



# **Health/Safety Site Visit Summary for Maya Angelou Public Charter School Residential Program**

Maya Angelou Public Charter School  
5600 East Capitol Street NE  
Washington, DC 20019

The DC Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) seeks to ensure that public charter schools operating residential programs provide a secure living environment that protects the health and safety of all students, as required by DC Code § 38-1802.04(c)(4). To that end, DC PCSB will conduct at least one scheduled visit to all residential programs annually to assess health and safety.<sup>1</sup> The on-site visit will be conducted by at least one DC PCSB staff member or consultant and will consist of an interview with the personnel directly responsible for the residential programming and facility, and a walkthrough of the school's residential building(s), although not necessarily on the same day. If residences are located at multiple sites, the visit may take place over multiple days.

The school visit will focus on observing conditions related to health and safety, as outlined in the attached checklist, and may occur during daytime or evening hours. Following the visit, DC PCSB will send a report to school leadership identifying strengths and areas of concern. DC PCSB may conduct a follow-up visit or take further action, as appropriate, to ensure any areas of concern are satisfactorily addressed by the school.

School leaders should provide DC PCSB with a copy of the following documents in advance of the school visit:

- Schedules for the residential program,
- Staff roster for staff involved in the residential program, and
- Any additional documents requested by DC PCSB, which will be shared with the school prior to the visit.

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<sup>1</sup> As it deems necessary, DC PCSB may conduct additional on-site visits, either scheduled or unscheduled.

**RESIDENTIAL EDUCATION SITE VISIT SUMMARY FORM  
MAYA ANGELOU PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL**

<b>Date of School Visit</b>	October 22, 2019
<b>School Staff Present</b>	Tuesday Hence, Director of Residential Programs
<b>Observation Team</b>	Jiselle O’Neal, DC PCSB Sr. Specialist, School Support Ryan Kool, DC PCSB Consultant
<b>Notes from School Interview</b>	<p>Maya Angelou Public Charter School (Maya Angelou PCS) currently has 28 students enrolled in the residential program from grades 9 – 12.</p> <p>The school has six homes located in Northeast and Southeast DC, which are labeled in this report as Houses 1 – 6. Each home is staffed with one residential counselor, and students stay in either a single or double occupancy bedroom. Four homes are designated for girls and two are for boys.</p>
<b>Overall Summary</b>	<p><b><u>Observation Summary</u></b> All six residential homes were observed. Overall, homes appeared safe and clean.</p> <p><b><u>Required Corrective Actions</u></b> Maya Angelou PCS must provide its most recent Fire Marshall or Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs report to DC PCSB by January 15, 2020.</p> <p>Update: Received required documentation on January 15, 2020.</p> <p><b><u>Recommended Corrective Actions</u></b> The following areas of concern were identified, which DC PCSB recommends the school address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>House 4</b> - Chemical/cleaning supplies were not stored and locked when not in use.</li> <li>• <b>House 6</b> – dead bugs were found in the windowsill.</li> <li>• <b>House 5</b> – car battery was in a wagon in the yard and not properly disposed of.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>House 2, House 5, and House 6</b> – window screens were missing in one of the bedrooms, kitchen, basement, and/or living room.</li> <li>• <b>House 2, House 5, and House 6</b> – dressers were missing knobs (House 2 and House 5) or missing a drawer (House 6).</li> </ul>
<b>Recommendation for Follow-Up Visit<sup>2</sup></b>	No

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<sup>2</sup> If DC PCSB staff has any serious concerns, DC PCSB will conduct a follow-up visit to ensure all concerns have been satisfactorily addressed. Failure to address concerns to DC PCSB’s satisfaction may result in further action by the Board.

### Health/Safety Site Visit Protocol Observation Checklist

Criterion	Evidence <sup>3</sup>	Yes/No	Notes
<b>RESIDENCE IS SAFE AND EQUIPPED TO HANDLE EMERGENCY EVACUATION</b>			
School provides a final report via EpiCenter from the Fire Marshal indicating that it has passed its annual inspection, and that the residence is safe and equipped to handle an emergency evacuation <sup>4</sup>	N/A	N/A	Received January 15, 2020
<b>PREMISES ARE HABITABLE AND CLEAN</b>			
<b>Building/Grounds</b>			
Facility is protected from insect (including bed bugs) or rodent infestation (and is treated as needed)	<p><b>House 3</b> a live stink bug was found in the bedroom</p> <p><b>House 6</b> dead bugs found in the windowsill of a bedroom</p>	Yes	Each house receives a monthly visit from Terminix.
Facility is appropriately accessible to staff and students		Yes	
The living unit (hallways) is provided with emergency lights (such as flashlights, battery operated lanterns) that are in good working condition	Flashlights were visible and easily available in each house	Yes	

<sup>3</sup> Schools may be asked to provide examples of possible evidence for each criterion in advance of the visit.

<sup>4</sup> DC PCSB may also contact the Fire Marshal directly as DC PCSB deems necessary.

Criterion	Evidence <sup>3</sup>	Yes/No	Notes
All hazardous materials such as matches, lighters, medicines, drugs, cleaning materials, toxic substances, and other such materials are kept in a place inaccessible to students (with the exemption of student usage supervised by staff, e.g., cleaning materials, culinary supplies, etc.)	<p><b>House 4</b> Clorox cleaner left under sink in bathroom and not locked after use</p> <p><b>House 5</b> car battery was in the yard and not properly disposed of</p>	Yes	Car batteries did not seem to belong to the school and school staff were unaware of their presence.
Trash is removed on a regular basis and collection receptacles are stored in noncombustible, covered containers		Yes	
No significant peeling or damaged paint or plaster is present		Yes	
Space for informal and recreational use by the students is maintained; if applicable, outdoor play spaces with equipment must be in good working condition		Yes	
Doors can be opened from both sides for all closets, bedrooms, and bathrooms		Yes	

Criterion	Evidence <sup>3</sup>	Yes/No	Notes
On all exterior windows large enough to be exits that can be opened and doors that may be left open, screens fit, are in good repair, and are removable in emergencies	<p><b>House 2</b> bedroom had no screens in window</p> <p><b>House 5</b> basement window missing screen and hanging off of window</p> <p><b>House 6</b> no window screens in living room or kitchen</p>	No	
Promotes a smoke free environment	"No smoking" signs visible in all homes	Yes	
<b>Beds/ Bedrooms</b>			
Beds are adequate in height and length for student height		Yes	
Beds are solidly constructed and have a clean, comfortable, nontoxic and fire-retardant mattress capable of being disinfected		Yes	
Maintain separate sleeping rooms for boys and girls		Yes	Boys and girls are in separate homes
The mattress of any bed in use is far enough away from the ceiling to allow the occupant to sit up in bed		Yes	

Criterion	Evidence <sup>3</sup>	Yes/No	Notes
Students are provided with a personal bureau or locker for clothing and personal belongings and a designated space for hanging clothing	<p><b>House 2</b> dresser was missing two knobs</p> <p><b>House 5</b> dresser was missing a knob in bedroom</p> <p><b>House 6</b> – dresser drawer was missing in bedroom</p>	Yes	Students also have access to a closet in addition to dressers
Every student has a pillow and sufficient covering		Yes	
School does not use temporary bedding such as cots or sleep sofas as beds		Yes	
<b>Kitchen</b>			
Sufficient equipment and clean space for meal preparation, storage, serving, eating, and clean-up of meals		Yes	
Maintain all equipment in working order		Yes	
Student access to the kitchen area and its equipment and tools is supervised age-appropriately	All sharp materials were clearly locked and kept away until use	Yes	
School has a system to access between-meal items which is maintained and is accessible to program residents upon request		Yes	



<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Evidence<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Notes</b>
The exhaust systems are maintained in safe operating condition		Yes	
Hoods and ducts are maintained free of grease		Yes	
<b>Bathrooms</b>			
No signs of mold or mildew		Yes	
Working toilets, baths, or showers that allow for individual privacy		Yes	
Sinks and bathtubs have hot and cold water and are equipped with slip-proof surfaces		Yes	
Mirrors are secured to the walls at heights appropriate for use by the students		Yes	
Toilet paper, soap, and other items required for personal hygiene are provided		Yes	
<b>Room Condition</b>			
Sufficient illumination in rooms, corridors, and stairwells to permit safe usage and lighting of exterior areas, hallways during the night		Yes	
No kerosene or open coil heaters		Yes	
Windows can be opened throughout the facility		Yes	
Working exhaust fans in the bathroom and kitchen		Yes	
Working air conditioning and heating system		Yes	
<b>Water</b>			

<b>Criterion</b>	<b>Evidence<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Yes/No</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Adequate supply of potable hot and cold running water		Yes	
The residence has sanitary drinking fountains, filtered or bottled water and/or supply of individual drinking cups		Yes	
Hot and cold water is accessible to the students and is regulated to an appropriate temperature		Yes	