

SCHOOL NAME: Paul Public Charter School

SUBMITTER: Dr. Tracy Wright, CEO and Erin Albright, Board Chair

SUBMISSION DATE: June 21, 2022

SCHOOL BACKGROUND

Campus name(s) and location(s):

Paul Public Charter School, 5800 8th St. NW Washington, DC 20011

Year opened: 2000

Grades served: 6-12

Date the charter will be eligible for renewal: 2030

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Summarize the school's proposed changes.

Paul PCS would like to expand to offer fifth grade, which is currently included in our active charter.

2. How will the proposed changes support the school's mission?

The proposed changes will support Paul in improving student outcomes in service of developing their capacity to be independent thinkers, responsible citizens, and leaders.

The findings of the research project showed that the duration of students' enrollment in the Paul community is associated with higher average achievement percentile rankings in both reading and mathematics, with a steady increase in reading over time and a large difference in mathematics after 5 years of enrollment.

Additionally, Paul PCS beginning in fifth grade would provide the opportunity to better support students to be successful academically. Particularly given the population that the school serves with a high proportion of students who are ELL, students who are multiple grade levels behind in reading and math, and students with disabilities, getting to know those students earlier in their academic careers and working with families to build teaching and learning plans that serve individual needs would no doubt have long-term benefits.

- How has the school informed its stakeholders (e.g., students, parents, staff, ANC commissioners, neighbors) of the proposed changes? Describe any notable support for or opposition to the proposal. How is the school addressing stakeholders' concerns?

In the fall of 2020, Paul launched a significant research analysis to assess the viability and impact of expanding to include fifth grade students. This process included a significant analysis of organizational and citywide student data, an evaluation of enrollment trends, and focus groups with stakeholders across the organization and within the city.

There was no opposition to the proposal, however, the suggestion from staff and families was that SY22-23 be used to plan the launch of the 2023-2024 fifth grade class.

- When did the school's board approve the proposed changes? Please attach minutes from the meeting and vote results.

November 9, 2021 (minutes attached)

ENROLLMENT SCHEDULE

- Complete the following enrollment matrix, which must align with the LEA's enrollment ceiling.

School Year	2022 – 23	2023 – 24	2024 – 25	2025 – 26	2026 – 27 and Beyond
Grade 5	n/a	25	40	50	50
Grade 6	120	110	115	115	120
Grade 7	120	110	110	110	110
Grade 8	150	110	105	105	105
Grade 9	150	150	135	135	140

Grade 10	150	150	125	125	125
Grade 11	95	125	125	115	115
Grade 12	90	95	120	120	110
	875	875	875	875	875
# Campuses	1	1	1	1	1

GOALS AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT EXPECTATIONS (GOALS)

1. What are the school’s current and proposed goals? If the school proposes revising only a portion of its goals, specify which goals are to be deleted or replaced, and which goals are new.

The school currently operates using PCSB’s Performance Management Framework as its goals. The organization will continue with the same course of action as it expands to include 5th grade students.

Board of Trustees
Meeting Minutes
November 9, 2021
Meeting conducted via Zoom

Members Present:

Erin Albright
Andrea Deadwyler
Kemba Hendrix
Christina Jones
Gina Mahony
Roxana Mondragon- Motta
Jeff Nellhaus
Pamela Taylor
Jennifer Ubiera
Sterling Ward

Admin Present:

Monya Bundy, *Executive Operations Coordinator*
Will Henderson, *Executive Director of Operations*
Charlotte Spann, *Executive Director of Schools*
Tracy Wright, *Chief Executive Officer*

Opening

Ms. Albright called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

Ms. Albright asked board members for a motion to approve the minutes of the October Board Meeting. Ms. Taylor moved to approve the minutes, and Mr. Ward seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Board Departure

Ms. Mahony's current 3-year term expires this month, and she has decided to resign from the Board of Trustees. Board members thanked her for her service, highlighting the monumental tasks she managed while serving as Chair.

CEO's Report

Assessment Data

Dr. Wright shared data discussed in the last School Performance Committee meeting, aligning A1 assessment data with the newly established cut scores (via EdOps). Overall, data showed strong performance in all areas except 8th Grade Math, and 9th Grade ELA and Math.

Culture of Community

Professional Development shifts have been made to support mental health of the staff members who are needing more time to adjust to shifts in workloads and being in person. Staff will now have the opportunity to participate in PD virtually on alternating Thursdays.

Paul '21

Dr. Wright announced the year-long celebration underway to commemorate Paul's 21 years as a charter school. She encouraged members to participate in Giving Tuesday, supporting graduates who needs financial support in their undergraduate studies in what has been coined Paul's "Safe Fund". Paul PCS is sure to verify the need of the student(s) who will receive these funds, but in essence, no former student is turned away financially, and can be awarded \$300-\$500. Paul is also hosting a gala on December 11th which board members are encouraged to attend. Proceeds from this event will also be added to the Safe Fund.

AALE Accreditation

Paul received its reaccreditation confirmation from The American Academy for Liberal Education on November 5th. Paul will be accredited for another 5 years and will be monitored via interim reports to ensure suggestions and recommendations are implemented in the coming school years.

5th Grade Expansion

After careful deliberation, Dr. Wright and the Executive Leadership of Paul proposes that the Board votes to approve the addition of a 5th grade class, but no sooner than the 2023-2024 school year. Due to the mental space and capacity of teachers, post-pandemic, this time is necessary for the school to restabilize.

The School Performance Committee believes that it may be difficult to enroll the encouraged 25 students for the first class of 5th grade students in light of the lingering pandemic and believes Paul should explore other means to stabilize enrollment in the meantime. The SPC will continue to analyze data and encourage pulse checks on the organization before launching this expansion.

The Finance Committee believes we are in a solid position to fund the expansion. Though it will require an investment on the front end (not expecting to exceed \$100K per year) but should stabilize and break even as enrollment increases in years to come.

The Marketing, Development, and Public Relations will focus on the planning and execution of this project, particularly narrowing down ideal target audiences and mapping out strategies to appeal to them.

The Executive Committee supports the proposal presented by Dr. Wright. As such, Ms. Albright motioned to approve the addition of a 5th grade class no sooner than SY 23-24. Ms. Jones seconded the motion, and the floor was opened for discussion.

Beginning in January, the School Performance Committee will work closely with Dr. Wright to determine the assessment data and markers to consider and monitor in SY 22-23. Dr. Wright will share with the staff that we're aiming for SY23-24 and if there are people who want to provide feedback, they are welcome to do so. It will be clear that we are working towards a self-contained 5th grade so that current staff members aren't greatly impacted. Foundational work and planning for this expansion will be begin during SY22-23, but the timeline can and will be revised as the current school year progresses.

After the open discussion concluded, Ms. Albright restated her motion (which Ms. Jones seconded) and asked for the vote of each board member. The motion was approved unanimously.

New Business

Ms. Jones, Governance Chair, mentioned the potential removal of a board member, due to non-responsiveness. She will reach out to the individual over next 60 days to notify them of potential proceedings, and a follow up will be brought to the Board in January.

Closing

There being no further business to address, Ms. Albright adjourned the meeting at 7:04pm.