



Notice of Petition to Amend Charter:  
**Friendship PCS** – Program Enrollment Cap, Grade Expansion  
ACTION: Open for Public Comment  
PUBLIC COMMENT ACCEPTED UNTIL: July 20, 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 from Friendship Public Charter School (Friendship PCS) on June 12, 2020. The school seeks to amend its charter agreement by eliminating the cap on the number of students who can enroll in Friendship PCS – Collegiate Academy’s online program (Collegiate Online). The school also proposes adding grades pre-kindergarten 3 (PK3) and pre-kindergarten 4 (PK4) to Friendship PCS – Online. The school seeks permission to begin making these adjustments in school year (SY) 2020-21.

Launched in SY 2018-19 with a maximum program enrollment of 100 full-time students per year, Collegiate Online is a virtual high school program. Friendship PCS would like to remove the 100-student program enrollment cap, increasing the number of available Collegiate Online seats.

Since SY 2015-16, Friendship PCS – Online has educated kindergarten through eighth grade students in a virtual setting. The school seeks to expand Friendship PCS – Online by adding PK4 in SY 2020-21 and PK3 in SY 2021-22.

Currently in its twenty-second year of operation, Friendship PCS educates students in grades PK3 through 12. The school believes the demand for full-time virtual programs will increase due to COVID-19 concerns surrounding in-person learning experiences. Friendship PCS plans to meet this need by offering additional seats for its online programs.

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 enrollment and grades served.

**DATES:**

- Comments must be submitted on or before July 20, 2020.
- The public hearing will be on July 20, 2020 at 6:30 pm. For the location, please check [www.dcpccb.org](http://www.dcpccb.org).
- The vote will be on July 29, 2020, at 6:30 pm. For the location, please check [www.dcpccb.org](http://www.dcpccb.org).

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by “Friendship PCS – Notice of Petition to Amend Charter – Program Enrollment Cap and Grade Expansion,” by any one of the methods listed below.<sup>1</sup>

1. Submit a written comment\* via
  - a) E-mail: [public.comment@dcpccb.org](mailto:public.comment@dcpccb.org)

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<sup>1</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.

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

\*Please select only one of the actions listed.

2. Sign up to testify in person at the public hearing on July 20, 2020 by emailing a request to [public.comment@dcpcs.org](mailto:public.comment@dcpcs.org) no later than 4:00 pm on Thursday, July 16, 2020.

**For Further Information, contact** Melodi Sampson, Senior Manager of School Quality and Accountability, at [msampson@dcpcs.org](mailto:msampson@dcpcs.org) or 202-330-2046.