



November 18, 2013

Mr. Benjamin Feit
Democracy Prep DC PCS
207 West 133rd Street
New York, New York 10030

Dear Mr. Feit,

The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (“PCSB”) has completed the 2013-2014 Experienced Operator Application Review process. As you know, at its public meeting held November 18, 2013, the PCSB Board approved your application to establish the Democracy Prep-DC as a public charter school in the District of Columbia. This approval is contingent on the satisfaction of all of the PCSB Board’s conditions and the successful negotiation of a mutually acceptable charter.

The PCSB Board’s decision was based on a thorough evaluation of the written application by the PCSB Board and staff; and information gathered from due diligence, the applicant interview, site visits as well as the public hearing.

Enclosed is a list of conditions that must be satisfied for full approval. PCSB staff will contact you to schedule an appointment to discuss these conditions. At this meeting, PCSB staff will coordinate with Democracy Prep-DC PCS to establish milestones for the completion of the conditions and discuss, in more detail, next steps in the process.

Thank you for your commitment to improving public education in the District and we look forward to having Democracy Prep-DC join the DC charter school community.

Sincerely,

A black rectangular box redacting the signature of John H. McKoy.

John H. “Skip” McKoy
Board Chair

Enclosure

**Democracy Prep-DC Public Charter School (Democracy Prep DC PCS)
Conditions for Full Approval**

February 21, 2014

1. Commit that DPPS will operate no more than one school at one location in Washington, DC in the first year of operation. This restriction can be waived by vote of the PCSB Board.
2. Submit an updated implementation plan that delineates responsible persons, activities, and deadlines related to student recruitment and incorporates deadlines for the conditions established by PCSB.
3. Submit a more detailed strategic community engagement plan based on the DC public education climate that delineates a timeline and persons responsible for implementation of the plan
4. A timeline for hiring key personnel in the areas of curriculum-design and development, operations, and school leadership (e.g. principal, head of school, teachers, business manager and/or chief operating officer) tasked with meeting planning year requirements.
5. Develop an independent Board of Trustees for the public charter school that includes a timeline for recruiting two parents.
6. Submit the proposed rules and policies for governance and operation of the school.
7. Submit final copies of incorporation documents (articles of incorporation and bylaws) approved by the Democracy Prep DC PCS Board of Trustees in which one of the documents includes the dissolution clause as required by the DC School Reform Act.
8. Submit the proposed procedures to ensure the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors.
9. Submit an assurance to seek, obtain, and maintain accreditation that is approved by the Democracy Prep DC PCS Board of Trustees and signed by the board chair.
10. Submit a statement of the relationship between the school and its employees.
11. Submit the proposed policy of random selection.
12. Submit the proposed disciplinary policies.
13. Submit a certificate of insurance that includes general liability, property, and trustees and employees' liability coverage for both sites.
14. Submit an executed charter management agreement between Democracy Prep DC

PCS Board of Trustees and Democracy Prep Public Schools. This charter management agreement shall include provisions for the DPDC Board of Trustees to terminate the agreement based on poor academic performance. Include in the agreement a clause that states undue financial hardship will not occur as a result of the Democracy Prep DC PCS's Board of Trustees' decision to terminate its contract.

15. Clarify and streamline goals in the charter application to be included in the charter agreement.

April 15, 2014

1. Submit completed curriculum maps aligned to CCSS for all core courses offered in the first year of operation. The curriculum must include: goals/objectives, standards, instructional strategies to be used, summative assessments, resources (instructional materials), and be customized to serve DPDC versus existing DPPS campuses, as necessary; the curriculum must describe how the DPDC curriculum will differ from the existing DPPS curriculum if DPDC opens in prekindergarten and does not need to focus as intently on remediation.
2. Submit a signed memorandum of understanding between Democracy Prep DC PCS and the vendor that will provide early childhood services to your prekindergarten students.

May 16, 2014

1. Secure a sufficient school facility as evidenced by a lease or purchase agreement.

May 30, 2014

1. Submit a signed and executed charter agreement with all attachments to PCSB for PCSB Board vote at its June 16 public meeting.