



DC Public Charter School Board

Wednesday Bulletin

Wednesday Bulletin is delivered weekly to DC public charter school leaders and is compiled by DC PCSB's Communications Department. Submissions are welcome and are due by 5 p.m. every Friday to wednesdaybulletin@dcpcsb.org. To subscribe to Wednesday Bulletin, [click here](#).



Providing quality educational
options to DC families

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Special Announcements

MPD Corner

Recent Increase in Bomb Threats at Schools

MPD has issued [guidance](#) regarding bomb threats received at schools. Not all bomb threats require school evacuation. If you have questions contact Commander Mike Coligan of the School Safety Division at michael.coligan@dc.gov or at (202) 270-1843.

How to Contact MPD's School Safety Division

Download an updated contact list for School Safety division of Metropolitan Police Department [here](#).

MPD Youth Advisory Council Seeks Students

MPD's Youth Advisory Council seeks student participants. Click [here](#) or contact Sergeant Sonja Flipping at sonja.flipping@dc.gov or (202) 576-3408 for more information.

Health Corner

Nursing Schedule for Health Suites

Click [here](#) to view the SY 2018-19 School Health Services Program (SHSP) Health Suite Staffing as of January 21. Currently, all public charter schools with a DC Health approved health suite receive the required 40 hours of health suite coverage. If you have questions contact Audrey Williams at awilliams@dcpcsb.org.

[*New/updates item]

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DC PCSB General Notices

1. [Update] Training for Bullying Coordinators

DC PCSB will partner with Suzanne Greenfield, Director of the Citywide Bullying Prevention Program, to host a training for school bullying coordinators on **February 13**. We will discuss the law regarding the role and expectations for bullying coordinators, learn about where to get supports and resources to effectively support students, troubleshoot cases of bullying with other coordinators and learn strategies to address parent complaints about bullying. We will host the first session from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. for middle and high school bullying coordinators and the second session from 10:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. for elementary and PK – 8 bullying coordinators. To RSVP, click [here](#). For questions, contact Rashida Tyler at rtyler@dcpcsb.org.

2. [NEW] 90% Attendance Check

On **February 7**, DC PCSB will check OSSE's Qlik system to ensure all LEAs have 90% January attendance submission. To see the January attendance submission rate for your campus(es): navigate to [Qlik](#), open SY18-19 Attendance, and select Submission Rate Pivot. Campuses who do not demonstrate a 90% attendance submission rate may receive an early warning. Direct questions to Jessica Taguding at jtaguding@dcpcsb.org.

3. [NEW] Administration of Medication Training

Children's National is still providing monthly Administration of Medication certification trainings. More information regarding the initial certification process can be found [here](#). If you are currently certified but your certification is expiring, you may also sign up for one of the monthly online refresher courses. Please remember that you have 60 days from the expiration date on your certification to take a refresher course. More information can be found [here](#). If you or your staff would like to sign up for either an initial training or a refresher course, reach out to Jiselle O'Neal at joneal@dcpcsb.org.

4. School Health Profiles Launch

During the 2018-19 school year, schools within the District will be asked to complete the Healthy Schools Act (HSA) School Health Profiles (SHP). Only public schools and public charter schools that complete and submit HSA School Health Profiles will be eligible to receive HSA grants for the 2019-20 school year. HSA profiles will be completed through QuickBase. OSSE will provide QuickBase access to principals and each school's 2018-19 school year Healthy Schools Act School Health Profile contact. The QuickBase is open and all profiles must be submitted by 5 p.m. on **February 15**. Please note: After this due date, only principals and LEA leaders of schools that have still not completed the profiles will be included in communications to ensure completion. For charter-specific questions related to the profiles, contact Audrey Williams at awilliams@dcpcsb.org.

5. Inclement Weather Days

Per state regulations, schools serving compulsory grades (K-12) must have 180 full days of school in each school year. If the school's calendar has fallen below this number due to emergency closures, these days must be made up (by adding days at end of year, holding school during previously scheduled Professional Development days, etc.). Schools may keep their current calendar if they can provide an assurance to DC PCSB that their calendars' whole-year instructional day hours are equivalent to 1,080 hours or greater (which amounts to 180 six-hour days). If the latter applies, schools may request a waiver to the 180 requirements by contacting Rashida Young at ryoung@dcpcsb.org. In your email, please specify how many hours will be accrued by the end of the year even if the missed days were not made up.

6. SY 2019-20 School Calendar: 180 days, 6+ Hours

OSSE's attendance regulations state that all elementary and secondary educational programs should have at least 180, 6+ hour days on their school calendar (Note: PK and kindergarten programs excluded from the 6-hour minimum). The school calendar should include at least 180 six+ hour days. If your school was granted a half day "waiver" to this rule in previous school years, and you have the same general calendar, it will be honored this upcoming school year. If your school has not received prior approval to waive this requirement, and your 180 days for the SY 2019-20 calendar includes half days (less than 6 hours) due to PD or other circumstances, you may submit a waiver request to DC PCSB. In your request, explain whether your school year

is longer than the equivalent of 180 six-hour days (over 1080 hours), even despite X half days, due to a longer instructional day. Please include the exact calculation of hours. You may submit this explanation to Rashida Young at ryoung@dcpcsb.org.

7. School Transparency Policy Meeting

DC PCSB staff will hold a meeting for school leaders to provide feedback on the [School Transparency Policy](#) on **February 5** from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m., at DC PCSB's office (3333 14th St NW, Suite 210). This policy, which was opened for public comment in December, will inform schools which compliance documents currently submitted to DC PCSB must be publicly posted on school websites. This will be the second feedback meeting convened. We will discuss public comment received thus far (including suggestions submitted by members of the Parent Alumni Leadership Council), and will revisit items within the policy for which there was not consensus at the first meeting. If staff from your school plan to attend, RSVP [here](#). For questions, contact Rashida Young at ryoung@dcpcsb.org.

8. Hub Subscription List for DC PCSB's Procurement Contract

DC PCSB has created a new subscription list in the Hub for school staff who want to receive communications about DC PCSB's procurement contract oversight. This includes, but is not limited to, early warning and out of compliance notices sent to school staff regarding late or noncompliant contract submissions. This new subscription is available to all existing or new subscribers. Contact Katie Dammann at kdammann@dcpcsb.org with questions.

9. Update eSchoolPlus Calendar for Snow Closures

LEAs are responsible for updating their instructional dates in eSchoolPlus if school is canceled due to inclement weather or any other reason. Please ensure that your eSchoolPlus calendar reflects any recent cancellations by **February 5** to avoid negative attendance data impacts. Direct questions to Jessica Taguding at jtaguding@dcpcsb.org or to your [OSSE DAR Liaison](#).

10. The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History Offers Professional Development to History Teachers

DC PCSB and DCPS seek to partner with The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, creators of the Hamilton Education Program, to offer professional development sessions to history teachers this year. Please ask history teachers at your school to complete this survey. [Linked here](#) is a survey for teachers to express their interest and what specific topics they would like covered at the professional development sessions. For questions, contact Natalee Wilding at nwilding@dcpcsb.org.

11. DC PCSB Annual Report Cover Design Competition

Every year, DC PCSB publishes its annual report that highlights accomplishments in DC's public charter school sector. This year, we'd like the annual report to focus more on public charter school students. As such, DC PCSB is inviting students of all ages and from all schools to design the front cover of our annual report. The winner will have their design featured on the front cover of the annual report, which is sent to more than 1,000 education stakeholders across the country. If one of your students would like to participate, you can find the requirements [here](#). All submissions are due on **March 1**. For questions, contact Ella Krivitchenko at ekrivitchenko@dcpcsb.org.

DC PCSB and OSSE Data and Document Submission Notices

12. Feedback on the DC School Report Card

OSSE is gathering feedback about the DCSchoolReportCard.org user experience and how it can be improved. Take this [short survey](#) (a [version in Spanish](#) is also available) and share it with your parents and families as well as your school and community networks. For questions, contact

Government Notices

13. [Update] Responding to School Crisis Resource Page

OSSE would like to announce its release of the [Responding to a School Crisis](#) webpage, providing an overview of school crisis procedures and resources to help schools protect students and staff from harm. Schools should have a School Crisis Team that is prepared to evaluate crisis situations and take action to keep students and staff safe. After a school experiences a crisis that involves a student, staff, student's family, or the greater community, the school must be prepared to field questions, connect students to counseling and mental health services, and reassure the community that the school offers a safe learning environment.

For more information on creating safe and supportive school environments, and to learn about local programs supporting safety, mental wellness, and crisis stabilization, please visit [OSSE's website](#) or contact osse.hydt@dc.gov.

14. [NEW] High-Quality IEPs Series Part 3: Using Data to Design Appropriate Accommodations, Modifications, and Supports

OSSE's Division of Teaching and Learning will host Part 3 of its professional development series on high-quality Individualized Education Programs (IEPs). [Register](#) for one of the four available sessions on **February 12, February 26, March 19, and March 26**. All sessions are from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and take place at OSSE, First Floor, Eleanor Holmes Norton I (Room 108). Priority will be given to individuals who have attended prior sessions in the series. Participants from the same LEA or campus should plan to attend on the same date. For questions, please contact Jennifer Carpenter at jennifer.carpenter@dc.gov.

15. DC Plastic Straw and Stirrers Ban

Effective October 29, 2018, the Mayor's List of Recyclables and Compostables requires the use of compostable and/or reusable straws and stirrers when serving and selling food or beverages in the District. To reduce waste and cut costs, the District advocates for businesses to only offer compliant straws by request. DOEE recognizes some customers with disabilities require plastic straws as a reasonable accommodation to consume food or beverages. To view the flyer, click [here](#). For more information, contact Jessica Giles at jgiles@dccouncil.us.

Special Opportunities for School Leaders/Staff/Parents

16. [Friday] The School Leader Lab Launches 2019 School Leader Cohort

The School Leader Lab launches the 2019 School Leader Cohort (SLC) this spring. SLC 2019 is a two-year, cohort-based program that develops current school leaders in the areas of instructional and adaptive leadership keeping both equity and DC context at the core. Applications are due on **February 1**. To view the flyer, click [here](#). For questions, contact Erica Beal at erica@schooleaderlab.org.

17. [NEW] The Junior League of Washington's 2019 Youth Poetry Contest

The Junior League of Washington (JLW) wants students in grades 4 through 8 to participate in the 20th Annual JLW "Love & Inspiration" Youth Poetry Contest. Teachers or reading/writing instructors are asked to submit all poems by email on students' behalf. This year, we will also be accepting submissions in Spanish.

The purpose of the contest is to encourage young people to explore reading and writing poetry by submitting up to two poems on the topics of love and inspiration. Entries will be judged on the basis of content, originality, creativity and clarity.

Contest and submission details:

- Only DC public and charter school students in grades 4 through 8 are eligible.
- Limit two (2) poem submissions per student.
- Poems must be submitted by a teacher or other educational instructor.
- Poems must be submitted by email, as an attachment in Microsoft Word. Include name of student, grade, school and name of teacher.
- E-mail all poems to poetrycontest@jlw.org.
- Poems are due **March 22** by 6 p.m. One first place and two honorable mention winners will be selected from each grade. Each winner will receive literacy-focused prizes, (value of \$50 for first place and \$25 each for honorable mention), be published in a JLW booklet and be invited to read his or her poem at a JLW event this spring. Winners will be notified in early April via the e-mail address of the submitter and will be asked to sign a release form and submit a photograph for inclusion in the booklet. To view the flyer, click [here](#). For questions, contact support at poetrycontest@jlw.org.

18. [NEW] Financial Merit Award Opportunity for Seniors - D.C. Area Phi Beta Kappa Association

The D.C. Area's Phi Beta Kappa Association would be delighted to receive applications from DC Public Charter Schools graduating high school seniors for the financial merit award opportunity. Students receiving our award must show a commitment to the values and mission of Phi Beta Kappa, including academic achievement, community involvement/service, and a dedication to the liberal arts and sciences.

Applications must be submitted **April 5** to awards@dcpbk.org. Successful applicants will be notified in mid-April and awards will be presented at a ceremony in late April at Phi Beta Kappa's National Headquarters in Washington, DC. For questions during this process, contact support at awards@dcpbk.org.

19. [NEW] 10th Annual Voices of Change Conference

Join the DC Youth Leadership Network at the 10th Annual Voices of Change Conference: Secondary Transition For DC Youth By DC Youth on **March 29** at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The purpose of the conference is to equip transition-age youth with disabilities with the knowledge and skills to lead self-determined lives, and this year will focus on careers in the arts, event planning, and youth leadership. Schools are welcome to register students with disabilities (ages 14-22) across all educational settings by using this [link](#). SchoolTalk staff and current members of the DC Youth Leadership Network (DCYLN) are available to answer any questions and share information about the conference. For questions, contact Sarah Grime at sarah.grime@schooltalkdc.org or call (202) 487-1976.

20. [NEW] Outstanding Summer STEM Opportunity

Two high school seniors in the District of Columbia will be selected to represent our city at the prestigious [National Youth Science Camp](#) in the beautiful woods of West Virginia this summer with all travel, camp fees, and meals covered. Participants exchange ideas with scientists and other professionals, do fun, hands-on projects, hike, and explore caves with peers from other states and countries. Students must be District of Columbia residents and commit to spending the full three-plus weeks at the camp from **June 27 – July 20**. Click [here](#) for frequently asked questions. To apply, [click here](#) by **February 28**. For more information, [click here](#). For questions, contact the State Selection Coordinator, Mary Lord at m.lord@asee.org or 202-577-9939.

21. DC Emancipation Day Float Design Competition

Mayor Muriel Bowser and the District of Columbia Emancipation Commemoration Commission would like to invite all students attending a K-12 school in the District of Columbia to create a float design for entry into Mayor Bowser's Float Design Competition for the 2019 DC Emancipation

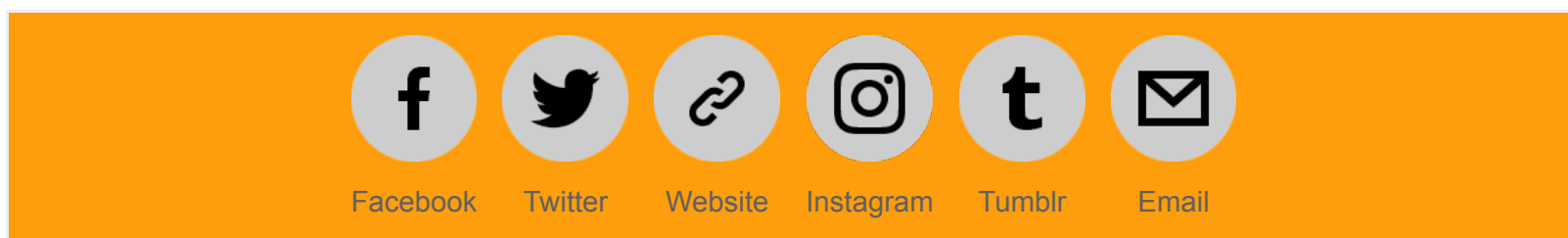
Day Parade. Click here for more informations and/or to view the flyer in [English](#) or [Spanish](#). For questions, click [here](#) or contact secretary@dc.gov.

22. Girls on the Run Youth Development Program

Girls on the Run is a 10-week, positive youth development program that serves girls in grades 3-8. Through an intentional curriculum led by trained coaches, we teach life skills and strategies that girls can use in all areas of their lives. For more information, click [here](#). If you are interested in bringing Girls on the Run-DC to your school, contact Devoria Armstead, Program Director, at devoria@gotrdc.org.

23. Potential School Space Available for Subleasing

A 27,400 square foot space with two floors located at 3400 New York Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002, is available for sublease. To view the flyer, click [here](#). For more information, contact Jason Botel at jason.botel@catapultlearning.com.



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