



Notice of Request to Amend Charter:
Graduation Requirements – **Digital Pioneers PCS**
Open for Public Comment
Public Comment Accepted Until: July 19, 2021

SUMMARY: The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) announces an opportunity for the public to comment on a request from Digital Pioneers Academy Public Charter School (Digital Pioneers PCS) to amend its charter to include graduation requirements. The school submitted its request on June 25, 2021.

Currently in its third year of operation, Digital Pioneers PCS educates 337 students in grades 6 – 8 in Ward 6. The school's mission is to "develop the next generation of innovators. We prepare students to meet or exceed the highest academic standards, while cultivating the strength of character necessary to both graduate from four-year colleges and thrive in 21st-century careers." In December 2020, DC PCSB conditionally approved Digital Pioneers PCS's request to expand to grades 9 – 12 and increase its enrollment ceiling from 360 to 840.¹

Now that it has DC PCSB's approval to open a high school, Digital Pioneers PCS proposes adding graduation requirements to its charter agreement. Under the proposed graduation requirements, students must earn a total of 26.5 credits to graduate. Two of those credits must be in computer science, and two credits must be in leadership development.

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 graduation requirements.

PUBLIC MEETINGS: The public hearing will be on July 19, 2021 at 6:30 pm. The vote will be on September 20, 2021 at 6:30 pm. Please check www.dcpccb.org for the location for these meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS: Comments must be submitted on or before July 19, 2021.² You may submit comments identified by "Digital Pioneers PCS - Notice of Petition to Amend Charter – Graduation Requirements" by any one of the methods listed below.

1. Submit a written comment via
 - a) E-mail: public.comment@dcpccb.org.
 - b) Mail, Hand Delivery, or Courier: Attn: Public Comment, DC Public Charter School Board, 3333 14th Street NW, Suite 210, Washington, DC 20010.

¹ See the proposal on the expansion here: <https://bit.ly/3dqaaa2>. As of May 5, 2021, the school has satisfied all conditions related to its expansion request.

² 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.

2. Sign up to testify during the public hearing by e-mailing a request to public.comment@dcpcsb.org no later than noon on July 19, 2021.
3. Submit voicemail testimony by phone: Call (202) 328-2660, select option 2. (You will have up to five minutes to record your testimony. Please note that all comments will be transcribed and made available to the public upon receipt.)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT: Nada Mousa, Specialist, School Quality and Accountability, at nmousa@dcpcsb.org.