

## 2019 Current Fiscal Year Report: Overseas Schools Advisory Council

Report Run Date: 02/24/2020 04:33:53 AM

### 1. Department or Agency

Department of State

### 2. Fiscal Year

2019

### 3. Committee or Subcommittee

Overseas Schools Advisory Council

### 3b. GSA Committee No.

160

### 4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

### 5. Current Charter

01/28/2017

### 6. Expected Renewal Date

03/29/2019

### 7. Expected Term Date

03/29/2021

### 8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

### 8b. Specific Termination Authority

AGEN

### 8c. Actual Term Date

### 9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

### 10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

No

### 10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

### 11. Establishment Authority

Agency Authority

### 12. Specific Establishment Authority

22 U.S.C. 2656

### 13. Effective Date

07/27/1789

### 14. Committee Type

Continuing

### 14c. Presidential?

No

### 15. Description of Committee

Non Scientific Program Advisory Board

### 16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for this Fiscal Year

### 17a. Open Meetings and Dates

0

### 17b. Closed Meetings and Dates

0

### 17c. Partially Closed Meetings and Dates

0

### Other Activities

0

### 17d. Total Meetings and Dates

0

### Current FY Next 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

\$12,000.00 \$13,000.00

### 18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants

\$57,000.00 \$58,000.00

### 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.)

\$2,500.00 \$2,600.00

### 18d. Total

\$71,500.00 \$73,600.00

### 19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)

0.01 0.01

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Overseas Schools Advisory Council obtains information and counsel from the U.S. business community in order 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 fund raising activities. During the period 1983-2018, the Council provided 134 needed educational projects to all American-sponsored overseas schools. The projects were developed in cooperation with overseas regional schools associations and financed with a total of over \$4 million provided by the Council's firms and other U.S. corporations. The educational projects sponsored 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. All of the funds contributed have gone directly either to the schools to support their educational programs or to the overseas regional schools associations to support development of the educational projects for the schools. The Council began an initiative in FY 2011 that will be especially helpful to the Department of State by raising funds 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 2013-2018 the Council contacted U.S. corporations that are large users of American overseas schools and raised \$405,500 for the World Virtual School initiative. This sum will enable the project to move forward and achieve its goal. In 2015 the Council also funded 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, 2018 meetings. In addition the Council funded a Special Needs Project and committed \$60,000.00 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. Beginning in June 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.

**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 14 Representative members. Of this number, six are women and one is a minority. 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, was scheduled to be held on January 21, 2019, and the Council's Summer meeting held on June 19 and 20, 2019. The January meeting was cancelled due to the closing of the federal government. The June 19 and 20, 2019 meeting focused on the chair's major topics, fundraising and membership. The Council also approved funds for the Child Protection Project and the Special Needs Project. The council also discussed at length a School Based Mental Health Project. The council asked the Office of Overseas Schools to bring back to them at their January 2020 meeting additional information on this topic.

**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**

Thomas Shearer Director, Office of Overseas Schools

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Brady, Thomas	02/25/2015	10/16/2020	DoDEA	Representative Member
Buckner, David	05/14/2018	11/20/2020	MasterCard	Representative Member
Carter, Rose	06/11/2018	12/15/2021	Philanthropic	Representative Member
Castle, Brian	07/31/2019	09/04/2021	Xerox	Representative Member
Domenech, Daniel	07/18/2014	10/16/2020	Executive Director, AASA	Representative Member
Galbraith, Kelly	10/10/2016	10/11/2021	Business	Representative Member
Gould, Patricia	01/05/2018	11/20/2020	MorganStanley	Representative Member
Hannibal, Edward	03/16/2018	11/20/2020	Deloitte	Representative Member
Karpenko, Evgenia	01/16/2018	10/18/2021	Global VP, Nike	Representative Member
Ketron, Kristie	10/10/2016	10/11/2021	Ernst & Young	Representative Member
Thompson, Katherine	01/15/2010	09/20/2021	Director, Global Mobility	Representative Member
Vasseur, Thomas	01/04/2016	10/18/2021	Global Technology Lead	Representative Member
Weinberger, Zachary	05/15/2012	09/04/2021	President, The Weinberger Group	Representative Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 13**

### **Narrative Description**

The Council supports the Departments mission and Strategic Gaol # 5 of the FY 2014-2017 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 stepped up Child Protection efforts in the schools. Also, the Council sponsors needed projects to enhance the educational programs of the 194 American overseas schools. The projects are developed in cooperation with the overseas regional schools associations and funded by contributions from the Council firms and other U. S. corporations. These educational projects assist the schools in improving their staffs, enriching their curricula and allowing students to benefit from up-to-date educational materials, strategies and techniques. All of the 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
- Trust in government
- Major policy changes
- Advance in scientific research
- Effective grant making
- Improved service delivery
- Increased customer satisfaction
- Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements
- Other

**Outcome Comments**

The Council has achieved several significant program outcomes. In 2015 and 2016, the Council provided funds 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. In 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016 the Council contacted U.S. corporations that are large users of American overseas schools and raised over \$305,000 for the World Virtual School initiative and the Child Protection Project. This sum will enable the projects to move forward and achieve their goals. During FY 2017 the Council raised \$100,000.00 and in 2018 - 2019 another \$115,000.00 and approved using

these funds to support the Child Protection Project and the Special Needs Project. Since 1983 the council has funded 134 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 and financed at a cost of just over \$4 million by Council firms and other U.S. corporations. 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 approved 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. The primary beneficiaries of this training project are the 36,180 children of U.S.-citizens.

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

Checked if Applies

- None
- Unable to Determine
- Under \$100,000
- \$100,000 - \$500,000
- \$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 190 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?**

8

**Number of Recommendations Comments**

The Council is working in three areas; Special Needs, Child Protection and School Based Mental Health.

**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 School Based Mental Health Project is in the formative stages.

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

Yes  No  Not Applicable

**Agency Feedback Comments**

Our regional education officers meet with school staffs during their school visits. During these visits they receive feedback from the schools and report back to the council.

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

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

**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
- Online Agency Web Site



Online Committee Web Site

Online GSA FACA Web Site

Publications

Other

**Access Comments**

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