

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
COMMITTEE REPORT**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

DRAFT

TO: All Councilmembers

FROM: Chairman Phil Mendelson
Committee of the Whole

DATE: July 13, 2021

SUBJECT: Report on PR 24-253, the “Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Matthew Hanson Confirmation Resolution of 2021”

The Committee of the Whole, to which PR 24-253, the “Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Matthew Hanson Confirmation Resolution of 2021” was referred, reports favorably thereon, and recommends approval by the Council.

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I. BACKGROUND AND NEED

Proposed Resolution 24-253, the “Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Matthew Hanson Confirmation Resolution of 2021,” was introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor on May 20, 2021 and referred to the Committee of the Whole. The purpose of PR 24-253 is to confirm the Mayor’s nomination of Mr. Matthew Hanson for appointment to the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes, to serve for a term to end on November 7, 2023.

The Commission is a public body composed of engaged residents and representatives from government agencies to support equitable access to high-quality OST programs for District of Columbia youth through coordination among government agencies, targeted grant-making, data collection and evaluation, and the provision of training, capacity building, and technical assistance to OST providers. The Commission will provide resources and support to ensure a citywide system of high-quality OST programs.

The Commission shall consist of no more than 21 members who represent key community stakeholder constituencies or are District agency administrative heads or their designees. The Commission members are:

Council Resolution	Member Name	Position	Term Expiration
PR 24-251	Margaret Siegel	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member (Pending)	November 7, 2023*
PR 24-252	Dr. Kenneth Taylor	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member (Pending)	November 7, 2023*
PR 24-253	Matthew Hanson	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member (Pending)	November 7, 2023*
PR 24-254	Rev. Gary Hill	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member (Pending)	November 7, 2023*
PR 24-255	Walter Peacock	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member (Pending)	November 7, 2023*
	Margot Berkey	Mayoral Appointee, DC Agency Representative	Ex Officio
	Tanisha Brown	Mayoral Appointee, DC Agency Representative	Ex Officio
PR 22-0457	Tacharna Crump	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	November 7, 2020
	Vanessa Gerideau	Mayoral Appointee, DC Agency Representative	Ex Officio
	Laura Harding	Mayoral Appointee, DC Agency Representative	Ex Officio
PR 22-0458	Mark Hecker	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	November 7, 2020
PR 23-0708	Burnell Holland	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	November 7, 2022
	LeKisha Jordan	DC Chairman / Council Appointee	
	Jiselle O'Neal	Mayoral Appointee, DC Agency Representative	Ex Officio
PR 23-0709	Heather Peeler	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	November 7, 2022
PR 23-0707	Jason Spector	Mayoral Appointee, Public Member	November 7, 2022
	Mila Yochum	Mayoral Appointee, DC Agency Representative	Ex Officio
	Myles Cliff	Mayoral Appointee, DC Agency Representative	Ex Officio
--	Vacant	--	--
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--	Vacant	--	--

*Expiration date is 2023 if appointed; nominations are pending at the Council.

This is Mr. Hanson's first nomination to serve on this Commission. He is a political activist, organizer, policy analyst, and registered public interest lobbyist. He has over 15 years of experience in public activism. He has worked for labor unions and policy advocacy groups up and

down the East Coast – though primarily in DC – and in Mexico. In addition, he has led political campaigns for parties and individual candidates in the DMV area. In his spare time, he has volunteered with community groups and human rights organizations. He is a published columnist and previously served on the DC Fair Elections Commission. He is an expert in campaign management, organizing, executive strategy, and the labor movement. Should his nomination be confirmed, he hopes to contribute to students’ academic success, and social and emotional learning through access to high-quality opportunities outside the classroom.

Based on his stated commitment to the mission of the Commission, his civic leadership, and his expertise regarding OST programs, the Committee recommends the appointment of Mr. Hanson to the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes. The Committee recommends adoption of PR 24-253.

II. LEGISLATIVE CHRONOLOGY

May 20, 2021	PR 24-253, the “Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Matthew Hanson Confirmation Resolution of 2021” is introduced by Chairman Mendelson at the request of the Mayor.
May 28, 2021	Notice of Intent to Act on PR 24-253 is published in the DC Register.
June 1, 2021	PR 24-253 is “read” at a Committee of the Whole meeting; on this date the referral of the PR to the Committee of the Whole is official and the 45-day period for Council review begins.
June 28, 2021	Notice of the public roundtable is filed in the Office of the Secretary.
June 29, 2021	Notice of the public roundtable is filed in the Office of the Secretary.
July 9, 2021	The Committee of the Whole convenes a public roundtable on PR 24-253.
July 13, 2021	The Committee of the Whole marks up PR 24-253.

III. POSITION OF THE EXECUTIVE

Mr. Hanson is the Mayor’s nominee for appointment to the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes.

IV. COMMENTS OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONS

The Committee received no testimony or comments from any Advisory Neighborhood Commission on PR 24-253.

V. SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

The Committee of the Whole held a public roundtable on four Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes nominations, including PR 24-253, on Thursday, July 9, 2021. The testimony summarized below is from that hearing. Submitted copies of testimony are attached to this report.

Matthew Hanson, Appointee, testified and answered questions from Chairman Mendelson regarding his background and experience as it pertains to the Commission and his interest in serving a term on the Commission.

Mr. Hanson explained that he has worked for over a decade as a public advocate, and prior to that, served with AmeriCorps in the District. During his service with AmeriCorps, he saw firsthand the importance of OST programs. As the chief of staff at DC Action, he helps the organization use data, research, and a racial equity lens to break down barriers for youth of color throughout the District. DC Action is the home of the Under 3 DC Coalition, the DC OST Coalition, and the DC Kids Count Coalition. He coordinates the OST Coalition, which is made up of dozens of programs across all eight wards. The Coalition helps DC Action perform original policy research and analysis. In his view, the Coalition aligns perfectly with the Commission. He noted that families are counting on OST programs more than ever before, because of the pandemic, and he is eager to promote holistic solutions to these challenges so that children grow up safe, resilient, powerful, and heard. Similarly, the Coalition has grown substantially during the pandemic, and now has about 40 representatives from member organizations. The Coalition features guest speakers from across the District, such as councilmembers, Council staff, the Deputy Mayor for Education's office, DCPS, the Executive, and nonprofits, among others. One of the Coalition's more effective tools for promoting and documenting their work is their blog and vlog, which highlights stories of students involved in these programs, and how they help the students grow as people, help them succeed upon graduation, and increase their learning ability.

Mr. Hanson views his nomination as an opportunity to participate and make a difference in the community. He expanded on his desire to increase funds significantly for OST and repeated his gratitude to the Committee of the Whole for its public support for doing so as well. He expressed his view that the Commission plays an important role throughout the District and that he wishes to work collaboratively. As a first-time nominee, he explained that he has some logistical feedback about rollover dollars for grants, should he be confirmed, along with how to best rebound from the pandemic. He looks forward to working with the other Commissioners on needs-based assessments with an equity lens for grants, taking a data-driven approach. Finally, he stressed taking a holistic approach to program evaluation, to incorporate academics into non-academic OST programs (i.e., arts and athletics), to help mitigate pandemic-related learning loss.

Mr. Hanson reiterated that he is current on his taxes owed to all jurisdictions, has no conflicts of interest, anticipates no future conflicts of interest, and has time to serve.

VI. IMPACT ON EXISTING LAW

The Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes is established pursuant to D.C. Code § 2-1555.02. PR 24-253 is an exercise of the Council's discretion to approve

or disapprove Mayoral nominations to Boards and Commissions, pursuant to the Confirmation Act of 1978 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Code § 1-523.01).

VII. FISCAL IMPACT

The Office of the Chief Financial Officer indicates that a Fiscal Impact Statement is not needed for a confirmation. Commission members are not compensated for their service.

VIII. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| <u>Section 1</u> | States the short title of PR 24-253. |
| <u>Section 2</u> | Confirms the appointment of Mr. Matthew Hanson to the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes, as a mayoral appointee, to serve a term ending November 7, 2023. |
| <u>Section 3</u> | Requires that a copy of the resolution, upon adoption, be transmitted to the appointee, the chairperson of the Commission, and to the Mayor. |
| <u>Section 4</u> | Provides that PR 24-253 shall take effect immediately. |

IX. COMMITTEE ACTION

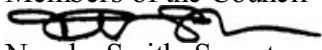
X. ATTACHMENTS

1. PR 24-253 as introduced.
2. Nominee's responses to Committee pre-hearing and post-hearing questions.
3. Written Testimony and Comments.
4. Legal Sufficiency Review.
5. Committee Print for PR 24-253.

<https://lims.dccouncil.us/Legislation/PR24-0253>
<https://www.wereaction.org/blog/matthew-hanson-joins-dc-action>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/matthew-hanson-88058427/>

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington D.C. 20004

Memorandum

To : Members of the Council

From : Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council
Date : Friday, July 9, 2021
Subject : Referral of Proposed Legislation

Notice is given that the attached proposed legislation was introduced in the Office of the Secretary on Thursday, May 20, 2021. Copies are available in Room 10, the Legislative Services Division.

TITLE: "Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Matthew Hanson Confirmation Resolution of 2021", PR24-0253

INTRODUCED BY: Chairman Mendelson, at the request of Mayor

The Chairman is referring this legislation to Committee of the Whole. This resolution will be deemed approved on Saturday, September 18, 2021 without Council action.

Attachment
cc: General Counsel
Budget Director
Legislative Services



MURIEL BOWSER
MAYOR

May 20, 2021

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Chairman Mendelson:

In accordance with section 2 of the Confirmation Act of 1978, effective March 3, 1979 (D.C. Law 2-142; D.C. Official Code § 1-523.01), and pursuant to section 6 of the Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Establishment Act of 2016, effective April 7, 2017 (D.C. Law 21-261; D.C. Official Code § 2-1551.05), I am pleased to nominate the following person:

Matthew Hanson
S Street, SE
Washington, DC 20020
(Ward 7)

for appointment as a nongovernmental member of the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes, replacing Anisah Rasheed, for a term to end November 7, 2023.


Enclosed you will find biographical information detailing the experience of the above-mentioned nominee, together with a proposed resolution to assist the Council during the confirmation process.

I would appreciate the Council's earliest consideration of this nomination for confirmation. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Steven Walker, Director, Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments, should the Council require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Muriel Bowser".

Muriel Bowser


Chairman Phil Mendelson
at the request of the Mayor

A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To confirm the appointment of Matthew Hanson to the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the "Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Matthew Hanson Confirmation Resolution of 2021".

Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

Matthew Hanson
S Street, SE
Washington, DC 20020
(Ward 7)

as a nongovernmental member of the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes, pursuant to section 6 of the Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes Establishment Act of 2016, effective April 7, 2017 (D.C. Law 21-261; D.C. Official Code § 2-1551.05), replacing Anisah Rasheed, for a term to end November 7, 2023.

Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution, upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Matthew Hanson

Professional Experience

Chief of Staff, *DC Action*

March 2020 –

Present

- Serves as chief strategist and thought partner to the Executive Director, helping to map out strategic goals and ensure their timely execution.
- Responsible for ensuring all 13 staff complete their annual goals and work plans, including individualized racial equity and professional development goals, and performance evaluations.
- Oversees special projects, such as coordinating the organization's work in support of the Just Recovery campaign, the launch of the revamped DC Kids Count website, DC Action voter guide and website, at-large councilmember candidate forum and more.
- Managed the organization's census outreach project, which partnered with local grassroots organizations to recruit two dozen youth ambassadors who contacted nearly 88,700 District residents, and engaged them in over 15,500 conversations to increase census participation.
- Facilitates daily leadership team meetings, twice a week all staff meetings, and oversees the organization's editorial projects planning, in addition to directly managing three staff.
- Manages the DC Out-of-School Time coalition, a cohort of 40 organizations that advocates for access to high-quality learning opportunities beyond the classroom.
- Represent the organization to allies, other coalitions, candidates, elected officials and their staff.

DC Director, *Working Families Party*

July 2018 – March 2020

- Coordinated the Under 3 DC campaign, a coalition of more than three dozen organizations, that secured nearly \$16 million in funding for FY2020 for the Birth-to-Three for All Act to reduce the cost of child care, increase wages for child care workers and promote better health outcomes for families.
- Managed the DC Fair Elections campaign (2016-2018) that passed, fully funded and implemented the country's most progressive public financing of elections program.
- Oversaw the organizations electoral endorsement efforts, and supported coalition efforts such as Paid Family, Leave Restore the Vote, and Share Better DC.
- Conducted strategic planning, developed short and long term campaign plans and budgets, and oversaw and wrote most of the organization's external communications, including action alerts, press releases, petitions and more.
- Worked closely with national and regional staff and allies to develop and advance electoral and political agenda; provide written and oral reports, and supervise local staff and partners.
- Organized events with elected officials, activists and grassroots officials and coordinate lobby visits, legislative hearings, and recruitment of witnesses.

Campaign Manager, *Ed Lazere for DC Council Chair*

January 2018 – June 2018

- Managed first-time candidate's campaign that became the highest-profile race in the city.
- Raised nearly a quarter million dollars in small-dollar contributions in less than five months.

- Recruited, trained and mobilized over 100 volunteers for canvassing, phone banks and peer-to-peer digital outreach that resulted in a first-time candidate earning more than one third of the vote against the District's highest-polling elected official.
- Developed campaign materials and products, including literature, mailings, targeting, robo-calls, polling, training materials, scripts, contracts, digital ads, logo, and website, and provided cross-platform data management.
- Secured endorsements from leading progressive organizations across the District, including DC for Democracy, DC National Organization for Women, Jews United for Justice, MoveOn, Trans United Fund, Washington Teachers' Union and others.

DC Campaigns Director, Working Families Party

April 2015 – January 2018

- Managed the successful "DC for \$15" minimum wage campaign, an effort that raised the wage for 127,000 workers.
- Wrote the campaign plan and budget, and oversaw a budget of a quarter million dollars.
- Supervised a team of 30 full-time canvassers and 12 data entry specialists that collected and verified over 60,000 valid petition signatures.
- Developed the field plan, canvass tracking systems, talking points, turf maps and other core materials, as well as directed communications, and oversaw coalition activities, including actions and events, communications, canvasses, data entry, legal and political strategy.
- Embedded on the Bernie Sanders for President 2016 campaign in Iowa and Wisconsin, responsible for recruiting and training volunteers, opening field offices, identifying and preparing speakers for mega-rallies, and coordinating voter turnout activities.

Maryland Campaigns Manager, Working Families Party

January 2013 – April 2015

- Launched and managed the Raise Maryland's minimum wage campaign, a successful legislative effort from 2013-2014 that raised the state minimum wage to \$10.10 for 455,000 workers.
- Built and maintained institutional relationships with dozens of diverse partners, including community, labor, immigrant, civil rights, faith organizations and small businesses, many of which affiliated with the state chapter once it was formally launched.
- Developed and distributed candidate questionnaires and organizing candidate endorsement interviews for dozens of offices.
- Orchestrated dozens of campaign events, including ones featuring national and state elected officials, forums, protests, rallies, press briefings and more.

Additional Professional and Volunteer Experience

- Publishing committee member, The Forge; online, September 2019 to present.
- Volunteer, La Clínica del Pueblo; Washington, DC, August 2018 – present.
- Member, DC Fair Elections commission, Washington, DC; August 2018 – September 2020.
- AmeriCorps Member, City Year; Washington, DC, August 2005 – June 2007.

Languages and Skills

- Spanish (conversational), ActBlue, Action Network, Mail Chimp, Nation Builder, Voter Activation Network, L2 voter database, Call Hub, TruText, Drupal, WordPress, Facebook and Twitter (ads and analytics), Google Docs, and Microsoft Office suite.

Publications and Speaking Engagements

- "The Fight for a Caring Economy," *The Forge*, September 2020.
- "Organizing in the Belly of the Beast," *The Forge*, August 2020.
- "Interview with Hahrie Han," *The Forge*, September 27, 2019.
- "Jack Evans should resign as Ward 2 DC Council member," *The DC Line*, July 1, 2019, (co-author).
- Panelist at the National Employment Law Project (NELP) annual conference for 2014 and 2015.

Education

Hunter College, City University of New York (CUNY)

Graduated Magna cum Laude 2010

- Bachelor of Arts, Interdisciplinary Concentration in History, Political Science and Sociology.
- Thesis: "The Decline and Revitalization of the American Labor Movement."
- Certificate in Labor Studies from the Murphy Institute



Executive Office of the Mayor - Office of Talent and Appointments
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, Suite 600 | Washington, DC 20004

Matthew Hanson



Matthew Hanson is a Ward 7 resident, who has spent more than a decade working as an advocate and hopes to continue advocating for the importance and value of out-of-school programming.

Mr. Hanson is currently the Chief of Staff at DC Action, an organization that works with young people, parents and community partners, and advocates with one voice for public policies that support kids at every step from early childhood to early adulthood. In his role, he facilitates the DC Out-of-School Coalition which fights for access to high-quality learning opportunities beyond the classroom that prepare youth for success in education, career, and life. Mr. Hanson is also the former Director of the DC Working Families Party and has worked as a researcher and organizer on a variety of electoral, labor, and legislative campaigns.

Mr. Hanson is nominated for appointment to the Commission on Out of School Time and Youth Outcomes because he believes programs play a vital role in supporting students' academic success and social and emotional learning. Mr. Hanson believes the pandemic has put greater stress and strain on communities and worsened education disparities more than anyone could have imagined a year ago, and we as a community need to work together to make sure we promote holistic solutions to these challenges.

A Ward 7 resident, Mr. Hanson holds a Bachelor of Arts in Interdisciplinary Concentration in History from Hunter College.



1. Please provide a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement you filed with the Office of Campaign Finance or the Board of Ethics and Government Accountability. If you have not filed a Financial Disclosure Statement, please provide answers to questions no. 2-8 in lieu of that statement.
 - A list of my campaign contributions over the past five years are below:
 - Committee to Elect Eboni Rose Thompson for DC SBOE Ward 7 2020 - \$20.00
 - Committee to Elect Janeese Lewis George 2019 - \$50.00
 - Ed Lazere for DC Council At-Large 2020 - \$100.00
 - Green for Ward 7 2020 - \$50.00
 - Jordan Grossman for Ward 2 2019 - \$50.00
 - Jordan Grossman for Ward 2 Special Election 2020 - \$50.00
 - The Committee to Elect Mysiki Valentine 2020 - \$50.00
 - Jeremiah At Large 2017/2018 - \$225.00
 - Ed Lazere for DC Chair 2018 - \$76.15
2. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business with the District Government in which you have a beneficial interest valued in excess of \$1,000, including publicly traded stock.
 - None
3. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting any business (including consulting) with the District Government from which you or your immediate family have received (or are receiving) income for services rendered in excess of \$200 during the past two years.
 - None
4. Please provide the name of each business entity transacting business with the District Government in which you or any member of your immediate family serves as an officer, director, partner, or agent. Also list the position(s) held, a brief description of the entity, and any other pertinent details.
 - None
5. Please provide the name of any lender and the amount of liability for each outstanding liability borrowed by you or any member of your immediate family in excess of \$1,000. Do not include loans from a federal or state insured or regulated financial institution, or from any business enterprise regularly engaged in the business of providing revolving credit or installment accounts.
 - None
6. Please list the location of all real property located in the District of Columbia in which you have an interest with a fair market value in excess of \$1,000.
 - My wife and I have a mortgage for our home, located at 3930 S Street SE, Washington, DC 20020.
7. Please list all professional and occupational licenses held by you.
 - None
8. Please list any professional organizations of which you are currently a member.
 - None
9. Please list all boards and commissions part of the District government on which you are or have been a member and include the term of service for each.
 - I was a member of the Fair Elections commission in 2018-2020.
10. Please list any other boards (e.g., Board of Directors of a non-profit) on which you are currently a member.
 - None
11. Do you have any outstanding liability for taxes, fees, or other payments to the District, federal, or other state or local governments, either contested or uncontested? If so, please provide documentation of attempts to pay the amount owed or to resolve the disputed claim.

- None
12. Do you or any member of your immediate family have any interest, financial or otherwise, that may directly or indirectly pose a conflict of interest for you in performance of your duties as a member of the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes?
- My wife works as a grants manager at La Clinica del Pueblo but as far as I know, they do not support an OST program.
13. Please describe any local political activity (i.e. the District of Columbia local elections or campaigns) that you have engaged in over the past five years, including all campaign contributions to a D.C. candidate or political committee.
- I have regularly participated in political activity over the last five years. I previously worked at the DC Working Families Party, first as the campaign manager for our \$15 minimum wage campaign, and then as the Director until 2020, when I joined DC Action (then DC Action for Children). During my time at WFP, I worked on electoral and legislative campaigns, including Fair Elections, paid family and medical leave, ShareBetter (a housing campaign to reign in AirBnB), the Under 3 DC campaign for child care and others. I took a leave of absence from WFP in 2018 to manage Ed Lazere's campaign for Chair of the DC Council. In 2020, I volunteered on campaigns outside of work, including Janeese Lewis-George's campaign for Ward Four councilmember, Eboni-Rose Thompson's campaign for Ward Seven SBOE, and Ed Lazere's 2020 run for at-large councilmember. In addition to my paid and volunteer activity, I have also written about DC politics, including for the DC Line (calling for then councilmember Jack Evans resignation) and The Forge. Since joining DC Action in March of 2020, I have advocated and testified in support of issues before the council, ranging from the need to invest more in child care, the importance of restoring funding for child care, tax fairness for working families, how to improve our elections, and more.
14. Are you registered with any local, state, or federal government to lobby? If so, list the jurisdiction(s) in which you are registered.
- I am registered to lobby in Washington, DC
15. Why have you agreed to serve another term and how do you plan to continue to help the Board fulfill its role and mission during your time on the Commission?
- Please see testimony

At the July 9th hearing, you will be asked to make an opening statement indicating your interest in serving as a member of the Commission. The testimony of persons interested in supporting your nomination is helpful but not necessary. Interested parties should visit [http:// www.ChairmanMendelson.com/testify](http://www.ChairmanMendelson.com/testify) to register, or, alternatively, may submit written comments to the Committee regarding your nomination via letter mail or e-mail (COW@dccouncil.us).

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me or LeKisha Jordan on my staff at 202-724-8137.

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMISSION ON OUT OF SCHOOL TIME GRANTS AND YOUTH
OUTOMES**



Public Roundtable on

PR24-0253 “Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes
Matthew Hanson Confirmation Resolution of 2021”

Testimony of
Matthew Hanson

Before the
Committee of the Whole
Council of the District of Columbia
The Honorable Phil Mendelson, Chairperson

July 9, 2021
9:00 AM
Virtual Meeting Platform
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004

Good morning, Chairman Mendelson and members of the Committee of the Whole. My name is Matthew Hanson, and I appreciate the opportunity to testify today regarding my confirmation to the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes. I would also like to thank the Mayor for nominating me to this position.

In addition to having spent more than a decade working as an advocate, from 2005 to 2007 I served as an AmeriCorps member in Washington, DC. During this time I worked in dozens of public and public charter schools and saw firsthand the importance and value of OST programming. This period helped shape my commitment to advancing just policies and practices that center the needs of children and families.

I currently serve as the Chief of Staff at DC Action, an organization that uses research, data, and a racial equity lens to break down barriers that stand in the way of all kids reaching their full potential. Our collaborative advocacy initiatives bring the power of young people and all residents to raise their voices to create change. We are also the home of the DC Out-of-School Time Coalition, the Under 3 DC Coalition, and DC KIDS COUNT—an online resource that tracks key indicators of child and youth well-being.

It would be an honor and a privilege to serve on the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes. As the Chief of Staff at DC Action, I facilitate the DC Out-of-School Time Coalition, along with our Policy Analyst Ryllie Danylko, to help ensure that out of school time (“OST”) programs have a voice in shaping the decisions and policies that directly affect them and the young people they serve.

Our coalition is made up of dozens of programs from across the District that serve all eight wards. Together we advocate for access to high-quality learning opportunities beyond the school day that prepare DC's youth for success in education, careers, and life. We also conduct original policy analysis and research to support our efforts. I believe our mission aligns perfectly with that of the OST Commission.

OST programs play a vital role in supporting students' academic success and social and emotional learning, and now more than ever, families are counting on these programs. The pandemic has put greater stress on communities and worsened education disparities more than anyone could have imagined a year ago, and we need to work together to make sure we promote holistic solutions to these challenges. If confirmed, I hope to bring our organizational and coalition support and knowledge to the table to advance our shared goals of ensuring every young person grows up safe, resilient, powerful, and heard.

Our coalition has grown from about a dozen member organizations to more than 50 members in the first six months of 2021 and has worked hard to advance the interests of young people and the programs that serve them. Each month, we hold virtual coalition meetings attended by up to 40 representatives from member organizations and meet weekly as a core team to plan our agenda and the issues we face. We invite guest speakers from groups such as the Washington Regional Association of Grantmakers, DC Fiscal Policy Institute, Learn24, and DCPS, and have organized meetings with Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) Paul Kihn, DCPS Chancellor Lewis Ferebee, all District lead education agencies, and Councilmembers and their staff.

Because the difficult, yet rewarding and important work of OST programs is often overlooked, we've also worked to elevate our programs' labor and service. We have published 12 blog posts on the DC Action website featuring stories of OST organizations' continued efforts to provide vital services to District children and families during the COVID-19 pandemic, and how they are preparing students for a smooth and successful transition back to in-person learning. The blog series features organizations that stepped up to help students navigate distance learning at the beginning of the pandemic, went above and beyond to provide resources and referrals to families, and helped students deal with trauma and find a sense of belonging in a time of widespread isolation.

We also featured the voices of 12 youth OST participants in a video series where they shared what they love about their programs and how OST offerings have helped them with school and life. Some of the messages students shared were, "[t]he enrichment activities and lessons help me to grow as a person and prepare me for future experiences after graduating from high school," and "[h]aving a program like this after school and during the summer means a lot because it will increase my learning ability when I enter the third grade."

We've done all of this and we're just getting started. If invited to join the Commission, I hope to serve as a partner in advancing equity within OST. Finally, this work is also personal to me. I first moved to the DC area in 2000, with a brief period away for school and work. My wife and I moved back into the District in 2013, and welcomed our child into the world in 2018. We live in Ward 7 and I am active in our community, volunteering with causes and organizations that align

with our values, and that promote anti-racist and just programs and policies so that we have a District that includes and works for everyone.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be happy to answer any questions you have.

1 **DRAFT COMMITTEE PRINT**
2 Committee of the Whole
3 July 13, 2021
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7 A PROPOSED RESOLUTION

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9 24-253

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11 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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16 To confirm the appointment of Matthew Hanson to the Commission on Out of School Time
17 Grants and Youth Outcomes.

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19 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
20 resolution may be cited as the “Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes
21 Matthew Hanson Confirmation Resolution of 2021.”

22 Sec. 2. The Council of the District of Columbia confirms the appointment of:

23 Matthew Hanson
24 S Street, SE
25 Washington, DC 20020
26 (Ward 7)
27

28 as a as a nongovernmental member of the Commission on Out of School Time Grants and Youth
29 Outcomes, pursuant to section 6 of the Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth
30 Outcomes Establishment Act of 2016, effective April 7, 2017 (D.C. Law 21-261; D.C. Official
31 Code § 2-1551.05), replacing Anisah Rasheed for a term to end November 7, 2023.

32 Sec. 3. The Council of the District of Columbia shall transmit a copy of this resolution,
33 upon its adoption, to the nominee and to the Office of the Mayor.

34 Sec. 4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.