

Annual Report 2010

# Reaching for a New Bar





**Members of the D.C. Public Charter School Board:** from left: Don Soifer, Sara Mead, Brian Jones (Chair), Skip McKoy (Vice Chair), Emily Bloomfield, Darren Woodruff, Josephine Baker (Ex-officio & Secretary), Will Marshall

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The Board's **mission** is to provide quality public school options for D.C. students, families and communities through:

- A comprehensive application review process;
- Effective oversight;
- Meaningful support; and,
- Active engagement of its stakeholders.

The Board's **vision** is to lead the transformation of public education in D.C. and serve as a national role model for charter school authorizing and accountability.



## Message from Board Chair Brian Jones Reaching for a New Bar

The past year has been an exciting and challenging year of transition for the PCSB and the charter sector generally. For the Board, we bid farewell to two friends and colleagues, and to a legendary leader. Dora Marcus and Chairman Tom Nida both left the Board this year.

For the charter sector at large, we enjoyed the continued encouragement and support of the Obama Administration, working with the Mayor's Office, OSSE and DCPS to submit a lauded application for federal Race to the Top funds. However, we have also heeded the call to raise the bar on charter school performance, resulting in the closure of some low performing charters. While closing a school—even a low performing one—is difficult for all involved, at the end of the day my colleagues and I on the PCSB are committed to ensuring that District families find high quality educational choices among all of the city's charter schools.

Our former chair Tom Nida led an era of tremendous charter school growth and innovation, which was the catalyst for the reform efforts in the traditional public school system. Dr. Marcus, the board's longest-serving member, contributed her considerable insights on school performance and evaluation, and served as the board's Vice Chair during the latter part of her eight years of service. The two helped establish the board and D.C. as a national model for high quality charter authorizing, school choice and accountability.

With a critical mass of charter schools serving more than 28,000 students, nearly 40% of the city's public education population, we now turn our attention to ensuring that every charter school is high-performing, all schools are aggressively moving students to proficiency in core subjects and those schools that do not have the capacity to do so are closed. This year, we will use the results of our new Performance Management Framework (PMF) to assist with those determinations. Looking at standardized measures of success across all schools, we will be able to identify which schools are high-performing, mediocre and low-performing. We look forward to sharing our findings, and the appropriate rewards and consequences with our stakeholders.

As we advance our mission to provide high quality public school options for D.C. residents, we look forward to continued service as partners and contributors in the citywide effort to make Washington D.C. a place rich in innovative, diverse, high-quality educational options for all students.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian W. Jones'.

Brian W. Jones, J.D.

# Public Charter School Board



**BRIAN W. JONES, J.D., CHAIR**

*President, Latimer Education*

Mr. Jones leads Latimer Education Inc., a for-profit education company which is developing an online university for African Americans. Mr. Jones was previously senior counsel in the Postsecondary Education Practice Group at Dow Lohnes PLLC, a Washington, D.C.-based law firm. He has also held the positions of executive vice president and general counsel of College Loan Corporation (CLC) and the U.S. Department of Education's General Counsel.



**JOHN "SKIP" MCKOY, VICE CHAIR**

*Director of Programmatic Initiatives, Fight for Children*

Mr. McKoy works with local stakeholders to develop strategies for improving opportunities for underserved students. Prior to this role, he has held executive positions at the Anacostia Waterfront Corporation, DC Agenda, Lockheed Martin, and in the D.C. Government. Mr. McKoy has served as a board member of the Public Education Partnership Fund, the Humanities Council, and NPower for Greater D.C. Region.



**EMILY BLOOMFIELD**

*Senior Policy Advisor, Stand for Children*

Ms. Bloomfield is responsible for continually updating Stand for Children staff and field organizers on effective strategies in education reform and explaining key developments in national and state education policies. Prior to this role, Bloomfield was elected a member of the Board of Education in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) in California, and served as Vice-President and President of the Board.



**WILL MARSHALL**

*President and Founder, Progressive Policy Institute*

Mr. Marshall is president of the Progressive Policy Institute (PPI), a center for political innovation in Washington, D.C. He is a founder of the Democratic Leadership Council, and has worked on Capitol Hill, in political campaigns and in journalism. Marshall sits on the boards of the National Endowment for Democracy and Truman Democrats for National Security, and is honorary Vice-President of Policy Network, an international think tank launched by Tony Blair.



**SARA MEAD**

*Senior Research Fellow, New America Foundation*

Ms. Mead conducts research and writes about early childhood, elementary and secondary education with a particular focus on state and federal policy issues, including preschool, PreK-3rd education reform, the No Child Left Behind Act, federal education funding, charter schools and public school choice.



**DON SOIFER**

*Co-founder and Executive Vice President, Lexington Institute*

Mr. Soifer has published numerous articles and papers on education policy, accountability and assessments, higher education finance, closing achievement gaps for English language learners, and special education, in many of the nation's most influential publications. His research has been widely cited by education policymakers and scholars. He runs the Virginia Charter School Resource Center.



**DARREN WOODRUFF, Ph.D.**

*Principal Research Analyst, American Institutes for Research*

For more than ten years, Dr. Woodruff has worked on issues related to at-risk youth, special education, and school improvement. Among his most recent publications, Dr. Woodruff co-authored a chapter in the Harvard Civil Rights Project report on minority issues in special education. He has taught and counseled students at the elementary through college levels.



# Board News

## BRIAN JONES ELECTED NEW CHAIR

Brian Jones, formerly the board's vice chair, was elected chair of the D.C. Public Charter School Board by his fellow board members in February 2010. Mr. Jones was appointed in 2007 by Mayor Adrian Fenty. He has indicated in interviews and public comments that the current board will now focus intensely on ensuring that all charter schools are high quality and those that cannot meet the board's standards will be closed.

## FAREWELL TO THOMAS NIDA



The charter school community bid a fond farewell to outgoing chair Thomas Nida, who served on the board during a time of tremendous growth in D.C.'s charter sector. Mr. Nida was also instrumental in the board's efforts to strengthen its accountability systems and led the PCSB,

school leaders and community members through the difficult closure process of several low-performing schools. Fortunately, Mr. Nida has not gone far. He is now chair of the D.C.-based Charter School Management Research Initiative, a new non-profit established to study best practices of D.C. charter schools and share solutions with school leaders, support organizations, researchers and policy makers throughout the nation.

## NEW BOARD MEMBER

Emily Bloomfield was appointed as the board's newest member in March 2010 by Mayor Adrian Fenty. Ms. Bloomfield is a senior policy advisor for Stand for Children, an education advocacy non-profit that organizes communities in six states to advance initiatives promoting improved public education. She is responsible for continually updating Stand for Children staff and field organizers on effective strategies in education reform and explaining key developments in national and state education policies. She was previously the vice president and president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's Board of Education. During her five-year tenure on the School Board, she was instrumental in the overhaul of the

school district's curriculum, teaching methods, student academic support, school leadership and high school structure. Overall student scores in math and reading rose by 33 percent, while achievement scores for African American and Hispanic students in SMMUSD rose by more than 50 percent.

## COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP



The D.C. Public Charter School Board began recruiting members for its new Community Advisory Group during National Charter Schools Week in May 2010. The board's goal for the Community Advisory Group is to gather insights, feedback and community impressions from parents, students and community members about how the board's work is impacting D.C. communities. The informal, voluntary group will meet monthly or quarterly as needed with PCSB members and staff and serve as a sounding board for the PCSB's outreach and transparency efforts. Interested community members may contact Nona Mitchell Richardson, director of communications, at [nrichardson@dcpubliccharter.com](mailto:nrichardson@dcpubliccharter.com).

# 2009–2010 Board Actions\*

## AUGUST 17, 2009

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Approved Academia Bilingue Comunidad (ABC) PCS's request to relinquish its charter
- » Lifted Notice of Concern to Options PCS regarding attendance
- » Approved Excel Academy's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved with conditions Capital City PCS's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved Friendship Tech Prep PCS's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved National Collegiate Preparatory PCS's intent to co-locate

## SEPTEMBER 21, 2009

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Approved PCSB Table of Rewards and Consequences Policy
- » Issued Notices of Concern to the following schools that demonstrated 70–99% timely submission, accuracy and completion of compliance documents during the initial screen stage of the Compliance Review:
  - Academy for Learning Through the Arts PCS
  - Achievement Preparatory Academy PCS
  - Booker T. Washington Public Charter High School
  - Capital City PCS
  - Cesar Chavez PCS
  - Children's Studio School PCS
  - Community Academy PCS
  - Early Childhood Academy PCS
  - Hope Community PCS
  - Hospitality PCS
  - Howard Road Academy PCS
  - IDEA PCS
  - Ideal Academy PCS
  - Imagine Southeast PCS
  - Kamit Institute for Magnificent Achievers PCS
  - LAYC YouthBuild PCS
  - Mary McLeod Bethune Day Academy PCS
  - Next Step PCS
  - Nia Community PCS
  - Paul PCS
  - School for the Arts in Learning (SAIL) PCS

- Two Rivers PCS
- Washington Latin PCS
- Washington Math, Science and Technology (WMST) PCS
- William E. Doar, Jr. PCS
- Young America Works PCS
- Issued Notices of Deficiency to the following schools that demonstrated 69% or lower timely submission, accuracy and completion of compliance documents during the initial screen stage of the Compliance Review
  - City Collegiate PCS
  - Howard University Math and Science PCS
  - Approved Carlos Rosario PCS's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved Washington Latin PCS's request to operate in a new location

## OCTOBER 26, 2009

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Lifted Notice of Concern issued to Young America Works PCS due to financial reporting
- » Lifted Notices of Concern to the following schools due to compliance issues :
  - Capital City PCS
  - Cesar Chavez PCS
  - Community Academy PCS
  - Early Childhood Academy PCS
  - Howard Road Academy PCS
  - IDEA PCS
  - KAMIT PCS
  - NIA Community PCS
  - School for the Arts in Learning (SAIL) PCS
  - Two Rivers PCS
  - Washington Math Science & Technology PCS
  - Youth Build PCS
  - William E Doar, Jr PCS
- » Extended Notices of Concern to the following schools due to compliance issues:
  - Achievement Preparatory Academy PCS
  - ALTA PCS
  - Booker T. Washington PCS
  - Cesar Chavez PCS (all campuses)
  - Hospitality PCS
  - Next Step PCS

- Hope Community PCS
- Imagine Southeast PCS
- Mary McLeod Bethune PCS
- Paul PCS
- Washington Latin PCS
- Young America Works PCS

- » Issued Notices of Deficiency to the following schools due to compliance issues :
  - 1.Children's Studio PCS
  - 2.IDEAL Academy PCS

## DECEMBER 21, 2009

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Approved City Collegiate PCS's request to relinquish its charter
- » Approved continuance of Notice of Probation to Young America Works PCS
- » Approved proposal to extend Notice of Concern to Washington Latin PCS for failure to provide detailed inventory
- » Lifted Notices of Deficiency to Children's Studio PCS, Ideal Academy PCS – North Capitol Campus and Howard University PCMS for Mathematics and Science
- » Approved Hospitality PCS's technology plan
- » Conditionally approved Cesar Chavez PCS's technology plan
- » Conditionally approved Achievement Preparatory Academy PCS's technology plan
- » Approved proposal to change Approved Charter Applications Opening Timeline policy
- » Approved Hyde Leadership PCS' request to operate in a new location
- » Approved Appletree Early Learning PCS' request to increase enrollment ceiling and operate in new locations

## JANUARY 25, 2010

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Approved Next Step PCS's technology plan
- » Approved Washington Latin PCS's technology plan
- » Lifted Notice of Deficiency to Children's Studio PCS
- » Lifted Notice of Deficiency to Ideal Academy PCS

**\*All PCSB meetings take place in the PCSB conference room at 3333 14th Street, NW Washington, D.C., unless otherwise indicated.**

- » Lifted Notice of Deficiency to Howard University Middle School for Math & Science PCS
- » Issued Notice of Deficiency to National Collegiate Preparatory Academy PCS for compliance issues
- » Lifted Notice of Conditional Continuance of Charter to Maya Angelou PCS
- » Granted full charter continuance status to The Arts and Technology Academy PCS
- » Granted full charter continuance status to D. C. Bilingual Public Charter School
- » Granted full charter continuance status to E. L. Haynes PCS
- » Granted conditional continuance status to Hospitality PCS
- » Granted full charter continuance status to Meridian PCS
- » Granted full charter continuance status to Two Rivers PCS

#### **FEBRUARY 22, 2010**

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Approved PCSB Strategic Plan
- » Lifted Conditional continuance for Cesar Chavez PCS
- » Issued Charter Warning status to Academy for Learning Through the Arts PCS
- » Issued Charter Warning status to Potomac Lighthouse PCS

#### **MARCH 5, 2010**

- » Approved the proposal to revoke the charter of Young America Works Public Charter School

#### **APRIL 19, 2010**

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Approved Friendship PCS's technology plan
- » Approved Paul PCS's technology plan
- » Lifted National Collegiate Preparatory PCS's Notice of Deficiency regarding compliance review
- » Granted conditional charter continuance to William E. Doar Jr. PCS
- » Conditionally approved Inspired Teaching Demonstration School's charter application

- » Conditionally approved Munde Verde Bilingual School's charter application
- » Conditionally approved Shining Stars Montessori Academy's charter application
- » Conditionally approved Richard Wright School for Journalism and Media Arts' charter application

#### **APRIL 26, 2010**

- » Revoked the charter of Young America Works PCS
- » Approved LAYC Youthbuild PCS's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved LAYC Youthbuild PCS's request to increase its enrollment ceiling

#### **MAY 17, 2010**

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Issued Notice of Concern regarding attendance and truancy to the following schools
  - Center City PCS - Congress Heights
  - Center City PCS - Shaw
  - Community Academy PCS – Rand
  - Hope Community PCS – Lamond
  - Hospitality PCS
  - Howard Road Academy PCS – Penn. Ave.
  - Howard Road Academy PCS – Howard Rd.
  - Howard Road Academy PCS – MLK
  - IDEAL Academy PCS – Peabody St.
  - KAMIT PCS
  - Maya Angelou PCS – Evans Middle School
  - Maya Angelou PCS – Shaw
- » Approved Washington Math Science Technology PCS's technology plan
- » Approved Washington Yu Ying PCS's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved Carlos Rosario PCS's request to increase its enrollment ceiling
- » Approved DC Prep PCS's request to increase its enrollment ceiling
- » Approved Excel Academy PCS's request to increase its enrollment ceiling
- » Approved Next Step PCS's request to increase its enrollment ceiling

#### **JUNE 21, 2010**

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Approved Maya Angelou PCS's technology plan
- » Approved Center City PCS's technology plan
- » Approved St. Coletta PCS's technology plan
- » Approved Arts and Technology Academy PCS's request to add Pre-School
- » Approved Eagle Academy PCS's request to increase its enrollment ceiling
- » Approved E.L. Haynes PCS's request to increase its enrollment ceiling
- » Approved E.L. Haynes PCS's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved KIPP DC PCS's request to operate in a new location (KIPP DC: GROW PCS)
- » Approved Washington Latin PCS's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved the proposal to revoke the charter of KAMIT PCS
- » Approved Children's Studio PCS's request to relinquish its charter
- » Approved ALTA PCS's request to relinquish its charter

#### **JULY 19, 2010**

- » Accepted the report of reviewed contracts over \$25,000
- » Approved Maya Angelou PCS's amendment request to add an adult education program
- » Approved Washington Yu Ying PCS's previous request to operate in a new location with correct address reflected
- » Approved Septima Clark PCS's request to operate in a new location
- » Approved technology plan for EW Stokes PCS
- » Approved technology plan for Early Childhood Academy PCS
- » Issued Notice of Probation to Nia Community PCS regarding financial reporting and academic issues

# Board Operations

## EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT

### **Josephine Baker, Executive Director**

Directs the PCSB's operations, including staffing, policy and budget decisions; reports to and consults with board members on authorizer and D.C. charter school issues; represents the PCSB with local agency heads, city council members, the deputy mayor for education and the state superintendent of education; contributes to the national discussion on charter school policy and issues, interacting with the U.S. Department of Education and national charter school and authorizer organizations.

### **Tamara Lumpkin, Deputy Director**

Assists in the establishment of policies and procedures and work processes consistent with the PCSB's mission, vision and strategic priorities; directs the execution of the PCSB's charter school accountability model; collaborates with the leadership team to establish and maintain relationships between the oversight, support, technology, finance and communications functions.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### **Nona Mitchell Richardson, Director of Communications**

Directs the PCSB's strategic communications goals and initiatives; facilitates PCSB reporting, public access to information and accountability data, and community outreach and input.

### **Audrey Williams, Public Affairs Manager**

Maximizes the PCSB's relationships with other government agencies and community-based organizations for the benefit of D.C. students and families; Manages media and public relations initiatives.

### **Shenneth Dove-Morse Communications Associate**

Coordinates communications projects related to community outreach, information management and dissemination, publications, website content management, media relations, and event planning.

## FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

### **Jeremy Williams, Director of Business Oversight**

Oversees charter school financial accountability and manages the Board's budget and accountability.

### **Ino Okoawo, Operations Officer**

Administers board office operations and human resource functions; oversees charter schools' October enrollment submission and contracts submission processes for the Board; primary point of contact for questions relating to summer school, SPED, and ELL funding to public charter schools.

### **Patricia Cisneros, Operations Associate**

Administers board office operations and human resource functions; assists with the oversight of charter schools' October enrollment submission and contracts submission processes for the Board; primary point of contact for questions relating to charter school closures and student record transfers.

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

### **Lamont Brittain, Director of Information Technology**

Directs the Board's Information Technology (IT) infrastructure; supports staff members with their trouble-shooting and project-related IT needs.

### **Ashok Oli, Data Analyst**

Supports the Board's Information Technology (IT) infrastructure, including: analyzing data formats, configuring data applications and maintaining data integrity.

### **Oliver Williams, Data Specialist**

Supports the Board's Information Technology (IT) infrastructure, including: data formats, data applications and data integrity.

### **Imhotep Yakub, Network Administrator**

Supports the Board's Information Technology (IT) infrastructure, including: network and IT vendor coordination.

## SCHOOL PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

### **Jacqueline Scott-English Director of School Performance Management**

Directs the PCSB's monitoring and oversight processes, policy development and staff resources; directs the charter application review process.

### **Susan Miller, Assistant Director of School Performance Management**

Supports school effectiveness by providing academic oversight through analyzing and assisting with board review processes. Manages Program Development and Self Study Reviews, and curriculum development activities.

### **Taishya Adams, Non-Academic Performance Officer**

Supports school effectiveness by providing non-academic oversight, and provides guidance on accreditation and enrollment policies.

# Staff Organization

### **Sean T. Coleman, Ph.D., Non-Academic Performance Officer**

Supports school effectiveness by providing non-academic oversight, and provides guidance on school climate regulations and policies.

### **Charlotte Cureton, Non-Academic Performance Officer**

Supports school effectiveness by providing non-academic oversight, and guidance on high school performance.

### **Jackie L. Boddie, Ed.D., Academic Performance Officer**

Supports school effectiveness by providing academic oversight through analyzing and assisting with Board review processes.

### **Marissa Castro Mikoy, Academic Performance Officer**

Supports school effectiveness by providing academic oversight through analyzing and assisting with Board review processes.

### **Monique Miller, Academic Performance Officer**

Supports school effectiveness by providing academic oversight through analyzing and assisting with Board review processes.

### **Tammi Thomas, NCLB Technical Assistance Coordinator**

Supports school effectiveness by initiating, monitoring, and maintaining systems to ensure quality technical assistance activities are implemented for D.C. public charter schools identified as "in need of improvement". Interact directly with charter school leaders, PCSB staff, and external stakeholders to determine and secure appropriate technical assistance services for schools.

### **Carolyn Trice, Academic Performance Officer**

Supports school effectiveness by providing academic oversight through analyzing and assisting with Board review processes.

## ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

### **Beverly Delk, Board Administrative Coordinator**

Coordinates projects in support of Executive Management and board members.

### **Richard Fowler, School Performance Team Administrative Coordinator**

Coordinates projects in support of the School Performance Management team.

### **Ayanna Mackins, School Performance Team Administrative Coordinator**

Coordinates projects in support of the School Performance Management team.



## New Staff Members

The board welcomed six new staff members during the 2009–2010 fiscal year.



**Charlotte Cureton** joined the staff as part of the School Performance Team in October 2009. Mrs. Cureton brings valuable experience as a charter school leader and veteran teacher to the board's school oversight function as a non-academic performance officer.



**Ashok Oli**, data analyst, joined the staff in January 2010, to lend his research background and data analysis experience to the IT team's data management functions.



**Richard Fowler** joined the staff in May 2010 to lend his project management skills to the school performance team as an administrative coordinator.



**Tammi Thomas** returned to the staff in May 2010, after a four-year hiatus from the school performance team. She now serves as the NCLB technical assistance coordinator, bringing her background in teaching and experience in charter school authorizing in Baltimore, MD.



**Ayanna Mackins** joined the staff in May 2010 as an administrative coordinator, bringing her project coordination and database management skills from her experience working at a high-performing charter school.



**Oliver Williams**, data specialist, joined the staff in October 2009. Mr. Williams contributes his considerable software applications skills to the IT team's data management functions.



The D. C. Public Charter School Board's mission defines its four key functions:

1. Comprehensive application review process – ensures that the PCSB only approves charter school applicants with thorough applications, research-based programs, experienced leadership and community support.
2. Effective oversight – holds schools to high standards for results, and makes oversight decisions with the best interests of students in mind.
3. Meaningful support – identifies and addresses problems early, and rewards consistently high-performing schools with more autonomy.
4. Active engagement of its stakeholders – solicits community input, and strives to be responsive and transparent to all who are impacted by and impact the PCSB and public charter schools.

# PSCB Functions

# Charter Applications

## THIRTEEN APPLICATIONS RECEIVED

The D.C. Public Charter School Board (PCSB) did not accept or approve any charter applications during the 2008–2009 school year, due to a change in the PCSB's operational calendar that year.

After re-opening the charter application process for the 2009–2010 fiscal year, the PCSB received 13 applications by its February 2010 deadline. The PCSB's rigorous application review process included a technical review of each application, interviews with the founding groups and proposed principals, then public hearings in which applicants presented their proposals to the Board and the public, and community members testified in favor of or in opposition to the applications.

## FOUR APPLICATIONS APPROVED

The D.C. Public Charter School Board (PCSB) voted April 19, 2010 to conditionally approve four new public charter schools. The proposed charter schools are: Inspired Teaching Demonstration School, Munde Verde Bilingual School, Shining Stars Montessori Academy and Richard Wright School for Journalism and Media Arts. These schools received conditional approval and must satisfactorily address the required conditions outlined by the Board before they can be granted a charter to open in the fall of 2011. Six members of the Board voted on the applications with its newest member, Emily Bloomfield, abstaining. Nine school applications were denied.

- » **The Inspired Teaching Demonstration School**, a professional learning community of master teachers and teacher residents, will ensure that a diverse group of students achieve their potential as accomplished learners, thoughtful citizens, and imaginative and inquisitive problem solvers through a demanding, inquiry-based curriculum. The school plans to serve pre-school through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, but will open with pre-school through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.
- » **Mundo Verde Bilingual School** aims to foster high levels of academic achievement among a diverse group of students by preparing them to be successful and compassionate global stewards of their communities through an engaging curriculum focused on sustainability and bi-literacy. Mundo Verde will initially offer preschool through 1st grade classes and will add classes each year until it serves students through the 8th grade.

- » **Shining Stars Montessori Academy** plans to offer a quality Montessori education infused with culturally inclusive principles to guide children to develop to their fullest potential. In Phase I, the school will have pre-school, pre-K and kindergarten, and Phase II will expand to accommodate 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 6<sup>th</sup> grade.
- » **Richard Wright School for Journalism and Media Arts** aims to transform students in grades 8–12 into well-versed media contributors by providing a student-centered environment that connects them to the classics and modern languages and a curriculum focused on strong writing skills and vocabulary.

The Board will grant final approval once all conditions are satisfactorily addressed including securing a facility to operate in the 2011–2012 school year.

## NEW SCHOOL OPENING TIMELINE

The PCSB adopted a new charter school opening timeline policy in December 2009, which establishes a 15-month timeframe for opening of all newly authorized public charter schools, including the conversion of D.C. public schools or existing private or independent schools to public charter school status. This 15-month window allows schools to be included in the City's budget and provides schools the necessary time to adequately prepare for opening a new school.

## DENIED APPLICATIONS

- » Bertha B. Williams Academy – Reading, math & other core subjects
- » Gilchrist Academy – Middle School for Boys
- » DC Technology Academy – Elem/Middle with an online component
- » Tribeca – College Prep
- » Academy for Young Minds – Inclusion and gifted and talented
- » Naylor Road – Text-based intensive curriculum
- » University High – College High School with democratic studies theme
- » The House Academy – College prep middle school
- » Kuumba – Early childhood with integration of arts and African themes

# New School Openings

## Fall 2009

### NEW SCHOOL

**National Collegiate Preparatory Public Charter High School** was the only new public charter school approved during the 2008 application cycle. The school opened in fall 2009, in the Congress Heights neighborhood of Southeast Washington, D.C., serving 125 high school students. The students are encouraged to be critical thinkers and discoverers who actively embrace the school's credo of "Honor, Scholarship, and Leadership."

### EXPANSIONS

The PCSB approved the following charter schools to expand to additional campuses in fall 2009:

SCHOOL	LOCATION	GRADES SERVED
Cesar Chavez PCS Bruce Prep Campus Middle School	770 Kenyon Street, NW	6th – 8th
Friendship PCS Tech Prep Campus	620 Milwaukee Pl, SE	6th – 7th
Howard Road Academy PCS Martin Luther King Avenue Campus	2405 MLK, Jr. Ave., SE	7th – 8th
KIPP DC PCS		
Promise Academy Campus	4807 Benning Road, SE	1st
Discover Academy Campus	2600 Douglas Road SE	Pre-K
College Preparatory Campus	2600 Douglas Road SE	9th

# Charter School Oversight

The D.C. Public Charter School Board (PCSB), the authorizer of all D.C. public charter schools, is responsible for holding these schools accountable for the academic achievement of students who attend them. To be clear, the PCSB does not operate public charter schools, nor does it operate as a centralized school system. Rather, the PCSB authorizes non-profit boards of trustees to operate these publicly-funded schools, with independent responsibility for every input as well as every outcome. Each school submits academic and operational plans as a part of their charter application. The progress of those plans, in terms of student academic outcomes and management of public funds, is measured through the PCSB's comprehensive monitoring and system oversight.

During the 2009–2010 school year, the PCSB conducted:

**67 Program Development Reviews**

**99 Performance Management Framework Compliance Reviews**

**5 Self-Study Reviews**

**57 Governance Reviews**

**17 High School Transcript Reviews**

**165 Financial Statement Reviews**

**57 Audited Financial Statement Reviews**

**27 Financial Management Site-Based Reviews**

The PCSB's monitoring and oversight system includes self-study reviews of schools that have completed one year of operation; program development reviews of schools that have completed two or more years; compliance, governance reviews and financial reviews of all schools; high school transcript reviews; preliminary charter reviews of schools before each high-stakes charter review, which takes place every five years; and charter renewal every 15 years.

The PCSB's new Performance Management Framework (PMF), launched at the start of the 2009–2010 school year, takes the PCSB's already comprehensive oversight system one step further.

The PMF evaluates all D.C. public charter schools using common academic and non-academic measures, as well as measures of each school's unique mission. Each school's result will be more fairly comparable to other schools, which will enable the PCSB to make decisions about rewards to high-performing schools and consequences and supports to middle, low-performing and at-risk charter schools. The PCSB's evaluations and decisions will be much more transparent to stakeholders and will empower easier consumer decision-making. Additionally, school leaders will have a clearer understanding of performance expectations and will be able to use the information obtained from the PMF to make necessary adjustments to their programs.

PMF results will be reported publicly in early fall 2010. In addition, the PCSB will share each school's NCLB and AYP Report Card. All of this information will be made available on the PCSB's website [www.dcpubliccharter.com](http://www.dcpubliccharter.com).

## Review Outcomes

### PRELIMINARY CHARTER REVIEW

The PCSB conducts a review of each school's progress in the year before the high-stakes charter review, to determine if a school is in danger of charter revocation. If a school could possibly face charter revocation, the PCSB places the school in Charter Warning status, and provides specific guidance to avoid revocation.

Eleven schools underwent the preliminary charter review with the following outcomes:

- » Academy for Learning Through the Arts (ALTA) PCS – placed in Charter Warning status
- » AppleTree PCS
- » Bridges PCS
- » Capital City PCS
- » Early Childhood Academy (ECA) PCS
- » Hope Community PCS
- » Howard University Math Science (MS)<sup>2</sup> PCS
- » Paul PCS



- » Potomac Lighthouse PCS – placed in Charter Warning status
- » Tree of Life Community PCS
- » YouthBuild PCS

## CHARTER REVIEW

The PCSB conducts a high-stakes review every five years, which determines whether a charter school has served students well enough to continue another five years.

Seven schools underwent the Charter Review with the following outcomes:

- » Arts and Technology PCS – Granted full charter continuance
- » E.L. Haynes PCS – Granted full charter continuance
- » Two Rivers PCS – Granted full charter continuance
- » DC Bilingual PCS – Granted full charter continuance
- » Hospitality PCS – Granted conditional charter continuance
- » Meridian PCS – Granted full charter continuance
- » William E. Doar, Jr. PCS for Performing Arts – Granted conditional charter continuance

The PCSB's evaluations and decisions will be much more transparent to stakeholders and will empower easier consumer decision-making.

## School Closings 2009–2010

### CITY COLLEGIATE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

City Collegiate Public Charter School was authorized by the D.C. Public Charter School Board in 2006 to offer a rigorous standards-based middle/high school program, explored in a collaborative environment with the support of students' families.

**Closing Action:** City Collegiate PCS voluntarily relinquished its charter effective June 30, 2010, citing financial shortfalls resulting from declining enrollment.

### YOUNG AMERICA WORKS PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

Young America Works Public Charter School was authorized by the District of Columbia Board of Education to offer high school students a vocational/technical career-based program. The school opened in 2004 and as a result of the Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007, the PCSB assumed oversight authority over the school in June 2007.

**Closing Action:** PCSB revoked Young America Works' charter effective June 30, 2010, citing the school's failure to comply with the terms of its charter agreement.

### ACADEMY FOR LEARNING THROUGH THE ARTS (ALTA)

Academy for Learning through the Arts (ALTA) was authorized by the PCSB in 2005 as a year-round arts integrated school program serving students in grades pre-kindergarten through sixth grade.

**Closing Action:** ALTA voluntarily relinquished its charter effective June 30, 2010.

### CHILDREN'S STUDIO SCHOOL

Children's Studio School is a community-based arts organization, studio complex, and a full-day school of the arts and architecture for young children. The School was awarded its charter by the D.C. Board of Education in 1996 and reopened its full-day school in 1997. As a result of the Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007, the PCSB assumed oversight authority over the school in June 2007.

**Closing Action:** Children's Studio School voluntarily relinquished its charter effective June 30, 2010.

# DC Public Charter Schools

## WARD 1 Education Levels

27: C	APPLETREE EARLY LEARNING PCS ... (COLUMBIA HEIGHTS)	2750 14th Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
28: C	BOOKER T. WASHINGTON PCS	1346 Florida Ave NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
29: C	CAPITAL CITY PCS ... (LOWER)	3047 15th Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
34: C	CAPITAL CITY PCS ... (UPPER)	3220 16th Street, NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
97: C	CARLOS ROSARIO INTERNATIONAL PCS ... (BAPTIST CHURCH)	1501 Columbia Road NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
30: C	CARLOS ROSARIO INTERNATIONAL PCS ... (HARVARD)	1100 Harvard Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
31: C	CESAR CHAVEZ PREPARATORY ... (BRUCE)	770 Kenyon Street, NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
33: C	DC BILINGUAL PCS	1420 Columbia Road NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
44: C	E.L. HAYNES PCS	3600 Georgia Avenue NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
35: C	EDUCATION STRENGTHENS FAMILIES PCS	2355 Ontario Road NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
37: C	HOWARD UNIVERSITY MIDDLE SCHOOL (MS)	405 Howard Place NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
38: C	MAYA ANGELOU PCS ... (SHAW)	1851 9th Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
39: C	MERIDIAN PCS	1328 Florida Ave NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
40: C	NEXT STEP EL PROXIMO PASO PCS	1419 Columbia Road NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
41: C	YOUTHBUILD PCS	3014 14th Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A

## WARD 2 Education Levels

83: C	CENTER CITY PCS ... (SHAW)	711 N Street, NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
43: C	COMMUNITY ACADEMY PCS ... (BUTLER BILINGUAL)	5 Thomas Circle NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
45: C	KIPP DC: PCS ... (WILL ACADEMY)	421 P Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
46: C	SCHOOL FOR ARTS IN LEARNING (SAIL) PCS	1100 16th Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A

## WARD 4 Education Levels

1: C	BRIDGES PCS	1250 Taylor Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
79: C	CENTER CITY PCS ... (BRIGHTWOOD)	6008 Georgia Ave., NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
82: C	CENTER CITY PCS ... (PETWORTH)	510 Webster Street, NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
3: C	COMMUNITY ACADEMY PCS ... (AMOS II)	1351 Nicholson Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
2: C	COMMUNITY ACADEMY PCS ... (AMOS I)	1300 Allison Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
4: C	COMMUNITY ACADEMY PCS ... (ONLINE)	1351 Nicholson Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
5: C	HOPE COMMUNITY PCS ... (LAMOND)	6200 Kansas Avenue NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
6: C	HOSPITALITY PCS ... (ROOSEVELT HS)	4301 13th Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
7: C	IDEAL ACADEMY PCS ... (PEABODY)	100 Peabody Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
59: C	IDEAL ACADEMY PCS ... (NORTH CAPITOL)	6130 North Capitol St., NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
8: C	KAMIT INSTITUTE FOR MAGNIFICENT ACHIEVERS PCS	100 Peabody Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
9: C	LATIN AMERICAN MONTESSORI BILINGUAL (LAMB) PCS	1375 Missouri Ave NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
10: C	PAUL PCS	5800 8th Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
11: C	ROOTS PCS ... (MAIN)	15 Kennedy Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A

62: C	ROOTS PCS ... (NORTH CAPITOL)	6222 North Capitol Street, NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
89: C	WASHINGTON LATIN PCS ... (MIDDLE SCHOOL)	4115 16th Street, NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
13: C	WASHINGTON LATIN PCS ... (HIGH SCHOOL)	4715 16th Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A

## WARD 5 Education Levels

84: C	CENTER CITY PCS ... (TRINIDAD)	1217 West Virginia Ave., NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
14: C	COMMUNITY ACADEMY PCS ... (RAND TECHNOLOGY)	33 Riggs Road NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
76: C	COMMUNITY ACADEMY PCS ... (AMOS III)	1400 First Street, NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
15: C	D.C. PREPARATORY ... (EDGEWOOD MIDDLE)	701 Edgewood Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
16: C	D.C. PREPARATORY ... (EDGEWOOD ELEMENTARY)	707 Edgewood Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
36: C	ELSIE WHITLOW STOKES COMMUNITY FREEDOM PCS	3700 Oakview Terrace NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
17: C	FRIENDSHIP PCS ... (WOODRIDGE)	2959 Carlton Ave, NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
18: C	HOPE COMMUNITY PCS ... (TOLSON)	2917 8th Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
19: C	HYDE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY PCS	101 T Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
20: C	MARY MCLEOD BETHUNE DAY ACADEMY PCS	1404 Jackson Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
21: C	POTOMAC LIGHTHOUSE PCS	4401 8th Street, NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
22: C	TREE OF LIFE COMMUNITY PCS	2315 18th Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
24: C	WASHINGTON MATH SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY PCS	1920 Bladensburg Road NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
88: C	WASHINGTON YU YING PCS	4401 8th Street, NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
23: C	WILLIAM E. DOAR, JR. PCS ... (NORTHWEST)	3700 N. Capitol Street NW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
25: C	WILLIAM E. DOAR, JR. PCS ... (EDGEWOOD)	705 Edgewood Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A

## WARD 6 Education Levels

67: C	APPLETREE EARLY LEARNING PCS ... (RIVERSIDE)	680 I Street SW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
68: C	APPLETREE EARLY LEARNING PCS ... (AMIDON)	401 I Street SW	Ps Pk K E M J H A
80: C	CENTER CITY PCS ... (CAPITOL HILL)	1503 East Capitol Street, SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
69: C	CESAR CHAVEZ PCS FOR PUBLIC POLICY ... (CAPITOL HILL)	709 12th Street SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
70: C	EAGLE ACADEMY PCS	770 M Street SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
71: C	FRIENDSHIP PCS ... (CHAMBERLAIN)	1345 Potomac Ave SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
73: C	OPTIONS PCS	1375 E Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
74: C	ST. COLETTA OF GREATER WASHINGTON PCS	1901 Independence Ave SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
75: C	TWO RIVERS PCS ... (ELEMENTARY SCHOOL)	1227 4th Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
95: C	TWO RIVERS PCS ... (MIDDLE SCHOOL)	1234 4th Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A

## WARD 7 Education Levels

55: C	ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY PCS	5300 Blaine Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
56: C	CESAR CHAVEZ PCS FOR PUBLIC POLICY ... (PARKSIDE)	3701 Hayes Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A

77: C	D.C. PREPARATORY ... (BENNING ELEMENTARY)	100 41st Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
58: C	FRIENDSHIP PCS ... (JUNIOR ACADEMY - BLOW-PIERCE)	725 19th Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
57: C	FRIENDSHIP PCS ... (COLLEGIATE ACADEMY - WOODSON)	4095 Minnesota Ave NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
66: C	HOWARD ROAD ACADEMY PCS ... (G STREET)	4625 G Street SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
65: C	HOWARD ROAD ACADEMY PCS ... (PENNSYLVANIA AVE)	3000 Pennsylvania Ave SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
60: C	INTEGRATED DESIGN AND ELECTRONICS ACADEMY (IDEA) PCS	1027 45th Street NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
72: C	KIPP DC: PCS ... (KEY ACADEMY)	4801 Rennin Road, SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
52: C	NIA COMMUNITY PCS	100 41st Street, NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
64: C	SEED SCHOOL OF WASHINGTON DC PCS	4300 C Street SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
87: C	THEA BOWMAN PREPARATORY ACADEMY PCS	330 21st Street, NE	Ps Pk K E M J H A

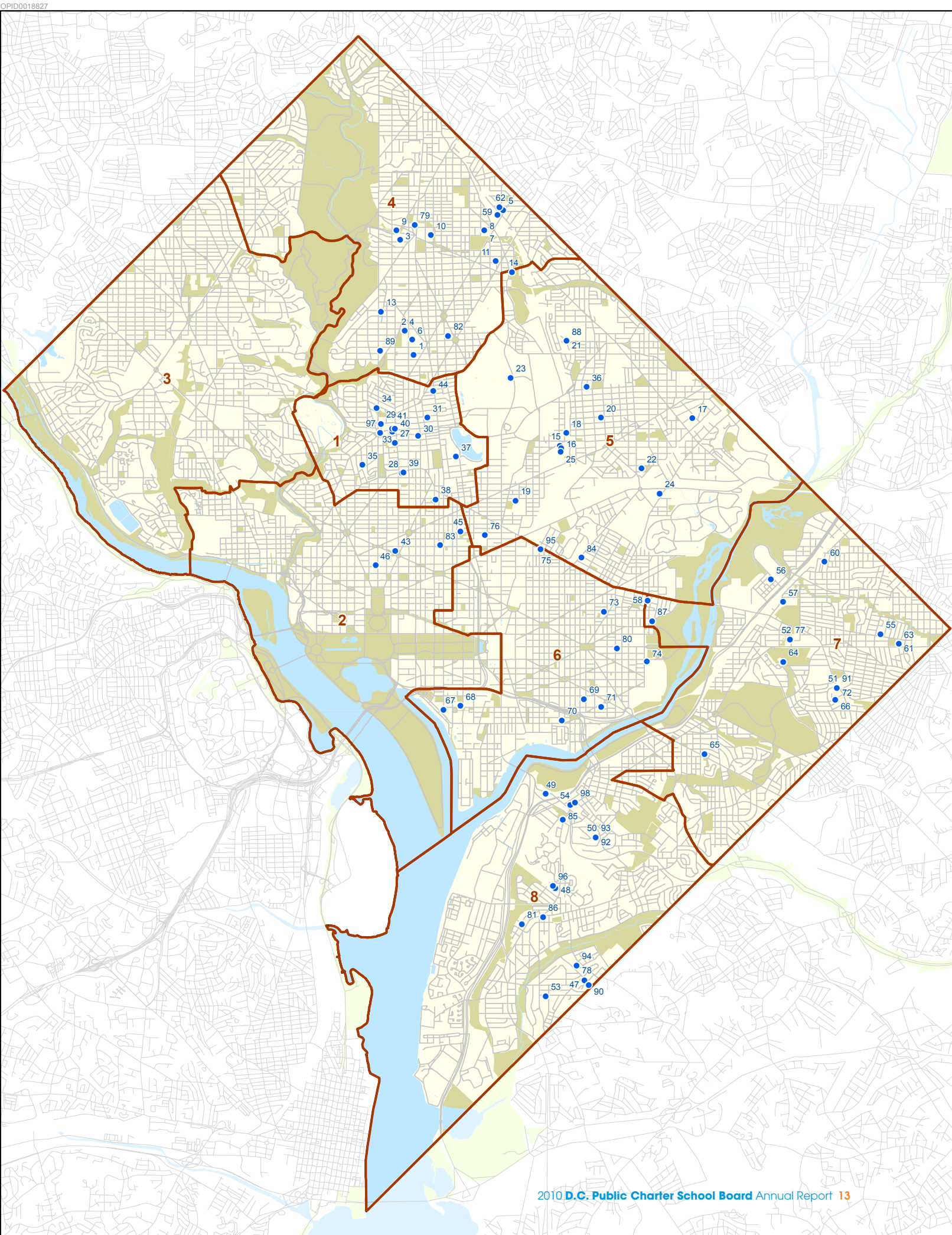
## WARD 8 Education Levels

78: C	ACHIEVEMENT PREPARATORY ACADEMY PCS	908 Wahler Place, SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
81: C	CENTER CITY PCS ... (CONGRESS HEIGHTS)	220 Highview Place, SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
90: C	EARLY CHILDHOOD ACADEMY PCS ... (WALTER WASHINGTON)	4301 9th Street SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
47: C	EARLY CHILDHOOD ACADEMY PCS ... (JOHNNING (MAIN BLDG))	4025 9th Street SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
85: C	EXCEL ACADEMY PCS	2501 Martin Luther King Ave., SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
96: C	FRIENDSHIP PCS ... (TECH PREP)	620 Milwaukee Pl, SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
48: C	FRIENDSHIP PCS ... (SOUTHEAST ELEMENTARY)	645 Milwaukee Place SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
98: C	HOWARD ROAD ACADEMY PCS ... (MIDDLE SCHOOL)	2405 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
49: C	HOWARD ROAD ACADEMY PCS ... (MAIN)	701 Howard Road SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
86: C	IMAGINE SOUTHEAST PCS	421 Alabama Ave., SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
50: C	KIPP DC: PCS ... (AIM ACADEMY)	2600 Douglass Rd SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
93: C	KIPP DC: PCS ... (COLLEGE PREPARATORY)		Ps Pk K E M J H A
92: C	KIPP DC: PCS ... (DISCOVER ACADEMY)	2600 Douglass Rd SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
94: C	NATIONAL COLLEGIATE PREPARATORY	908 Wahler Place SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
53: C	SEPTIMA CLARK PCS	425 Chesapeake Street SE	Ps Pk K E M J H A
54: C	THURGOOD MARSHALL ACADEMY PCS	2427 Martin Luther King Jr. B	Ps Pk K E M J H A

### KEY:

#### Levels:

Ps = Pre School  
Pk = Pre Kindergarten  
K = Kindergarten  
E = Elementary  
M = Middle  
J = Junior High School  
H = High School  
A = Adult Education



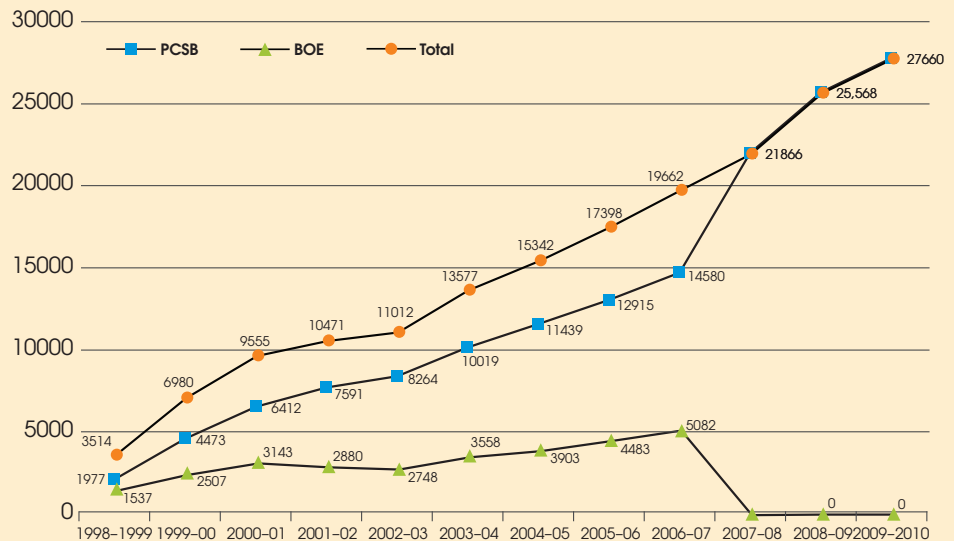


# Charter School Update

## 2009-2010 PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL PROFILE

# of schools	57
# of campuses	99
# of students	27,660
% Low-income	65
% English Language Learners	4
% Special Education	10
% African American	87
% Latino/Hispanic	9
% Caucasian	3
% Asian/Pacific Islander	1
% Native American	0
% Other	0

## 2009-2010 PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL ENROLLMENT TREND CHART



## 2009-2010 PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL OUTCOMES

Name of School	#of Graduating seniors	# of graduating juniors	# of college accepted	% of graduates accepted to college	# receiving scholarships	% receiving scholarships	Amount of Scholarship	# taking college entrance exams
Booker T Washington	52	0	33	63%	26	50%	197,500.00	42
Cesar Chavez-Parkside*	35	0	41	117%	11	31%	\$38,000.00	53
Cesar Chavez-Capital Hill	66	0	64	97%	17	26%	\$1,352,100.00	no report
DOAR	9	0	9	100%	no report	no report	no report	10
Friendship-Collegiate	234	0	234	100%	131	56%	\$6,184,504.00	198
Hospitality	28	0	28	100%	16	57%	\$237,050.00	16
Ideal	16	0	16	100%	16	100%	\$33,120.00	6
IDEA*	34	0	17	50%	13	38%	\$165,480.00	28
KIMA	24	0	23	96%	12	50%	\$305,229.00	15
Maya Angelou-Evans	33	0	33	100%	10	30%	\$301,500.00	29
Maya Angelou-Shaw	25	5	21	84%	6	24%	\$33,500.00	no report
HYDE Leadership*	30	0	30	100%	31	103%	\$86,025.00	47
SEED	27	0	27	100%	18	67%	\$499,828.00	19
Thurgood Marshall*	54	0	67	124%	55	102%	\$4,215,162.00	60
WMST	75	0	64	85%	49	65%	\$2,245,300.00	79
Young America Works	47	17	49	104%	2	4%	\$13,500.00	25
Total	789		756				15,907,798.00	

\* Note: number of students accepted to college and receiving scholarships includes summer graduates who were not included in # of graduates



## Special Honors and Accomplishments 2009–2010

### HOWARD UNIVERSITY MS<sup>2</sup> STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN ASTRONOMY NIGHT AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Howard University Middle School of Math and Science students, accompanied by their science teachers and principal, were among 150 guests from Washington, D.C. area schools who were hosted by President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama, for Astronomy Night on the White House South Lawn in October 2009. Astronomy Night was held in honor of the International Year of Astronomy. Students star-gazed and conducted hands-on experiments with astronomers from across the country. They talked with astronomers, astronauts, NASA staff and representatives from various museums and planetariums. Space heroes Buzz Aldrin, Sally Ride and Mae Jemison joined in with the students. They learned about their universe using more than 20 telescopes provided by NASA and other organizations.



Howard University MS<sup>2</sup> Student and Principal with Astronaut Mae Jemison at the White House Astronomy Night

March 20th and won the 28th Annual Washington Informer Spelling Bee Competition held at the NBC studios. He emerged victorious after a grueling 53-round spelling battle with his opponent. He went on to represent D.C. students in the National Spelling Bee in June.

### WASHINGTON, MATH, SCIENCE TECH STUDENTS HAVE LIVE DISCUSSION WITH NASA ASTRONAUTS

In November, 2010, Washington Mathematics Science Technology Public Charter High School (WMST) students participated in a live discussion with astronauts aboard the International Space Station. Invited by NASA Administrator Charles Bolden and Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, students asked the astronauts a variety of scientific questions about their experiences and research in space.

The downlink is one in a series with educational organizations in the U.S. and abroad to improve teaching and learning in science, technology,

engineering and mathematics. It is an integral component of Teaching From Space, a NASA Education office. Teaching From Space promotes learning opportunities and builds partnerships with the education community using the unique environment of human spaceflight. NASA Television aired a Video File from the downlink event.

### WASHINGTON LATIN STUDENTS STUDY ABROAD IN DOHA, QATAR AND ROME

Washington Latin PCS is one of two schools in the country supported by the Qatar Foundation International to offer Arabic. Over Spring Break, 16 students who study Arabic in the school's after-school program traveled to Doha, Qatar, where they met with students in girls' and boys' schools with whom Washington Latin had established partnerships. The school was also excited to send 13 students in the Latin IV Honors class to Rome to see the sights they are learning about in class.



Avery Coffey, 7th grade student at Howard University Middle School of Mathematics and Science earned 1st place in the Non-DCPS

Cluster Spelling Bee Competition which was held on February 19th. He went on the city wide competition on

## Special Honors and Accomplishments 2009–2010



### D.C. TEACHER OF THE YEAR: STEPHANIE DAY FRIENDSHIP CHAMBERLAIN

For the second year in a row, the D.C. Teacher of the Year honor went to a D.C. public charter school educator. Ms. Stephanie Day, the lead special education resource teacher at Friendship Public Charter School's Chamberlain Campus, was selected from thousands of teachers in the District of Columbia. Ms. Day was chosen as D.C. Teacher of the Year for her dedication to her students, commitment to the profession of teaching, and her capacity to serve as an ambassador and model for the teachers of the District of Columbia. She was selected by a panel of education leaders after an application process that included a written application and essays, an interview, and a classroom observation.

### WASHINGTON POST TEACHER AND LEADERSHIP AWARDS WINNERS

#### *E. W. Stokes Principal honored with Distinguished Educational Leadership Award*

The principal of E.W. Stokes Community Freedom Public Charter School, Patricia Crain de Galarce

was named the 2010 Charter School honoree as part of the Washington Post's Distinguished Educational Leadership Awards. Principal Galarce has been the Director of Education at Stokes School almost since its start in 1998. For the past twelve years, she has been chiefly responsible for the school's curriculum and support for the staff and students. Prior to Stokes School, she spent twenty years in the education field both domestically and abroad in Paraguay. She said she had heard about the award a few years ago, and had always hoped to win it one day. "Now that it's happened I am honored and humbled," she said.

#### *E. L. Haynes Teacher receives Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award*



### D.C. Teacher of the Year Stephanie Day with Education Secretary Arne Duncan and Friendship student

Nate Franz, a 5th grade math teacher at E. L. Haynes Public Charter School received the 2010 Agnes Meyer Outstanding Teacher Award in the charter school category. Mr. Franz is currently the E.L. Haynes Public Charter School's math department chair. Prior to teaching at Haynes, Mr. Franz taught at KIPP DC Key Academy and Friendship PCS – Woodridge campus. In an interview with reviewers from the PCSB, Franz stated that he feels that teaching is about "meeting all students where they are when they come into your classroom and taking them to places they never thought they would get to; it's about setting them up for success."

Both awards are given to principals and teachers in 20 school systems in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Each winner received a financial award and was recognized at award ceremonies hosted by the Washington Post.

### MERIDIAN PCS STUDENTS ATTENDED THE 2010 WORLD CUP

Two of Meridian Public Charter School's students, Francisco Garcia and Ahmed Washington, were selected as a part of the Grassroot Project's Team Up Campaign to travel to South Africa for the 2010 World Cup activities. The Team Up Campaign brings together youth in Washington, D.C. and South Africa, uniting them in a cultural exchange and HIV/AIDS education program to bring the global battle against AIDS to the 2010 World Cup. Garcia and Washington were accompanied by

**Secretary LaHood reads to students while  
Secretary Duncan listens in**

Meridian's athletic director, Robert Robinson. While in South Africa, Garcia, Washington, and Robinson joined other Washingtonians and South Africans to take historical tours, shop in the local markets, meet AIDS activists, compete in soccer tournaments, participate in community projects, and witness the 2010 World Cup.

**KIPP DC: AIM ACADEMY STUDENTS TAKE TRIP OF A LIFETIME THANKS TO GLOBAL EXPLORERS AND TRAVEL CHANNEL**

Twenty middle school students and one educator from KIPP DC: AIM Academy Public Charter School participated in a life-changing expedition to Costa Rica in July 2010. Global Explorers (GEx), a nonprofit organization, partnered with the Travel Channel to provide this unique opportunity to KIPP DC: AIM Academy Public Charter School.

The Global Explorers educational travel program emphasizes science, culture, and community service while developing skills such as problem solving, collaboration, self-awareness and communication. In addition to a ten-day expedition, the students have been studying Costa Rica for a semester and will be required

to develop their own community service initiatives in Washington, D.C. upon their return. Travel Channel staff members also hosted a pre-travel media skills retreat that equipped the group to bring their travel stories home in fun and exciting ways.

**PCS STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION'S "LET'S READ LET'S MOVE" EVENT**

Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood and local D.C. students from Arts and Technology Academy Public Charter School Arts & Technology Academy PCS, Meridian PCS and DC Bilingual PCS joined Secretary Arne Duncan for Let's Read. Let's Move. at the Department of Education's headquarters in Washington, D.C. LaHood read *The Little Engine That Could* to students and joined Duncan for a discussion about the book and the importance of summer learning, physical fitness and healthy eating. Following the reading and discussion, students received a free book; enjoyed healthy snacks; engaged in writing and enrichment activities; and rotated through fitness and game



stations featuring jump rope, hula hoops, basketball, bowling, putting, ring toss, corn hole, duck-duck-goose, hopscotch and musical chairs.

The goal of this new program, led by the Corporation for National and Community Service, is to get more Americans volunteering to combat childhood obesity and summer learning loss among youth.

Let's Read. Let's Move. is part of the Obama Administration's United We Serve summer service initiative, a nationwide effort calling on all Americans to make service a part of their daily lives. As part of its role in this initiative, the U.S. Department of Education invites Cabinet members and public officials to read books to children, promote healthy lifestyles and participate in games and fitness activities with children in pre-kindergarten through third grade.

**D.C. Achievers Scholarship Program**

This year, students from Maya Angelou Public Charter High School, Thurgood Marshall Public Charter High School and Friendship Collegiate Public Charter High School graduated with D.C. Achievers Scholarships that provide up to \$50,000 over four to five years for college expenses at four-year colleges or universities all over the country. The D.C. Achievers Scholarship Program is a multifaceted scholarship program that supports students from six high schools in Washington, D.C. that have high percentages of low-income students. Students receive support services while in high school and through their college career. The scholarship program is funded by a grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The first cohort of applicants was selected in 2007 and entered college in 2008. To date, 500 low-income youth in the District of Columbia have participated in the program.



# Stakeholder Engagement

## THE D.C. PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD WEBSITE

The PCSB's new, enhanced website was launched in November 2009. The site is easier to navigate, with content targeted to students, parents, community members, journalists, researchers and other interested in the PCSB's work and information about charter schools. New interactive features include a searchable database to find information about charter schools, subscriptions to content-specific updates and a special area just for school leaders. [www.dcpubliccharter.com](http://www.dcpubliccharter.com)

Google Analytics reports that there are an average of 10,000 visits and 40,000 page views to the website per month, with about 40,000 page views.

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETINGS



PCSB board meetings take place on the third Monday of every month, usually at 7:30pm, at the PCSB headquarters. These meetings, in which all board decisions are made, are always open to the public. There are designated times for public officials and community members to offer comments on any topics pertaining to the PCSB or charter schools. The date, time and agenda of each board meeting are posted on the PCSB website.

During the 2009–2010 fiscal year, the PCSB hosted 13 board meetings, all except two took place at the PCSB headquarters. Board members voted on charter school requests, charter reviews, sanctions and notices related to school performance, and board policy changes.

## PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public hearings are held primarily for three reasons: 1) as part of the charter application process; 2) when a school requests to amend its charter agreement; and 3) when a school has exercised its right to an informal hearing in response to a board proposal to revoke the school's charter. In each case, members of the public are asked to participate, by listening to the proposals presented and giving input on the impact of the possible decisions on the community.

The PCSB hosted eight public hearings; one on applications, two on charter revocation proposals, and five charter amendment requests.

## COMMUNITY FORUMS

The PCSB hosts community forums to discuss with community members decisions that may impact their communities directly. The forums are also intended to provide information to help parents and students make informed decisions about charter schools.

PCSB hosted two community forums related to school closures, to help families understand the reason for the closures and to assist them with transitions to new schools. The two forums, for students attending Young America Works and for students enrolled at ALTA and Children's Studio School, also included enrollment fairs to which charter and traditional schools were invited to share information about their programs.

## PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Each year PCSB members provide testimony during public hearings held by the Council of the District of Columbia, the State Board of Education, and the U.S. Congress, on topics related to PCSB performance and accountability, charter school performance, and citywide issues affecting children and youth.

PCSB members and leadership provided testimony at 10 hearings, held by the D.C. Council, the State Board of Education and the U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee.

## SOCIAL MEDIA

With the addition of the new website, PCSB has added social media tools such as Twitter, Facebook and Youtube



**Council chairman Vincent Gray, PCSB Executive Director Josephine Baker and PCSB member Darren Woodruff with families at the D.C. Charter School Expo in January 2010**

to interact with community members where they already are. PCSB staff tweet all of the board meetings as well as important board updates. The PCSB's Facebook page also provides opportunities for Facebook users to stay abreast of board news and offer comments. PCSB's Youtube channel shows videos produced by charter school students, school leaders and community members about charter school opportunities and experiences.

## **MEDIA RELATIONS**

The PCSB communications team manages regular engagement with print, television, radio and web-based journalists. PCSB spokespersons offer information on charter school performance, expert input on relevant issues, announcements of board decisions and policy statements and facilitate the research and investigation of issues for stories in the public interest.

PCSB staff issued more than 50 news releases, facilitated dozens of interviews with media outlets, and provided background information and statistics for numerous news stories.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS**

PCSB members and staff interact regularly with other D.C. Government agencies on the PCSB's accountability, charter school performance and on collaborative efforts of agencies that serve and support children, youth and families.

PCSB members and staff participated in meetings, working groups, and community events, with Mayor Adrian Fenty, D.C. councilmembers and staff, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education, the Office of Deputy Mayor for Education and staff, D.C. Public Schools, the Office of the City Administrator, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, the D.C. Department of Health, and other agencies regarding the city's education budget, special education services, school closings, school safety, early childhood education, healthy children, and common core standards, among other topics.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS**

PCSB members and staff host or participate in special events to raise awareness of the PCSB's role in education reform solutions and charter school options available to D.C. families.



The PCSB was again a participating sponsor in the 2009 D.C. Family Education Expo in fall 2009, sponsored the first annual D.C. Charter School Expo and Recruitment Fair in January 2010, a participating sponsor of Stone Soul Picnic in summer 2009 and hosted an Open House and Community Meet and Greet during National Charter Schools week in May 2010.

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS TO PCSB NEWS UPDATES**

Community members may take advantage of free subscription to PCSB email updates through the PCSB website. PCSB staff share with subscribers board meeting decisions, announcements of public hearings, community forums and new releases, at least once per month.

Subscriptions to the community email list increased from 600 members in 2008–2009 fiscal year to 1100 members during the 2009–2010 fiscal year.

## **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT**

The PCSB seeks to comply with the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Any member of the public may submit a request for any document that the PCSB generates as part of its work, or any documents or data collected from or about public charter schools. PCSB staff attempt to respond to all requests for information without delay, and to the fullest extent possible.

PCSB staff responded to 11 FOIA requests, related to school performance, financial data, parental complaints, and board decisions.

# Legislative Highlights

## HEALTHY SCHOOLS ACT

In the winter and spring of 2010, PCSB staff and charter advocates worked with the staff of Council member Mary Cheh's to develop the Healthy Schools Act. This legislation will require schools to serve more nutritious meals, increase physical and health education, and improve environmental, health and wellness programs in all D.C. public schools. The new law, which goes into effect in August 2010, will raise the nutritional standards and improve the quality of school meals. It will put more fresh, local fruits and vegetables on students' plates. The legislation will allow schools to provide free breakfast in all schools and require breakfast to be served in the classroom in schools with high poverty rates. The Healthy Schools Act will be funded by extending the District's 6 percent sales tax to include the sale of sweetened beverages.

## PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITIES WORKING GROUP

Last year, D.C. Council Chair Vincent Gray asked the PCSB to establish the Public Charter School Facilities Allotment Working Group to research and recommend an appropriate cost-based formula for the public charter school facilities allotment for FY2011 and future fiscal years. The group found that the actual costs for facilities to charter schools exceed the allotment the schools receive each year. The ideal formula for figuring the annual public charter school facilities allowance would meet both equity and sufficiency tests. The working group suggested that given FY 2011 budget realities, the sufficiency test cannot be met. However, it can and should be a goal for future

budgets. In the Mayor's FY 2011 budget the facilities per pupil allotment was increased to \$3,000 from \$2,880. In addition, the per pupil funding was increased to \$8,945 per student – a 2% increase from the previous year.

The FY 2011 budget also establishes an independent public education finance reform commission to study and report on the Uniform Per Student Funding Formula with regard to improving equity, adequacy, affordability and transparency. The commission will also make recommendations for increasing uniformity in the 2013 budget and succeeding years; examine weaknesses in the funding formula or in implementation that interfere with uniformity of funding.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION FACILITIES PLANNING

The Mayor will also establish an Office of Public Education Facilities Planning within the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education, responsible for the development of the Master Facilities Plan, which shall function as a citywide public education facilities plan. The PCSB will participate in this facilities planning by providing educational plans and policies for charter schools; establishing a public charter school facilities registry in which charter schools will have the opportunity to register to receive facilities planning and technical support from the planning office.

PCSB members and staff will continue to strengthen the relationships with the Mayor and the Council, by increasing the PCSB's operational transparency and accountability to all elected officials.



◀ Council chair Vince Gray discusses legislation with Ward 4 Councilmember Muriel Bowser

# Technical Assistance

The D.C. Public Charter School Board hosted or supported the following technical assistance workshops and training programs for school leaders and staff:

- » Accreditation Workshops
- » Application Review Process Workshop
- » Authorizer Oversight Information System (AOIS) Workshop Curriculum Development Workshops
- » DC CAS Workshops
- » Discipline Plan Development Workshops
- » Early Childhood Education Workshops
- » Governance Workshops
- » INFORM – Instructional Data Management System Workshop
- » Online Attendance Management System (OLAMS) Workshop
- » Performance Management Framework Workshops
- » Secondary Audit Review Training
- » Self-Study/Program Development Review Workshops
- » Trans-Atlantic Schools Innovation Alliance



# 2010 Financial Report

The D.C. Public Charter School Board (PCSB) has a long history of holding public charter schools to high standards of fiscal and operational accountability and in turn must be accountable to similar standards. Fiscal Year 2009–2010 marks the PCSB's 13th year of operation. PCSB's audited financial statements, as determined by independent auditor Kendall, Prebola and Jones, C. P. A., were exempt from material misstatements and fairly presented all governmental and major funds activities for the 12-month operating period ending September 30, 2009 (FY2009). In addition, as required per District auditing requirements, PCSB's FY2009 audited financial statements were presented in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, as well as, standards applicable to financial statements per government auditing standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

**Table A** shows the PCSB's FY2010 budget in comparison to that of the previous two fiscal periods. PCSB's FY2010 revenue projection of \$7.0 million represents an increase of \$1.9 million, or 37%, over FY2009 actual revenues of \$5.1 million. Most of the revenue growth (50%) is attributable to the anticipated

receipt of federal grant funds (\$1.4 million) to support the enhancement of PCSB's oversight platform and the release of previously restricted private grant funds (\$1.5 million). Appropriations received from the D.C. government account for 24% of FY10 revenues.

Consistent with historical growth trends, the charter sector expanded in terms of student population, from 25,568 students in SY 2008–2009 to 27,660 in SY 2009–2010. One new school opened, and six schools added additional campuses, for a total of 57 charter schools on 99 campuses. The additional monitoring costs outpaced the increases in revenue, yet the PCSB again maintained, and in some cases increased, the comprehensive oversight practices that have made the PCSB a national model for authorizing.

Program-related expenses are anticipated to increase substantially (62%) as a result of new oversight platforms being implemented to better monitor the programmatic performance of the charter schools. Approximately \$745K of the program's budget has been allocated to reimburse schools for information technology enhancements to affect school reporting to PCSB. Another \$891K is

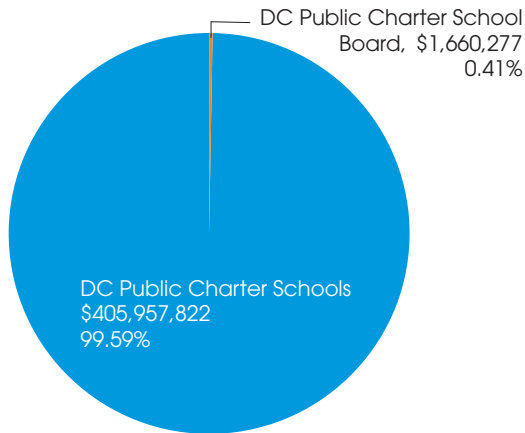
**TABLE A: THREE-YEAR BUDGET ANALYSIS**

	2008	2009	2010E*
Local appropriations	\$1,718,630	\$1,660,277	\$1,660,277
Admin fees	\$1,487,882	\$1,828,073	\$1,879,394
Other Revenue	\$157,213	\$1,622,694	\$3,476,173
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,363,725</b>	<b>\$5,111,043</b>	<b>\$7,015,844</b>
Personnel Costs	\$1,677,888	\$1,907,490	\$2,217,276
Program-related costs	\$1,412,047	\$2,485,517	\$4,033,417
Facilities-related costs	\$307,166	\$355,422	\$389,270
Other costs	\$255,402	\$293,249	\$265,297
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$3,652,503</b>	<b>\$3,874,854</b>	<b>\$6,905,260</b>
# of students	21,866	25,568	27,660
Revenue per student	\$153.83	\$199.90	\$253.65
Expenses per student	\$167.04	\$151.55	\$195.00
# of employees	21	24	27
# of students per PCSB staff	1,041	1,065	1,024

\* Estimated not actual – FY ends September 30, 2010



**CHART A: DC PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL BUDGET FY2010**



earmarked to assist PCSB in the enhancement of its own information technology infrastructure. Personnel, facilities, and "other" costs centers increased by 16%, 10%, and -10%, respectively.

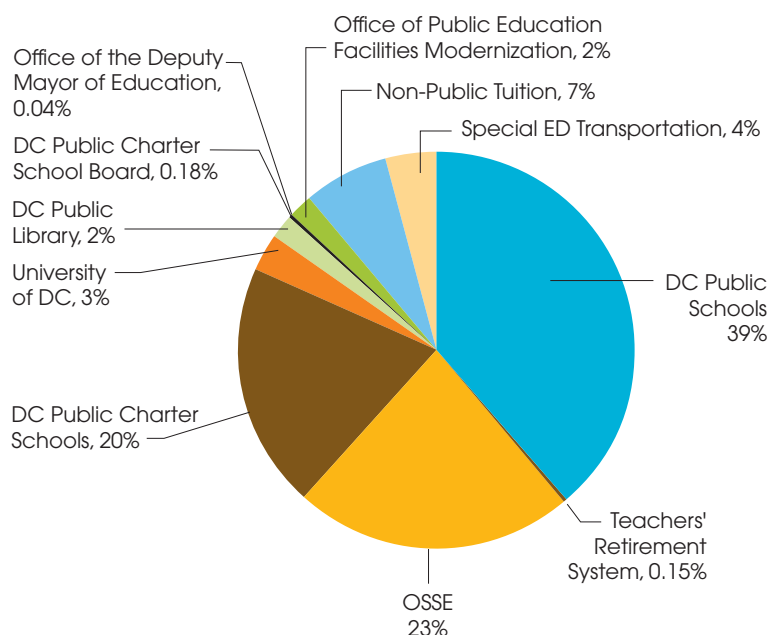
Excluding grants which did not come from local coffers and administration fees which are already captured via the charter schools budget, the PCSB's FY2010 local funds revenues represent about .41% (see **Chart A**) of the District's \$405 million charter school budget and .18% (see **Chart B**) of the District's \$2.02 billion total public education budget. Our per-student cost to taxpayers for FY2010 amounts to approximately \$195 per student—the city's average spending per student is approximately \$14K. The \$195 per student costs represents a 27% cost increase relative to FY2009 per student expenditures of \$153 per student. These facts make a strong statement about the PCSB's value to taxpayers as an independent government agency which strives to remain lean and efficient.

Similar to past fiscal years, PCSB continues to prioritize core programs to support the reviews, monitoring, support services, and accountability to stakeholders. The organization also continues to work to reduce programmatic outlays to

The PCSB's FY2010 local funds revenues represent .41% of the District's \$405 million charter school budget and .18% of the District's \$2.02 billion total public education budget.

consultants by redirecting more oversight workflow to full-time employees. Even though projected total consultant-related programs outlays are substantially higher (\$1.5 million) than they were for FY2009, the average-costs per consultant engagement remains steady at approximately \$3,500 per engagement (review-specific engagements).

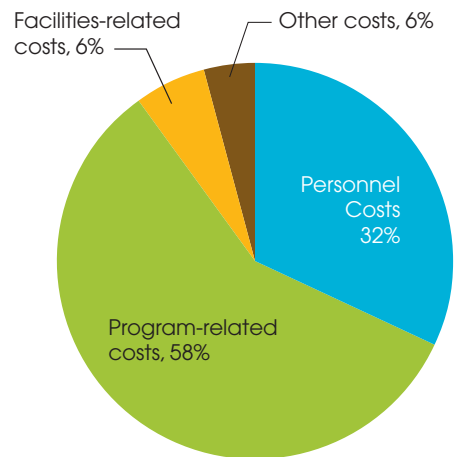
**CHART B: DC PUBLIC EDUCATION BUDGET FY2010**



**Chart C** illustrates the PCSB's proportionate expenditures relative to revenue for FY2010. Personnel and program-related expenditures account for 32% and 58% of revenues respectively. Personnel expenditures are expected to increase 16% for FY2010 relative to FY2009 figures. The bulk of this increase was required to support the addition of three new staff members to the PCSB team. Additionally, a reduced reliance on specialized consultants for certain programs-related reviews required that additional personnel expenditures be incurred to maintain appropriate levels of oversight effectiveness. Programs-related expenditures for FY2010 are expected to increase by 62% relative to FY2009 levels as a result of the implementation of specialized oversight platforms and technical assistance initiatives being implemented to enhance the quality of charter school governance, financial management and leadership capacities. The remaining 10% of the budget is slated to be spent on facilities expenses and back-office operations.

**Chart D** demonstrates that a higher percentage of the PCSB's revenues came from non-local revenue sources than from administration fees received from charter schools or the city's budget appropriations in FY2010. Charter schools are billed at the rate of ½ of 1% of their annual budgets. This reverses a 12-year trend whereby

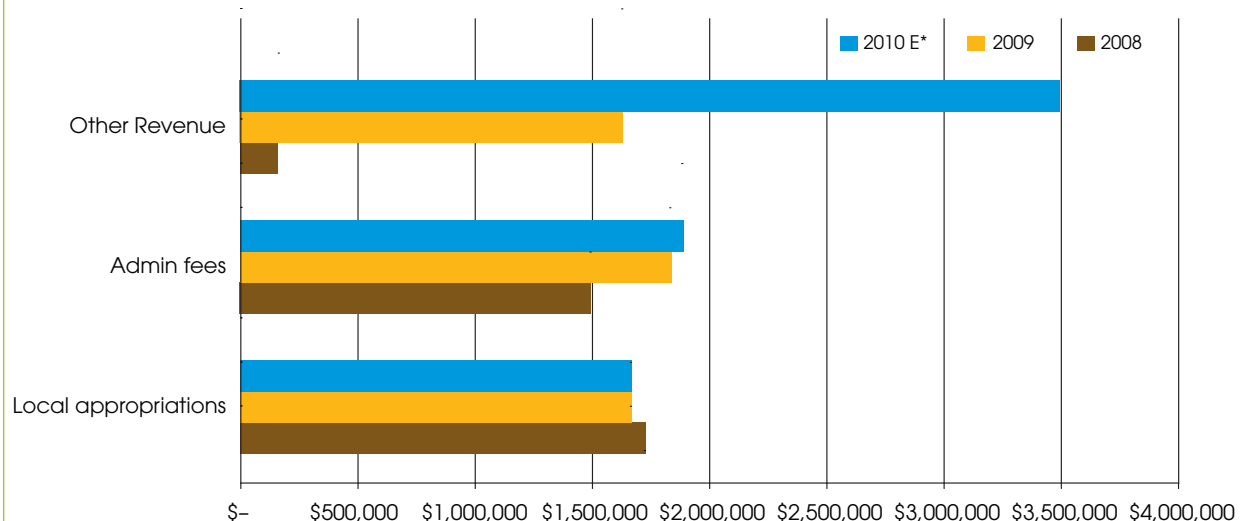
**CHART C: MAJOR EXPENDITURES AS PERCENTAGE OF REVENUE FOR FY2010**



PCSB has historically received more from local coffers than from non-local coffers. The organization continues to solicit funds from private donors to enhance the quality of charter school oversight in the District.

PCSB members and staff remain vigilant about using taxpayer funding responsibly, efficiently, and with the highest levels of transparency. Careful oversight of bookkeeping and budget discipline will maintain the PCSB's long-standing record of strong fiscal management, and will serve the educational interests of Washington, D.C.'s students, families and communities.

**CHART D: THREE-YEAR REVENUE ANALYSIS (2008-2010)**





Jeremy Williams, Director of Business Oversight, discusses with school leaders the importance of sound financial planning

**District of Columbia Public Charter School Board**

2010 Annual Report – July 30, 2010

Josephine Baker, executive director

Nona Mitchell Richardson, editor

Audrey Williams, contributor

Shenneth Dove-Morse, contributor

