



Notice of Petition to Amend Charter:  
Governance Structure– **Harmony DC PCS**  
ACTION: Open for Public Comment

PUBLIC COMMENT ACCEPTED UNTIL: September 21, 2020

**SUMMARY:** The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) announces an opportunity for the public to submit comment on a written request submitted by Harmony DC Public Charter School (Harmony PCS) on August 17, 2020 to amend its charter agreement by recognizing the school's contract with a management organization. This kind of request constitutes a change to the school's governance structure.

Currently in its seventh year of operation, Harmony PCS educates students in grades kindergarten through five. During its five-year charter review in school year (SY) 2018 – 19, DC PCSB approved the school to expand to include grades pre-kindergarten 3 (PK3) and pre-kindergarten 4 (PK4), provided that the school contract with an experienced early childhood operator to manage the new classes. Harmony PCS has since contracted the AppleTree Institute to operate its PK3 and PK4 program.<sup>1</sup> Over the next year, Harmony PCS will work with the AppleTree Institute to develop its opening plans. In SY 2021 – 22, the school will begin offering PK3 and PK4 classes.

Pursuant to the School Reform Act, D.C. Code 38-1802 et seq., a charter school must submit a petition to revise its charter, which includes its governance structure.

**DATES:**

- Comments must be submitted on or before September 21, 2020.<sup>2</sup>
- The public hearing and/or vote will be held on September 21, 2020 at 6:30 pm. For the location, please check [www.dcpsb.org](http://www.dcpsb.org).<sup>3</sup>

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by "Harmony PCS - Notice of Petition to Amend Charter – Governance," by any one of the methods listed below.

1. Submit a written comment via
  - a) E-mail: [public.comment@dcpsb.org](mailto:public.comment@dcpsb.org)
  - b) Mail, Hand Delivery, or Courier: Attn: Public Comment, DC Public Charter School Board, 3333 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Suite 210, Washington, DC 20010
2. Sign up to testify in-person at the public hearing on September 21, 2020 by emailing a request to [public.comment@dcpsb.org](mailto:public.comment@dcpsb.org) no later than 4:00 pm on Thursday, September 17, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Melodi Sampson, Senior Manager of School Quality and Accountability, at [msampson@dcpsb.org](mailto:msampson@dcpsb.org) or 202-330-4046.

<sup>1</sup> AppleTree Institute is a 24-year-old non-profit organization that operates early childhood public charter schools in Washington, DC.

<sup>2</sup> DC PCSB reserves the right, but shall have no obligation, to review, pre-screen, filter, redact, refuse or remove any or all your submission that it may deem to be inappropriate for publication, such as obscene language.

<sup>3</sup> DC PCSB will only hold a public hearing for this amendment request if it receives public comment challenging the school's proposal.