members took the oath of office and completed non-disclosure agreements and paperwork.
- IV. Icebreaker
- a. Members answered the prompt, “A successful Chancellor search will look/feel like, deliver, or result in...”
 - b. See full notes in *Appendix A*
- V. Ethics Overview
- a. General Counsel for the Mayor, Betsy Cavendish, called-in to provide OSL members an overview of ethics requirements and guidance as it relates to their position on the committee.
- VI. Overview of Our Schools Leadership Committee deliverables
- Community Survey
 - Community engagement forums
 - Student engagement forum
 - Final report
- a. Committee members engaged in a discussion about community engagement as part of the Chancellor search. A summary of their ideas can be found in *Appendix B*.
- VII. Public Comments
- a. No public comment
- VIII. Executive Session - Pursuant to D.C. Official Code 2-575 § (b)(12), the Our Schools Leadership Committee will enter a closed session for the purpose of training members.
- a. Entered Executive Session at 11:14am
- IX. Adjournment
- a. Meeting adjourned at 11:32am.

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Appendix A: Icebreaker Responses
“A Successful Chancellor Search Will...”

Committee members generated ideas on sticky notes, and shared around their thoughts. Their responses are reflected below.

It will look like...

- Inclusive as much as possible
- Broad engagement
- Organized
- Thoughtful
- Community engagement
- Transparent
- Inclusive
- Emphasis in parent participation and engagement
- Transparent process
- Thorough—we will look at all angles
- Seeks to find someone who is passionate about DC kids and Washington, DC

It will feel like...

- Enthusiastic, respectful, and fair
- Transparent
- Inclusive
- Inclusive of varying ideas
- Positive
- Feel and be inclusive, particularly for parts of our community who feel unheard
- Focused on student outcomes
- Organized
- Focused on students
- Fair across the board

It will lead to...

- Increased confidence in residents of the trajectory of DCPS
- Inspire current and prospective parents to enroll in DCPS schools
- Retain and attract highly effective teachers and other personnel
- Identify candidates who focus on outcomes for students
- Talent
- Hope for future of DC students and families
- Transparency during the search and beyond
- A Chancellor that demonstrates that s/he is actively involved in schools that are challenging
- Process has been followed
- Confidentiality

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- A Chancellor that is familiar with delivering solutions and programs that are measurable by students/teachers in the District

Identify a Chancellor who...

- Chancellor that is here for 5 years and leads our schools to:
 - Higher graduation rates (or other outcome measure)
 - Better quality (evenly spread by geography and elementary and secondary)
- A Chancellor who understands the DC context and educational environment/
Identity
- A Chancellor with:
 - Experience in schools
 - Experience driving improvements
 - Understands importance of community engagement
- Deliver a highly qualified Chancellor who understands equity in education and that a one-size-fits-all system will not yield the educational experiences or outcomes everyone is seeking
- Chancellor around for 5 years
- Politically-savvy
- A Chancellor that holds principals accountable for their actions in the schools
- A highly-talented business leader with a proven track record and passion and commitment to excellence and diversity in education
- Chancellor who understands changing dynamic and landscape

Other

- Ensure we hear from parents who typically don't participate
- Focuses on teacher skillsets
- Will define "equitable" in a way that doesn't necessarily mean "equal"
- Insightful
- Take into clear account the needs of the District's students
- Will be cognizant of any current blind spots—how do we make this time different?
- Leverage executive head hunter
- Truly looking in DCPS for talent
- Based on belief that all children can go to and through college
- Relevant class discussion
- Recognize past accomplishments and new environment
- Strong management and business efficiencies

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Appendix B: Community Engagement Discussion

Committee members engaged in a discussion about community engagement during the Chancellor search process—both what worked well and could be improved upon from the last Chancellor search. Below is a summary of their ideas.

Community Engagement Process

- Focus of the committee’s efforts should be on how meetings are set-up and moderated
- We should communicate broadly about the means by which we (committee) will receive input
- Clearly articulate the role of the committee
- We should capture and recognize improvements over previous search process
- Priorities in engagement
 - Make sure ALL voices are heard
- Should have focused target groups (i.e., non-profit partners, etc.)
- Leverage student, parent, and teacher cabinets
- Twitter Town Hall
- Facebook Live engagement
- Leverage other city agencies (for surveys, meeting notification, etc.)
- Use DC.gov email signature

Forums

- Tell us what “prepared” students look like/need/are prepared for (not just about what is wrong)
- Leverage moderators that are well-trained and ensure strong facilitation
- Start with information we have:
 - “Two years ago, this is what we identified as priorities...now, are there any changes?”
 - “What is new or different?”
 - “Is there anything that’s changed—if so, how should we prioritize?”
- Frame around the strategic plan
 - What changes should be made; what should be built upon?
- Start with focus on closing the achievement gap
 - Get into greater detail about HOW we achieve this

Online Survey

- Summarize findings of strategic plan and link to it; ask folks to react to these priorities and rank them (or add to)
 - 1) Overview of engagement that’s recently taken place
 - 2) Priorities that arose are....
 - 3) As part of this search, what resonates and what would you recommend differently?
 - 4) How does that inform the priorities and selection factors for the next Chancellor?