Mayor's Young Leaders Advisory Council (MYLAC) - Meeting Minutes

Date: November 22, 2025 Time: 2:30 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Location: Goodwill Corporate Office

Secretary: Nevaeh Gantt

Attendance

Karthik Ancha, Jasamine Augustin, Adyson Berry, Brooke Bodley, Sabanbon Bunu, Khamoni Cosby, Nadia Darity, Alyde-Mard-Maureen Etienne, Summer Foster, Nevaeh Gantt, Cohen Hathaway, Richelandine Hilaire, Yalini Kousican, Thomas Leuszkiewicz, Lucy Massa, Jordan McClendon, Caleb McDowell, Caleb McLendon, Aniya Myrick, Phoenix Pollar-Jones, Eliana Sampson, Malia Sannoh, Trinity Shelton-Jones, Mihir Sonthi, Erica Truong, Sophia Venturello, Kobe Weaver

2:30-2:32 p.m. — Meeting Called to Order

Led by Trinity Shelton-Jones. Trinity opened the meeting and welcomed members.

2:32-2:35 p.m. — Agenda Review & Roll Call

Agenda Review: Trinity Shelton-Jones

Roll Call: Nevaeh Gantt

Agenda approved with no changes.

2:35-3:35 p.m. — Guest Speaker Presentation

Speaker: Cristina Van Gaasbeek, DCPS School Social Worker.

Conference planning included reviewing the April 15, 2026 event at the Schultz Center. Theme 'Mindful Not Mind Full' was approved. The format (vendor fair + game) and swag bag items (sunglasses, fidgets, water bottles, snacks, stickers, bracelets, pens) are pending. College prep resources/potential panel speakers also pending.

Survey ideas remain in discussion, including: Wellness Wednesday effectiveness, student comfort seeking help, and ways programs build trust.

3:35-3:40 p.m. — Guest Speaker Photo

Members took a group photo with the guest speaker.

3:40-3:45 p.m. — Upcoming Dates

Next MYLAC meeting: December 6, 2025

DCPS Board Meeting: December 11, 2025 at 6 p.m. (not mandatory) Youth Empowerment Committee Meeting: January 15, 2026 at 4 p.m.

3:45–3:55 p.m. — Meeting Etiquette Overview

Covered use of comment cards, preparing for public events, and addressing officials. Informational—no decisions made.

3:55-4:10 p.m. — Debrief of Recent Events

Out of the Darkness Walk: Members participated and assisted with setup; event completed.

Youth Empowerment Committee: Trinity spoke on behalf of MYLAC; completed.

4:10-4:45 p.m. — Teen Initiative & Survey Creation

Members brainstormed topics: access to services, mental health challenges, Wellness Wednesday scales, comfort seeking help, day to day impact, root causes, and demographics. All ideas remain in discussion; final survey questions will be selected later.

4:45-4:55 p.m. — Break

Short recess.

4:55-5:25 p.m. — Letter Writing to City Council

Members drafted letters addressing youth needs. Letters were written but not submitted yet.

5:25-5:30 p.m. — Closing

Led by Zachary Brown. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting

December 6, 2025 — 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Goodwill Corporate Office.