



Notice of Request to Amend Charter:  
Additional Facility (Auxiliary Space)– **Friendship PCS**  
Open for Public Comment  
**Public Comment Accepted Until: October 18, 2021**

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**SUMMARY:** The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) announces an opportunity for the public to comment on a request from Friendship Public Charter School (Friendship PCS) to amend its charter by identifying an additional facility. The school submitted its request on July 26, 2021. Friendship PCS submitted a revised request on September 16, 2021.

Friendship PCS enrolls 4,519 students in grades pre-kindergarten 3 (PK3) through 12. The LEA operates one online campus, six elementary campuses, seven middle school campuses, and two high school campuses. The school's mission is to "provide a world-class education that motivates students to achieve high academic standards, enjoy learning, and develop as ethical, literate, well-rounded and self-sufficient citizens who contribute actively to their communities."

Currently, Friendship PCS operates 11 facilities across Wards 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8. The school seeks to operate an auxiliary site at the Whittle School and Studios located at 3007 Tilden Street NW. The school expects to use the location as a space for extended programming for grades PK3 – 12, including additional in-person programming for Friendship PCS – Online Academy. The auxiliary location will provide students with access to labs, makerspaces, and performance areas to expand learning opportunities. The school plans to start operations at the Whittle site upon DC PCSB's approval.

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 location.

**UPDATE SINCE INITIAL POSTING:** On September 14, 2021, Friendship PCS informed DC PCSB of the school's interest in leasing additional space at the Whittle Studio and Schools facility at cost starting in SY 2022 – 23. The school has allocated funds in its budget for this expansion.

**PUBLIC MEETINGS:** The public hearing will be on September 20, 2021 at 6:30 pm. The vote will be on October 18, 2021 at 6:30 pm. Please check [www.dcpccb.org](http://www.dcpccb.org) for the location for these meetings.

**PUBLIC COMMENT INSTRUCTIONS:** Comments must be submitted on or before October 18, 2021.<sup>1</sup> You may submit comments identified by "Friendship PCS - Notice of Petition to Amend Charter – Additional Facility" by any one of the methods listed below.

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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.

1. Submit a written comment via
  - a) E-mail: [public.comment@dcpcsb.org](mailto:public.comment@dcpcsb.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 during the public hearing by e-mailing a request to [public.comment@dcpcsb.org](mailto:public.comment@dcpcsb.org) no later than noon on October 18, 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, School Quality and Evaluation Specialist, at [nmousa@dcpcsb.org](mailto:nmousa@dcpcsb.org).