



LaDeva Davis, noted Philly dance instructor, dies

OBITUARIES



Reginald Streater

Philly Board of Education's Streater selected for fellowship

Board of Ed member will study educational systems abroad

Alec Larson
TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Philadelphia Board of Education member Reginald L. Streater was selected as a fellow in the Eisenhower Fellowships' inaugural 2022 USA Justice Program.

According to a news release from Eisenhower Fellowships, the fellows selected to take part in the USA Justice Program "will travel abroad for four to five weeks to expand their horizons and sharpen their strategies for combating entrenched racial discrimination in their communities and professions."

For his fellowship, Streater will be embarking on multi-week journeys to both Kenya and Finland in order to study the diverse educational systems in each country, where Streater said he hopes he will gain knowledge and perspective that will aid him in improving

the lives of the children in the Philadelphia public school system.

Streater said that as a member of Philadelphia's Board of Education, he has seen firsthand how the public school system may be in need of an update to its historical infrastructure.

"I believe that the public school education system, Philadelphia, which is, I think, analogous to what is present in other big cities that service poor people, Black and brown people, Black people. I think that the way we educate is old and antiquated," Streater said.

"And I think that the systems were created for a population that it no longer only serves. So you can imagine some of these public education systems have been around since the 1800s.

"And, you know, Black people just got civil rights 1965. So what I think I've seen on the Board of Education is

some of our schools which are castigated often and seen as failures. I don't think they're failing our students. I think that we're using a model that is not mutually beneficial to the different iterations of students that we're trying to educate."

According to Streater, the best way to attack this problem is not to completely dismantle the system but rather to gather information and reassess areas that have the potential for improvement.

"I'm thinking how can I problem solve this without just blowing up everything? I'm very much an institutionalist. I don't think we should just blow up all institutions," Streater said. "I think that we should try to find a way to maximize what we have now while planning at the same time to make what we have obsolete or to

STREATER • 4A

Biden adviser: Everyone should get new booster

If over age 12, get COVID vaccine along with annual flu shot, he says

Sharyn L. Flanagan
CITY EDITOR

There's another shot on the horizon now that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and U.S. Food and Drug Administration have approved the rollout of updated COVID-19 vaccine boosters.

These shots will replace the boosters previously offered in the U.S. such that, for people 12 and older, being "up-to-date" with vaccines means having the new jab.

Dr. Cameron Webb, White House senior policy adviser for COVID-19 equity, says people should get used to the latest booster, because it will likely become an annual shot like the flu vaccine.

"That is certainly the direction in which we are going," he said. "This is an updated one for 99% of the (COVID-19) variants. "It makes sense from a science perspective."

He said that while the Biden administration doesn't have a crystal ball as to how many more variants may arise or cases may increase this winter, it's better to err on the side of caution.

Webb said that anyone over 12 should be looking to get the new booster.



Dr. Cameron Webb is White House senior policy adviser for COVID-19 equity in the Biden administration.

—SUBMITTED PHOTO

"I don't want to oversimplify this. But those with chronic diseases ... and definitely folks who are over 50" should get the new booster, he said.

"The reality here is that everyone should be getting it before the fall, especially since 99% of the variants are being targeted," Webb said. "You just don't want a gap in your protection."

He said it's not worth it to be out of work for four or five days without the booster, when people could just go about their normal busy lives if they go ahead and get the shot.

Webb also noted the valuable work that Philadelphia native Dr. Ala Stanford has been doing with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She led COVID-19 testing and vaccination efforts in Philadelphia before joining the Biden administration.

"We hope to multiply her (Stanford) impact. We're hoping to do similar work," he said.

As far as racial equity goes in tackling vaccination, Webb said that he's seeing progress and that vaccine hesitancy goes beyond race.

"Hesitancy is something that works on a lot of different planes," he said, citing geography, politics and economics. "We're also dealing with people who are like, 'I just don't want to get another shot.'"

Webb said that people also cite a

WEBB • 4A

Special election will fill two of four Council vacancies

Tom MacDonald
Mark Eichmann
WHYY

Two extra races will be added to ballots in Philadelphia this November.

City Council President Darrell Clarke has set up a pair of special elections to replace Councilmembers Maria Quiñones Sánchez and Cherelle Parker, who resigned their seats earlier this week to run for mayor.

The special elections will be held concurrently with the general election Nov. 8. The winners of the special elections will serve out the remaining council terms through next year.

Quiñones Sánchez in the 7th District and Parker in the 9th District represented nearly 340,000 residents.

"It is vitally important that more than 339,000 residents of the 7th and 9th Districts have full, active representation in Council, with access to the specific kinds of constituent services and district-specific legislation that can only be provided by their district councilmember," Clarke said in a written statement.

Former Councilmembers Derek Green, who also resigned this week, and Allan Domb, who resigned last month, will not be replaced this election cycle. Green and Domb are at-large Council members, representing the city as a whole, and the Council president decides when to replace them.

There's no primary for the special elections; rather the political party leaders will select their nominees to appear on the ballot. Whoever wins the special elections will serve only until next year's election when all council seats and the mayor's office are up for grabs.

"It's important that our elections be as open and democratic as possible," Clarke said. "I expect a full, robust process of candidates and voters considering all their options next year."

Quiñones Sanchez, Parker, and Green have all announced their campaigns to replace Mayor Jim Kenney. Domb has said he's exploring a mayoral campaign as well.

This article originally appeared on WHYY.org.



City Council President Darrell Clarke has set up a pair of special elections to replace Councilmembers Maria Quiñones Sánchez and Cherelle Parker, who resigned earlier this week to run for mayor. —TRIBUNE PHOTO/ABDUL R. SULAYMAN

City Council faces challenges despite resignations

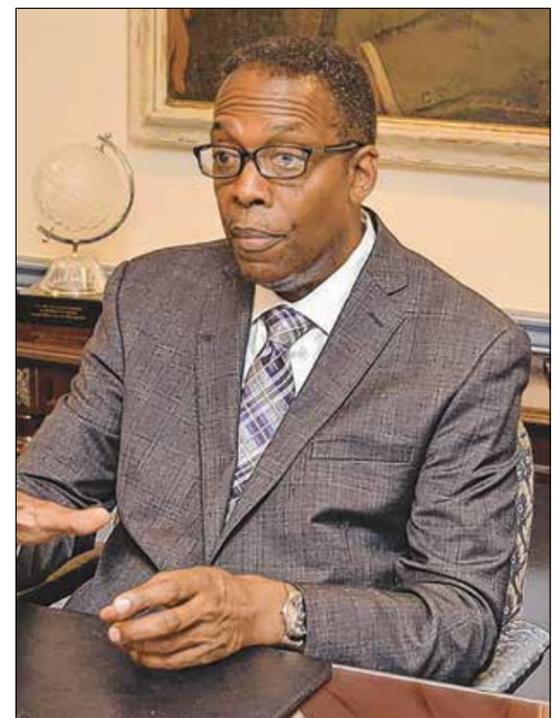
Stephen Williams
TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER

Members of City Council said sacrifices must be made to be sure that body functions to address the many urgent challenges facing Philadelphia, despite the resignations for four members in less than 30 days.

Last week, three Council

members resigned: Derek Green, an at-large member; Maria D. Quiñones Sánchez, who represents the 7th District, which includes part of North, the lower Northeast Philadelphia, including Kensington and Frankford; and Cherelle Parker, whose 9th District

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City Council President Darrell Clarke