

**BOARD OF DENTISTRY
2201 SHANNON PLACE SE – 2ND FL.
WASHINGTON, DC 20020**

**DATE: October 21, 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM**

**OPEN SESSION
MEETING AGENDA**

*****Please be advised that Board Meetings are recorded*****

WEBEX Virtual Meeting

The Board will be utilizing a hybrid schedule of virtual and in-person meetings. Please see the Board Meeting Calendar under the Executive Director's report for more information.

Information on how to access the public portion of the meeting is listed below:

This meeting is available by web:

<https://dcnet.webex.com/dcnet/j.php?MTID=mfdb8473983deb5f9ebaf6f6e35ce922b>

Meeting number: 2305 307 2741

Password: MjzkbvjG236

This meeting is available by phone:

1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington
D.C.) 1-650-479-3208 Call-in toll number
(US/Canada) Access code: 230 530 72741

****Any submissions from the public for the Board's consideration should be received by Board Staff, tiffany.johnson1@dc.gov, no later than 10 business days before the Board Meeting. ****

BOARD MEMBERS:	
Eric Bradshaw, DDS – Chairman	
Imani Lewis, DDS – Vice Chairman	
Brittany Campbell, RDH, MSDH – Dental Hygienist Board Member	
Chanelle Roberts, DDS – Dentist Board Member	
Jonelle Anamelechi, DDS – Dentist Board Member	
Vacant – Dentist Board Member	
Vacant – Consumer Member	
BOARD STAFF:	
Ericka L. Walker, MSW - Executive Director	
John O'Shaughnessy – Compliance Officer	
Rebecca Odrick-Austin, Board Investigator	
Zaneta Batts – Health Licensing Specialist	
Tiffany Johnson – Health Licensing Specialist	
LEGAL STAFF:	
Carla M. Williams, Senior Assistant General Counsel	

BOARD OF DENTISTRY

Open Session Meeting Agenda October 21, 2026.

ROLL CALL AND CALL TO ORDER:

OS-1021-01	A. Board Members B. Board Staff C. Legal Staff D. Department Staff E. Public Attendance
OS-1021-02	OPEN SESSION AGENDA: <u>BOARD ACTION:</u> The Board to accept the October 21, 2026 , Open Session Meeting Agenda.
OS-1021-03	OPEN SESSION MINUTES: <u>BOARD ACTION:</u> The Board to approve the September 16, 2026 , Open Session Meeting Minutes.
STAFF REPORTS:	
OS-1021-04	EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Mrs. Ericka Walker, Executive Director of the Board, 1. <u>DC Health Updates</u> 2. <u>BOD Calendar</u> - October 21, 2026 (Virtual) - November 18, 2026 (Virtual) - December 16, 2026 (In Person & Virtual) - January 20, 2027 (Virtual) - February 17, 2027 (Virtual) - March 17, 2027 (In Person & Virtual) - April 21, 2027 (Virtual) - May 19, 2027 (Virtual) - June 16, 2027 (In Person & Virtual) - July 21, 2027 (Virtual) - August (Recess) - September 15, 2027 (In Person & Virtual) 3. <u>BOD Census</u> Dentists (1275)

	Dental Hygienists (529) Dental Hygienists with the authority to administer Local Anesthesia (122) Dental Hygienists with the authority to administer Local Anesthesia & Nitrous Oxide (114) Dental Hygienists with the authority to administer Nitrous Oxide (3) Dental Assistant Level 1 (229) Dental Assistant Level 2 (681) Dental Assistant Level 3 (1) Teaching Licenses for Dentists (4) Teaching Licenses for Dental Hygienist (0) 4. The Mayor’s Office of Talent and Appointments (MOTA) recruits talented and interested individuals from all eight Wards to serve on District Boards. Link to apply to serve on a Board: https://mota.dc.gov/page/boards-vacancies-or-available-seats																																										
OS-1021-05	BOARD ATTORNEY’S REPORT: Ms. Carla Williams, Senior Assistant General Counsel,																																										
OS-1021-06	BOARD CHAIRMAN’S REPORT: Eric Bradshaw, DDS, Chairman of the Board,																																										
OS-1021-07	CONSENT AGENDA: The following applications were approved from September 8, 2026 – October 14, 2026: <table><thead><tr><th>First Name</th><th>Last Name</th><th>License Type Name</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Tavia</td><td>Brown</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td></tr><tr><td>Erika Ashley Palma</td><td>Billowitz</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td></tr><tr><td>Gianni</td><td>Bobbitt</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td></tr><tr><td>Naquila</td><td>Irving</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td></tr><tr><td>Madelyn</td><td>Rosado</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td></tr><tr><td>Khadija</td><td>Bhutto</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I</td></tr><tr><td>Kimberly</td><td>Limes</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td></tr><tr><td>Janyia</td><td>Taylor</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td></tr><tr><td>Yulissa</td><td>Romero</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td></tr><tr><td>Brithany</td><td>Buenano Flores</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td></tr><tr><td>Andrew</td><td>James IV</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td></tr><tr><td>Edgar Benigno</td><td>Garcia Quintanilla</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td></tr><tr><td>Eric</td><td>Jones Jr</td><td>DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II</td></tr></tbody></table>	First Name	Last Name	License Type Name	Tavia	Brown	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Erika Ashley Palma	Billowitz	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Gianni	Bobbitt	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Naquila	Irving	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Madelyn	Rosado	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Khadija	Bhutto	DENTAL ASSISTANT- LEVEL I	Kimberly	Limes	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Janyia	Taylor	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Yulissa	Romero	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Brithany	Buenano Flores	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Andrew	James IV	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Edgar Benigno	Garcia Quintanilla	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II	Eric	Jones Jr	DENTAL ASSISTANT - LEVEL II
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	<u>BOARD ACTION:</u> The Board to accept the September 8, 2026 – October 14, 2026, Consent Agenda.
DISCUSSION ITEMS	
OS-1021-08	<u>LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – OFFICE OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS</u> Mr. Matteo Lieb, Director of Government Relations, to discuss the following: School Health Certificate Modernization Amendment Act of 2026 - On July 6th, Councilmember Henderson introduced the <i>School Health Certificate Modernization Amendment Act of 2026</i> (B26-0725). - The legislation would require the Department of Health to create a digital system for receiving certificates of health and oral health for students attending public and private schools from health care providers. It would prohibit health care providers from charging for a certificate of health or certificate of oral health. It would require the Department of Health to create a tiered fee structure for health professional licensing and registration. - The bill has been referred to the Committee on Health with comments from the Committee of the Whole, and a hearing was held on September 24th. Public witnesses strongly supported digitizing the Universal Health Certificate (UHC) to reduce the administrative burden on school health staff. They also expressed support for a tiered fee structure to ensure health professionals can afford licensing in the District. DC Health testified in support of reforming the UHC to reduce barriers and ensure student safety. Student Health Care Amendment Act of 2026 - On May 11th, at the request of the Mayor, Chairman Mendelson introduced the <i>Student Health Care Amendment Act of 2026</i> (B26-0688).

	○ The legislation establishes that the Certificate of Health and Oral Health Assessment are standardized documents that incorporates lead poisoning testing that parents and legal guardians are required to submit on an annual basis. It also codifies DC Health's responsibility for undesignated epinephrine in schools and defers to the agency's undesignated emergency medications action plan. The bill also designates the Maryland Poison Center of the University of Maryland School of Pharmacy as the District's poison control center. Lastly, the bill repeals provisions that govern the Perinatal and Infant Health Advisory Committee. ▪ The bill has been jointly referred to the Committee on Health and the Committee of the Whole, and a hearing was held on September 24th. Vaccine Administration Protection Amendment Act of 2026 ▪ On February 26th, at the request of the Mayor, Chairman Mendelson introduced the <i>Vaccine Administration Protection Amendment Act of 2026</i> (B26-0606). ○ This legislation protects District healthcare providers seeking to provide access to safe and effective vaccines to District residents, and the organizations that employ them. If enacted, the proposed legislation would amend D.C. Official Code § 7-401 to ensure healthcare providers are not held liable for any injury caused by the prescribing, dispensing, ordering, furnishing, or administering of eligible vaccines or other immunizing agents. These include ones required by law or recommended by leading medical and public health entities. ▪ The bill has been referred to the Committee on Health and a hearing was held on September 24th. DC Health testified in support, emphasizing the importance of protecting healthcare providers from civil liability when administering vaccines. Dental Hygienist Amendment Act of 2026 ▪ Councilmember Henderson is expected to introduce the Dental Hygienist Amendment Act of 2026. This bill would amend the Health Occupations Revision Act of 1985 to allow the Board of Dentistry to grant dental hygiene licenses to foreign trained dentists, provided that their licensure requirements are consistent with the District's dental hygiene training requirements.
OS-1021-09	<u>DENTAL BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES</u> 1. <u>Credentials & Audits</u>: Dr. Channele Roberts, Dr. Eric Bradshaw 2. <u>Communications</u>: Dr. Jonelle Anamelechi 3. <u>Regulatory Affairs</u>: Dr. Imani Lewis, Mrs. Brittany Campbell

OS-1021-10	<u>INQUIRY FOR THE BOARD</u> The Board received an email requesting clarification regarding the use of diode lasers within the Dental Hygiene scope of practice. A. Email Inquiry
OS-1021-11	<u>COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC</u>

BOARD OF DENTISTRY**Open Session Meeting Agenda October 21, 2026****CLOSING**

OS-1021-12	<u>MOTION TO CLOSE</u> The Board member should move as follows: “Mister Chairman, I move that the Board temporarily close the Open Public session portion of the meeting and move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the following purposes: to discuss disciplinary matters pursuant to § 2-575(b)(9); to seek the advice of counsel to the board, to preserve the attorney-client privilege, or to approve settlement agreements pursuant to § 2-575(b)(4); and to plan, discuss, or hear reports concerning ongoing or planned investigations pursuant to § 2-575(b)(14).”	
	ROLE CALL VOTE	
	This temporarily concludes the Public Open Session of the meeting. The Board will now move into the Closed Executive Session portion of the meeting pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b) for the reasons set forth in the motion and will return following the Executive Session to provide the Board report, as appropriate, of action taken during the Executive Session. The Board will review applications, complaints, disciplinary matters and conduct interviews.	

OPEN SESSION BOARD REPORT

OS-1021-13	<u>BOARD ACTION:</u> Board report, as appropriate, of actions taken during the Executive Session. • Number of applications approved: • Number of complaints closed: • Number of interviews conducted:	
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MOTION TO ADJOURN**OS-1021-14** **MOTION TO ADJOURN****BOARD ACTION:**

The Board to adjourn the Open Session Meeting.

This meeting is governed by the Open Meetings Act. Please address any questions or complaints arising under this meeting to the Office of Open Government at opengovoffice@dc.gov.

This ends the Open Session Meeting
The next meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2026

Clarification of Dental Hygienist Scope of Practice: Diode Laser Bacterial Reduction

[REDACTED]

Date Fri 10/09/2026 10:38 AM

To Board of Dentistry, (DOH) <dcbod@dc.gov>

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the DC Government. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe. If you believe that this email is suspicious, please forward to phishing@dc.gov for additional analysis by OCTO Security Operations Center (SOC).

[REDACTED]

Dear D.C. Board of Dentistry,

I am a licensed dental hygienist practicing in Washington, D.C., and would appreciate clarification regarding the use of diode lasers within the dental hygiene scope of practice.

Specifically, may a licensed dental hygienist perform laser bacterial reduction using a Picasso diode laser following mechanical instrumentation?

The intended procedure is limited to bacterial reduction within the gingival sulcus or periodontal pockets. It does not involve gingival curettage, tissue removal, or soft tissue ablation.

Could you please clarify:

1. Is this procedure permitted for licensed dental hygienists in D.C.?
2. Is laser certification or additional training required?
3. What level of dentist supervision is required?
4. Does authorization depend on whether the laser device is capable of cutting soft tissue, even when used exclusively for bacterial reduction?

If possible, please provide the applicable regulation or Board guidance supporting your determination.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]