

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Overseas Schools Advisory Council

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1. Department or Agency

Department of State

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Overseas Schools Advisory
Council

3b. GSA Committee No.

160

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year? 5. Current Charter 6. Expected Renewal Date 7. Expected Term Date

No 03/24/2023 03/24/2025

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year? 8b. Specific Termination Authority 8c. Actual Term Date

No AGEN

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate? 10b. Legislation Pending?

Continue Not Applicable Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Agency Authority

12. Specific Establishment Authority 13. Effective Date 14. Committee Type 14c. Presidential?

22 U.S.C. 2656 07/27/1789 Continuing No

15. Description of Committee Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a. Open 17b. Closed 17c. Partially Closed 17d. Total

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

Current Next
FY FY

18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Overseas Schools Advisory Council obtains information and counsel from the U.S. business community to advise the Office of Overseas Schools of the Department of State concerning policy matters and necessary personnel and financial support to the overseas schools. During business trips abroad, Council members meet with members of the American business community and visit overseas schools, and when possible, meets with school board members to review the schools' needs and U.S. assistance to these schools. As a result, the number of U.S. business representatives on the overseas school boards has continued at a high level. In addition, the Council has prepared materials to assist these

schools in their own fundraising activities. During the period 1983-2022, the Council proposed 134 needed educational projects to all American-sponsored overseas schools. The projects were developed in cooperation with overseas regional schools' associations. The educational projects spearheaded by the Council are playing a significant role in the overseas schools' efforts to improve their staffs, enrich their curricula, and permit thousands of American children overseas to benefit from the newest educational materials and techniques. The Council began an initiative in FY 2011 that will be especially helpful to the Department of State to make the World Virtual School available to American overseas schools. This capability will assist the schools maintain instruction during emergencies that require school closures so that students continue their education without significant disruption. In 2015 the Council also proposed a Child Protection Project. This is being done in cooperation with the Centre for Missing and Exploited Children. The Council received updates on the World Virtual School and Child Protection Projects at their January and June 2023 meetings. In addition, the Council funded a Special Needs Project and committed \$80,000.00 to its purposes. Special Education consultants will be made available to all regional education associations as well as individual schools. These consultants will provide guidance on how to build and staff an exemplary special needs program. In 2004 the Council began the process of placing as many of the funded projects on the Department of State's Internet and Intranet. Currently 22 of the Council's projects are available to schools, and other interested parties, electronically. The Council is currently sponsoring a project to address the social and emotional needs of

students. Consultants are being identified and made available to our schools around the world.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The Council seeks members of the business, foundation and education communities to serve as Representative members of their organizations on the Council. These individuals, with different backgrounds, professional qualifications and work experience, have a strong interest in helping Department-assisted overseas schools become centers of excellence in education and in helping to make service abroad more attractive to U. S. citizens with school aged children, both in the business community and the U. S. Government. In addition, the Council seeks to have a mix of Representative members from both the operating and human resources units of business organizations. Currently the Council has 16 representative members, plus one in the process of being approved. Of this number, five are women. These factors are not explicit balance factors but are highly desirable in achieving a diversity of viewpoints on the Council.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

Two meetings are held each calendar year: the council's winter meeting, held on January 26, 2023, with the full membership in attendance, and the council's summer meeting, most recently held on June 6, 2023, with a smaller subset of the membership. To accommodate the demanding needs of the membership, the January meeting was held in-person, and the June meeting was hosted virtually. The winter meeting focused on Child Protection, Special Needs, and Social/Emotional Needs, as well as fundraising

and recruitment. The June meeting was an informal working session to further efforts to increase fundraising and membership. The council will hold the next meeting on January 31, 2024, in-person unless there is a new change to COVID restrictions.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

The Overseas Schools Advisory Council is the longest, continually operating council within the Department. It is a public/private partnership between the Department and U. S. business and corporate Representatives. The Council's members have a unique insight into the challenges their employees encounter when accepting an overseas assignment. These individuals understand the issues confronted by their employees with school aged children when relocating to another country. The two meetings the Council holds each year provide the Department with insights that would not be possible without this body. We know of no other agency, group or committee, within the Department, that has such a vested interest in ensuring that the children attending an American overseas school receive the finest education possible.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

All Council meetings are open.

21. Remarks

Section V.d. of the Council's Charter requires that the Council report to the Department of State's Under Secretary for Management through the Council's Executive Secretary and specifies that the reporting method may be "oral and/or written".

The Council complies with this requirement through briefings on Council activities, issues, and recommendations, which the Executive Secretary provides approximately once a month to the Department's Assistant Secretary for Administration. The Assistant Secretary in turn reports the substance of these briefings to the Under Secretary for Management. In addition, the Executive Secretary provides brief written summaries on each Council Meeting and other significant activities for inclusion in the Bureau of Administration's Weekly Activity Report, which the Bureau provides to the Under Secretary for Management. For example, the Executive Secretary submitted written reports on the Council's Executive Committee Meetings held in January and June of 2018. Subcommittees: The Council does not currently have any subcommittees. The Council has used an ad-hoc committee on fundraising from time to time. The Fundraising Committee has considered a variety of ways to improve the Council's fundraising efforts that support its Educational Assistance Program. Oral reports on all current projects are provided during regular Council meetings

Designated Federal Officer

Mark Ulfers Director, Office of Overseas Schools

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Buchner, David	01/01/2020	03/25/2025	Mastercard	Representative Member
Castle, Brian	01/01/2019	03/25/2025	VP, U.S. Enterprise/Government Xerox	Representative Member
Franks, L. Earl	01/01/2020	03/25/2025	NAESP	Ex Officio Member
Gould, Patricia	04/01/2023	03/25/2025	Global Head of Total Rewards	Representative Member
Hannibal, Edward	01/01/2020	03/25/2025	Partner	Representative Member
Ketron, Katie	01/01/2016	03/25/2025	Principal, People Advisory Services Ernst and Young	Representative Member

Kim, Michelle	01/23/2023	03/25/2025	Executive Director, National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP)	Representative Member
Manu, Leslie	06/01/2022	03/25/2025	Senior Director, Global Talent Mobility	Representative Member
Nozoe, Ronn	06/01/2022	03/25/2025	Executive Director	Representative Member
Phillips, Ryan	01/01/2020	03/25/2025	Global Talent Mobility Organization Manager	Representative Member
Quinn, Cathy	06/01/2022	03/25/2025	Executive Director, Intl Services Americas	Representative Member
Weinberger, Zachary	01/01/2020	03/25/2025	Managing Consultant	Representative Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 12

Narrative Description

The Council supports the Departments mission and Strategic Goal # 2 of the FY 2018-2022 State-U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Strategic Plan: Modernize the Way we do Diplomacy and Development through enabling diplomats and development professionals to influence and operate more efficiently, effectively and collaboratively. This support is provided in several ways; at the two Council meetings held each year and on other occasions throughout the year. Members provide information and advice from the U. S. business community to assist the Office of Overseas Schools in assuring that the dependents of USG and U. S. corporate overseas employees have access to high quality educational opportunities abroad. Members obtain such information through consultations with their colleagues in the U. S. business community and through visits to overseas schools where they review the schools' needs and USG educational assistance programs. In addition, Council members provide recommendations to the Office of Overseas Schools regarding programs and activities that would be of benefit to the schools. Examples include encouraging expansion of Special Needs Education in overseas schools and increased Child Protection efforts in the schools. The Council also sponsors projects needed to enhance the educational programs of the 193 American overseas schools. The projects are developed in cooperation with the overseas regional school associations and funded by contributions from the Council firms and other U. S. corporations. These educational projects assist the

schools in education for staff, enriching their curricula and allowing students to benefit from up-to-date educational materials, strategies and techniques. All corporate donations go directly to support development of the educational enhancement projects for the schools.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

The Council has achieved several significant program outcomes. In 2015 and 2016, the Council provided advice and suggestions to make the World Virtual School available to American overseas schools. This project, begun in FY 2011, will be especially helpful to the Department of State by making this capability available to assist the schools in continuing instruction during emergencies that require school closures. Thus, students can continue their education without significant disruption. Since 1983 the council has proposed and advised on 136 needed educational enhancement projects for the American overseas schools. These schools have a total enrollment of approximately 136,901. The projects were developed in cooperation with the overseas regional schools' associations. Under the Council's guidelines, projects may take from one to three years to develop and complete, in addition, the guidelines require the schools' associations to contribute funds or in-kind services to development of the projects. The program has provided an array of videotapes, handbooks, study guides, student and teacher manuals, transparencies, computer software, lesson plans, and instructional packages. In FY 98 the Council funded the Emergency Procedures Manual for Overseas Schools Project. This project has been made available to all American overseas schools. Since that time the Council has funded four updates which include topics such as pandemics, terrorism and

trauma. In FY 04 the Department of State approved the Council's proposal to begin placing their educational enhancement projects on the Department's Internet and Intranet web sites. The OSAC projects cover a variety of subjects that affect the educational programs of overseas schools including training of teachers, administrators, staff and school boards, developing and updating educational curriculum, developing programs for handicapped and gifted and talented students, and helping students develop leadership skills. In addition, OSAC has developed a number of projects, which support the use of educational technologies (computers, CD-ROM, multimedia and telecommunications) to assist these schools in preparing their students for the information age. Since the inception of the Educational Assistance Program, OSAC has made copies of these projects available without charge to international schools and to interested individuals. The Council's decision to post many of these projects on the Internet will make them even more widely available to schools in the U.S. and around the world, as well as to educators and the general public. At present, the first fifteen projects can be downloaded. Projects will continue to be posted on the site as soon as they have been technically readied for posting and downloading. In Fiscal Year 2004, the Council proposed a project to provide training in standards-based curriculum writing and assessment for American overseas schools. This project provides professional development for teachers in these schools to enable them to implement fully the academic standards in mathematics, science, English, and social studies, and the assessment methods developed in the Council's Project AERO (American Education Reaches Out), completed in 2003. The new training program supports the maintenance and delivery of an American, standards-based curriculum by addressing the need of teachers in American overseas schools for clear, common, and comprehensive standards to design curriculum, make instructional decisions, and evaluate students. The first institutes in curriculum and writing to the AERO standards in mathematics, English, and social studies were held for teachers in American-sponsored overseas schools in the summer of 2004. These institutes have continued from 2005 through 2019 and now include science and social studies. Current priorities for FY 2023 include continuing to support existing projects while reevaluating priorities for the coming years. Currently, OSAC is funding initiatives aimed at supporting mental health, social emotional learning, special needs, as well as child protection. The primary beneficiaries of this training project are the 34,182 children of U.S.-citizens.

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| None | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Unable to Determine | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Under \$100,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| \$100,000 - \$500,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> |

\$500,001 - \$1,000,000
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000
Over \$10,000,000
Cost Savings Other

☐
☐
☐
☐
☐

Cost Savings Comments

These projects are utilized in over 193 schools around the world. It is not possible to place an accurate cost savings to the projects.

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

14

Number of Recommendations Comments

The Council is working in three areas: Special Needs, Child Protection, and Social Emotional Learning.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

33%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

All schools who have expressed an interest in the World Virtual School Project have received the program and training required to implement the project. The Child Protection Project has been working with a Child Protection Task Force which has taken the lead on this project.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

67%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

The Child Protection project is in the final phase of implementation this year; the Special Needs Project is ongoing at this time and the Social Emotional Learning Project is in the initial stage of implementation.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

Representatives from the Office of Overseas Schools meet with school personnel during scheduled visits. Additionally, council members often schedule site visits as well during their business travel overseas. Information is exchanged between the school and the REOs/council members and shared during the public meetings. Members of the public wishing to inquire or request information regarding Department assisted international schools can send requests for information via email to the Communications Team at the Office of Overseas Schools.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

The outcome does not apply to this council.

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

No grants were awarded.

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

Access to the council's work can be secured by contacting the DFO.