



LOCAL EDUCATION AGENCY (LEA) NAME: [DC Preparatory Academy](#)

BOARD CHAIR NAME: [Dr. Patrick Clowney](#)

SUBMISSION DATE: [March 10, 2025](#)

SUBJECT: [Facility Amendment Request](#)

SCHOOL BACKGROUND AND PROPOSAL SUMMARY

Campus name(s): [DC Prep has 6 campuses \(Anacostia Elementary Campus, Anacostia Middle Campus, Benning Elementary Campus, Benning Middle Campus, Edgewood Elementary Campus, Edgewood Middle Campus\). We are submitting this request on behalf of Anacostia Elementary School.](#)

Year(s) opened: [2003](#)

Grades served: [PreK3 through 8th grade](#)

Year the school will undergo its next charter review or renewal: [Our next charter review will take place in 2027. Our charter is up for renewal in 2032.](#)

Proposal summary:

[Today, DC Prep has two campuses in Ward 8—Anacostia Elementary Campus \(AEC, serving students in PS - 3rd\) and Anacostia Middle Campus \(AMC, serving students in 4th – 8th\). DC Prep's Anacostia Elementary Campus is currently sited at 1409 V Street SE, a building DC Prep owns. DC Prep's Anacostia Middle Campus is located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, a building for which DC Prep holds the long-term lease from DC's DGS.](#)

[When students transition from 3rd to 4th grade, they transition from one school building \(AEC\) to the other \(AMC\)-- a distance of about 1 mile. It has always been our aspiration to have the two campuses as physically proximate as possible, which would ease the drop-off/pick-up challenge for families who have children in both elementary and middle school.](#)

[Phase 1 of the of the DC Prep Anacostia relocation took place in the summer of 2022, when AMC moved from its temporary home \(2501 MLK Jr Ave SE\) to 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. The relocation of AEC to join AMC at the Pomeroy Rd location is Phase 2 of the process and is planned for this summer. All communications with internal and external stakeholders discussed both phases of the plan when seeking feedback and](#)

approval. The PCSB approved DC Prep's Facility Charter Amendment application for the AMC relocation in 2021¹.

In 2021, DC Prep signed a long-term lease on the former Wilkinson Elementary School, located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. Under the terms of the lease, DC Prep was able to take possession of and renovate half of the building, while the DC Infrastructure Academy operated in another portion of the building until Summer 2024. In Summer 2024, DC Infrastructure Academy was to vacate 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE entirely so that DC Prep could take full possession of that location and renovate the remaining portion of the facility to become the future home of AEC.

Since that time, DCIA did vacate 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, DC Prep found a lessor for 1409 V St SE (DCPS will lease the building for 10 years beginning in Summer 2025), and undertook the second phase of our renovation at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. The renovation will be complete by summer 2025, making it possible for DC Prep to relocate AEC from 1409 V Street SE to 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. This will unite AEC and AMC (its sister middle school) at one location.

MCN Build, who DC Prep has hired for the renovation work, is an experienced general contractor and has completed numerous school construction and renovation projects throughout the city—including Phase 1 of the renovation at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. MCN Build is fully insured and bonded and has all the necessary permits and licenses to do construction in the District.

Year the school plans to implement the proposed changes: 2025

When did the school's board approve the proposed changes? DC Prep's Board formally approved relocating AEC at the Feb 22, 2025 Board meeting². However, this change has been planned since we first learned that it would be possible to lease the entirety of the former Wilkinson ES building (which is too large a facility for a stand-alone middle school).

FACILITY

1. Please check the box that best describes the school's proposed change.

- ☒ **The LEA or a campus within the LEA is relocating from its current facility to a new facility.**
 - Anacostia Elementary will be relocating into the same building as Anacostia Middle (co-located).
- ☐ The LEA or a campus within the LEA is staying in its current facility *and* expanding into an additional facility (i.e., some students will attend the

¹ DC Prep's approved facility charter amendment application can be found in the appendix. It contains all details of the project, the 5-year projected budget, and the supporting documentation for both phases of the relocation process.

² The DC Prep Board Meeting Minutes from Feb 22, 2025 can be found in the appendix.

current facility while some will attend the proposed facility).

- ☐ The LEA seeks to open a new campus to be housed in a new facility. (Also complete the Expansion and/or Replication Amendment Application.)

- 2. In the table below, list the facility/facilities the school operates (i.e., the facility/facilities identified in the school's charter agreement). For each entry, report the facility name, the campus(es) and grades served within, and the address.**

Current Facility/Facilities		
Facility Name	Campus Name(s); Grade(s) Served	Address
DC Prep Anacostia Elementary Campus (AEC)	Pre-K3 through 3 rd Grade	1409 V St, SE – Washington, DC 20020
DC Prep Anacostia Middle Campus (AMC)	4 th through 8 th Grade	2330 Pomeroy Rd SE - Washington, DC 20020
DC Prep Benning Elementary Campus (BEC)	Pre-K3 through 3 rd Grade	100 41st St, NE – Washington, DC 20019
DC Prep Benning Middle Campus (BMC)	4 th through 8 th Grade	100 41st St, NE – Washington, DC 20019
DC Prep Edgewood Elementary Campus (EEC)	Pre-K3 through 3 rd Grade	707 Edgewood St, NE – Washington, DC 20017
DC Prep Edgewood Middle Campus (EMC)	4 th through 8 th Grade	701 Edgewood St, NE – Washington, DC 20017

- 3. In the table below, list the facility/facilities the school seeks to operate (i.e., the facility/facilities the school will continue operating along with the facility the school proposes operating). For each entry, report the facility name, the campus(es) and grades served within, and the address.**

Proposed Facility/Facilities		
Facility Name	Campus Name(s); Grades Served	Address
Anacostia Elementary Campus (AEC)	Pre-K3 through 3 rd Grade	2330 Pomeroy Rd SE - Washington, DC 20020

AEC will move from the current location to this long-term building in the Summer of 2025 and will be co-located with AMC (which moved into the Pomeroy Rd location in summer of 2022)

- 4. Will the school lease or purchase the proposed facility? If the school has already purchased or leased the facility, when did the school acquire it?**

DC Prep currently holds a long-term lease on 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. The lease was signed on October 4, 2021; the initial term is 25 years with an option to extend for an additional 25 years. 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE has a total of 138,578 gross square feet, with 104,282 finished square feet above grade.

- 5. How will the new location impact current students? How will the school encourage student re-enrollment? How will the school support students in need of transportation to the new location?**

DC Prep will accept re-enrollment paperwork at our current location through and beyond the last day of school in the current 2024-2025 academic year to ensure there are no additional barriers to re-enrollment. Additional transportation services will not be needed as the new location will be co-located with its feeder school, AMC. Families of students at both campuses live close by and have ample bus routes.

- 6. Will there be newly created seats for additional students? If so, discuss student recruitment efforts in the new school community.**

There will be no newly created seats—DC Prep AEC will continue to serve the same grades we currently serve at 1409 V Street SE. The number of home rooms and the number of students per homeroom will also remain the same.

- 7. What is the maximum occupancy at the new location? If the maximum occupancy load for staff and students is less than the total number of staff and students who will occupy the facility at any point in the future, please explain how you will address this issue.**

DC Prep is gutting and renovating the interior of the new location prior to occupancy. We are designing the space to support an occupancy load in excess of our total number of staff and students.

- 8. Does the proposed space require renovation? If so, describe the renovations the new location will need, either to serve as a school or to be accessible for students with disabilities.**

Yes. The portion of the building that will house AEC was vacant since the original Wilkinson Elementary school closed in 2009, except for a small portion used by the DC Infrastructure Academy until the summer of 2024. Renovations are currently underway as all parts of the internal, and external, spaces of the facility will require renovation.

- 9. Describe the proposed facility's neighborhood (i.e., is it residential or commercial, is it metro accessible). What value will the school add to the proposed neighborhood?**

2330 Pomeroy Rd SE was the former Wilkinson Elementary School, a DCPS school that closed in 2009. Located in Fort Stanton, it is in the same neighborhood as Martha's Table, the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum, and the Fort Stanton Recreation Center.

DC Prep AEC is the sister school to DC Prep AMC (i.e., AEC serves students in PreSchool through 3rd grade, then students transition to AMC for 4th – 8th), which has been operating at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE since 2022. DC Prep AMC is one of DC's top middle schools, as measured by OSSE's School Report Card.

10. List the traditional and public charter schools near the new location, identifying schools that educate the same grade span your school serves/will serve. Describe how the school's mission and academic performance compare to these schools. What impact will the school's relocation have on enrollment at neighboring schools?

DC Prep AEC is currently operating in Ward 8 about 1 mile from where we propose to relocate. Since AEC is an existing school and we do not plan to add additional seats when we move, we do not anticipate that our move will have a significant impact on the enrollment of neighboring schools. However, these are the schools that are closest to 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE:

- DC Prep AMC (AEC's sister campus, which serves students in grades 4-8). According to the 2024 OSSE Accountability framework, AMC was one of the top middle school in Washington DC (3 of the top 10 are DC Prep's 3 middle schools!).
- Moten Elementary School, a DCPS school that serves grades PK3-5th. Moten serves a student community that is similar to AEC and does not serve students in grades 6th-8th.
- KIPP Douglass which houses KIPP Heights (1st - 4th) and KIPP Aim (5th - 8th).
- Excel Academy, a DCPS school that serves girls in grades PK – 8.
- Johnson Middle School, a DCPS school that serves students in grades 6-8

According to the most recent [DC School Report Card](#), DC Prep AEC has a higher or equivalent percentage of students that meet or exceed expectations in both ELA and Math than both Moten Elementary and KIPP Heights. DC Prep also has a lower rate of chronic absenteeism, particularly in Pre-K, compared to Moten Elementary. DC Prep has meaningfully stronger OSSE framework results relative to Excel Academy, Moten Elementary School and Johnson Middle School.

11. When did the school hold an open board of trustees meeting to discuss the proposed change(s)?

DC Prep's Board unanimously voted to approve the facility charter amendment

for AEC's relocation to Wilkinson at its Board meeting on February 4, 2025.

12. Describe how the school has engaged its internal community in its decision to relocate or expand into the proposed location. Submit documentation of the school's communications with its staff and families regarding the proposed space. Identify the internal community's concerns and how the school is responding to their needs.

Since the opening of AEC, and the move to the V St facility, the DC Prep Anacostia community has been aware that DC Prep was looking for a long-term home for both AEC and AMC. Once 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE became a viable option, DC Prep sent a letter to our school community which is attached. Over the last few years, families, school staff, and the community have received periodic updates about the AEC renovation. We have begun providing a monthly construction update to staff and families³.

Throughout the winter and spring, AEC families are being invited to tour the AMC space at the Wilkinson building. These tours allow our families to familiarize themselves with the new location, get a sense of what the AEC side of the building will be like once it's complete, and peak at the construction activity taking place.

We have not heard families share concerns about the move. Many more families have expressed excitement—not only will the school be co-located with its sister middle school (simplifying drop-off and pick-up for families with children at both schools) but there will be better access to outdoor play space.

13. Describe how the school has engaged the community surrounding the proposed location. *Please attach documentation of communications with nearby principals, neighbors, ANC representatives, Councilmembers, and other community groups, notifying them of the school's plans.*

- a. When did the school inform the ANC representatives of its facility plans? Has the school already presented its facility plans during an ANC meeting? If not, when will it do so?**
- b. Summarize the external community's concerns, if any, and describe the school's response with specificity.**

In 2021, before Phase 1 of the relocation process (AMC's relocation to Wilkinson in Summer 2022), Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio, DC Prep's Chief of External Affairs, attended and presented at over 3 ANC 8B meetings, met with the previous and current ANC SMD Commissioners of 8B04 (where the Facility resides) Darrell Gaston and Kevin Coleman and 8A7 (the neighboring SMD commission) Hannah Baker and Steven Tiller, presented at the Fort Stanton Civic Association, met with

³An update email and letter sent to AEC families is located in the appendix.

the Ward 8 State Board of Education Representative, Charlene Reid, met with Councilmember Trayon White and his office, and held frequent community meetings with Fort Stanton neighbors.

These outreach efforts lead to DC Prep receiving a letter of support from the 8B ANC Commission, the Fort Stanton Civic Association, Martha's Table, the Federal City Council, several Fort Stanton neighbors, and a number of DC Prep families and staff. With the abundant evidence of community support, DGS prepared and shared legislation for the disposition of Wilkinson to DC Prep. This led to a public hearing hosted by DC Council's Committee on Economic Development and Committee on Facilities. Mr. Ribeiro-Yemofio, as well as DC Prep parents, staff members, and Fort Stanton neighbors all publicly testified and answered questions from the Committee Chairpersons. Prior to the August 3rd Council meeting, where the Council would vote on the legislation, Councilmembers received a total of over 1,000 advocacy emails from DC Prep families, staff, alumni, and supporters asking Councilmembers to vote "yes" for the disposition of Wilkinson. This resulted in the Council unanimously voting "yes" for the disposition of Wilkinson to DC Prep.

14. Complete and submit DC PCSB's 5-Year Operating Budget template in accordance with its instructions.

Please see our original 5-Year Operating Budget that we submitted with our application in 2021 in the appendix below.

We are in the process of updating the budget in accordance with PCSB's instructions and will submit it as soon as possible.

APPENDIX

DC Prep Board Minutes from Feb 4, 2025

Construction Update Letter sent to the AEC community (families, students, and staff) in Jan of 2025.

Letters to the ANC and DC Council updating them on Phase 2 of the relocation process.

Facility Amendment Application (with supporting materials) submitted and approved by the PCSB in 2021.



Board Meeting
February 4, 2024

Board Member Attendance

<u>Present (In Person):</u> Patrick Clowney, Chair Lisa Cullins Daniel Fine Emily Lawson Perry Shure Rashida Young Leroy (Terry) Eakin III Collette Bruce Ahmad Hajj	<u>Absent</u> Katie Severn, Senior Advisor Chevalier Cleaves Hadley Cooper Mercedes Kearney Pamela Steptoe Temica Hunt
<u>Others Present:</u> Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer Cassie Pergament, Chief Academic Officer Maura Englender, Chief Talent Officer Dan Englender, Chief Financial Officer & Chief Operating Officer Aliesha Maye, Chief of School Operations Vanessa Gonzalez, Chief Development Officer Hilary Dauffenbach-Tabb, Director of Analysis, Data and Enrollment Vivian Harris, Home Operations Associate	



Dr. Patrick Clowney called the meeting to order at approximately 5:24 pm. A quorum was present in person. Dr. Clowney instructed Members to review the Minutes, allowing a brief period for review. Mr. Terry Eakin motioned to approve. Mr. Fine seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members present at the February Board meeting and listed above as “Present” voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

Dr. Clowney introduced an item not on the Agenda regarding a DC Prep fundraiser organized by Hadley Cooper and Perry Shure.

Ms. Perry Shure provided details on the fundraiser, explaining its connection to Change Summer, a program assisting students in their transition to college. She noted that last year’s event successfully supported 30 students.

Ms. Laura Maestas stated that a generous gift from a donor enabled 30 students to attend camp, with funding secured for three years, allowing the original cohort to return for two additional summers. Contributions from supporters will also allow another group of students to attend this year, with ongoing efforts to raise more funds for future cohorts.

Dr. Clowney introduced Ms. Hilary Dauffenbach-Tabb to provide an overview of the ASPIRE Annual School Performance Index Report & Evaluation framework. Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb provided an overview of the school-specific performance measures included in the Charter Board’s new ASPIRE framework, which replaces the previous Performance Management Framework (PMF) that was paused due to COVID. She explained that the new system emphasizes equity and highlights schools excelling with diverse student populations. The framework measures student growth on state and NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) assessments, proficiency levels, attendance, school environment observations, and reenrollment data. Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb also outlined the progress made over the last two months and the next steps in negotiating the proposed measures with the Charter Board for approval.

Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb also explained that 90% of the ASPIRE framework score is predetermined, while the remaining 10% consists of school-specific performance measures. Schools have the opportunity to select two measures (each contributing 5%) that best highlight their strengths and align with their mission. The selection process involved analyzing historical data to ensure reliability and long-term consistency, given the five-year commitment. The ASPIRE framework includes five performance levels, offering greater differentiation than the previous system. The goal is to position schools in the top two tiers—Exemplary or Strong Performance—while maintaining programmatic alignment across elementary and middle schools.

Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb continued to explain that the Algebra 1 enrollment model aligns with the school's long-term approach and requires no extra burden on schools, as it is already a focus. Ms.



Maestas added that this model ensures students are well-prepared for high school applications. Additionally, the second area chosen for measurement is "CAPE Growth," focusing on ELA (English Language Arts) and math growth in grades 6-8, which has been stable and strong over recent years. Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb clarified that growth is measured using median growth percentiles, where each student's growth is tracked annually against their peers.

Mr. Fine raised a concern about whether high growth in sixth and seventh grade could make it harder to continue achieving growth in eighth grade, potentially becoming a "victim of success" as the bar for progress becomes more difficult to meet. Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb responded that the growth percentile is based on students with a similar profile, meaning each student is compared to others who have already demonstrated comparable performance, ensuring that growth is measured relative to peers rather than an absolute standard.

Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb emphasized that the ASPIRE framework will be a valuable tool for comparison across charter schools, highlighting high-performing schools like DC Prep's. She noted that while detailed metrics like median growth percentile may not resonate with parents, showcasing the universal Algebra 1 assessment as part of recruitment demonstrates their commitment to advanced coursework and college preparation, which is compelling to families.

Ms. Maestas discussed the importance of balancing the accountability framework with broader marketing efforts. She emphasized the need to focus on specific, measurable aspects of their work for accountability while also thinking about how to tell a compelling story about their overall high performance and student achievements.

Mr. Eakin emphasized that the focus of 90% of the framework should align with the school's mission and academic accomplishments, with a preference for measurable and understandable metrics like Algebra enrollment. He noted that the NWEA, while potentially more complex, could set the school apart by highlighting unique achievements not seen in other schools.

Dr. Clowney inquired about how growth is measured in the CAPE (Comprehensive Assessments of Progress in Education) framework, specifically whether any amount of growth is considered valid, and if a larger growth percentage (e.g., 10%) is weighted more heavily. He also asked if growth data is aggregated across all students in a school, using the example of varying student growth percentages.

Mr. Englander clarified that growth is measured comparatively, meaning the school's median growth percentile is determined by how students perform relative to others across the city. If students grow at the average rate, they would earn half of the potential points; if they grow more or less than the city's average, their score adjusts accordingly. He emphasized that the ASPIRE



framework, which is used for comparison, has pre-defined metrics that ensure consistency across schools.

Ms. Cassie Pergament explained that the school offers an intensified Algebra program for all 8th graders, with a "just-in-time" remediation approach for students who may have academic gaps. The curriculum ensures that every student has the opportunity to take calculus by 12th grade, aligning with the goal of preparing all students for college. This shift was made five years ago, eliminating tracking, and ensuring all students can progress to advanced math, regardless of prior academic gaps.

Dr. Clowney asked if the Board is ready to vote on the current proposal or if more explanation is needed regarding the growth metrics. He suggested that the Board could vote with the understanding that additional details on the growth breakdown would be provided later, as some Members had requested further clarification.

Ms. Maestas emphasized the need for a Board vote and proposed that, while further explanation of the framework can be provided, the Board should feel comfortable moving forward. She recommended approval to proceed with PCSB negotiations on finalizing the metrics, with the primary focus being reenrollment. Ms. Maestas clarified the proposal to negotiate top metrics with PCSB, including middle school Algebra I enrollment and growth in math for grades 6-8, with reenrollment as a backup for at risk students. She requested Board approval to proceed with negotiations, promising to return with more detailed information.

Mr. Eakin proposed the Motion, and Mr. Fine seconded. Dr. Clowney called for a vote, confirming that the Board approved Ms. Maestas and the team to negotiate the metrics outlined in the proposal. In a show of hands vote, each of the Board Members present at the February Board meeting and listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

Ms. Maestas indicated that there are other Agenda items for the evening and requested a discussion on the Elementary school campus data. She asked the team to provide an overview of the elementary-related topics.

Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb explained that for Elementary campuses, the scope of options is more limited due to third graders only taking the CAPE assessment, which does not provide growth data. The focus will be on mission-aligned metrics, such as NWEA math growth for kindergarten to second grade, and reenrollment, both key to building long-term academic success. These metrics were chosen due to their alignment with the schools' efforts and the importance of stable enrollment for sustained academic impact.



Ms. Maestas emphasized that the chosen measures are clear and align with the school's existing focus areas. By focusing on these metrics, such as reenrollment and application data, they are reinforcing key priorities that are already part of the framework, ensuring alignment with the school's goals.

Ms. Dauffenbach-Tabb explained that reenrollment will measure the rate of at-risk students who return year over year, using data from PCSB's charter-wide access. She also noted that reenrollment rates exclude students who leave the District, focusing only on those who remain in DC and return to the schools.

Mr. Englander shared that the NWEA test, previously not a major focus despite its validity, is now a key part of ASPIRE for elementary schools, and they will be held accountable for it. He noted that since the test has not been given full attention in the past, they believe there is potential for growth in these scores, whereas absenteeism, which has always been a focus, may offer less room for improvement.

Mr. Eakin motioned for DC Prep to review the elementary school metrics proposed by the data team to ensure the best possible outcomes. Dr. Clowney called for a second to Mr. Eakin's motion. Ms. Lawson seconded. In a show of hands vote, each of the Board Members present at the February Board meeting and listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion."

Mr. Englander presented the Facilities Charter Amendment regarding the relocation of the Anacostia Elementary Campus from V Street to the Wilkinson building, where it will join Anacostia Middle. He provided a brief update on the construction, which is on track, on time, and within budget, and clarified that the PCSB will also vote on the matter after the DC Prep Board's approval.

Dr. Clowney inquired about the timing of the vote for the relocation of the Anacostia Elementary campus. Mr. Englander clarified that the Anacostia Elementary campus relocation vote is for the coming school year, with the building set to be completed in August, and students will move in at the beginning of September 2025.

Mr. Eakin motioned to approve the Facilities Charter Amendment for Anacostia Elementary's relocation. Mr. Fine seconded. In a show of hands vote, each of the Board Members present at the February Board meeting and listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.



Mr. Englander then provided an update on the condition of the Edgewood Elementary facility, mentioning the need for investment and renovation. He previewed ongoing efforts by the Finance and Real Estate Committee, which is exploring the possibility of utilizing a building across the street currently occupied. The Committee is assessing whether this is a viable option and will return to the Board with further details once the feasibility has been evaluated.

Dr. Clowney acknowledged Ms. Emily Lawson's departure from the Board, expressing appreciation for her service.

Ms. Lawson proposed John Bradley for consideration as a new Member of the Board. Mr. Bradley has experience in real estate, business leadership, and finance. Ms. Maestas added that he has been actively involved in DC Prep events, including the fundraiser, interview day, and graduation, demonstrating a strong commitment to the community.

Mr. Lawson motioned for the Board to approve John Bradley as a member of the Board. Mr. Eakin seconded. In a show of hands vote, each of the Board Members present at the February Board meeting and listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion."

At approximately 6:15 pm, Dr. Clowney requested a Motion to move into Closed Session to discuss one or more matters described in D.C. Official Code § 2-575 (b)(1)-(16) including, without limitation, personnel matters, consultation with an attorney to obtain legal advice, and preservation of attorney-client privilege between an attorney and DC Prep. Dr. Clowney motioned to approve the Motion. Mr. Ahmad Hajj seconded the Motion. In a roll call vote, each of the Board Members present at the February Board meeting and listed above as "Present" voted to approve the Motion. The Board unanimously approved the Motion.

At approximately 6:15 pm, the Board transitioned from Open Session to Closed Session.

At approximately 7:15 pm, the Board adjourned at the conclusion of the Closed Session.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Maestas, Chief Executive Officer




AEC Construction Update for SY2526

From Anacostia Elementary Campus <AEC_Announcements@dcprep.org>

Date Tue 1/21/2025 4:31 PM

To Aria Montcrieff <amontcrieff@dcprep.org>

 1 attachment (5 MB)

Wilkinson Construction Update #1.pdf;

CAUTION: The email below was sent from outside DC Prep. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe. If you believe that this email is suspicious, please forward to 'helpdesk@dcprep.org' and DO NOT RESPOND to the sender.

Hi AEC Families,

I hope you're having a great afternoon! As you may know, the unoccupied part of the AMC building is under construction which will allow AEC to move to this location for school year 25-26! Throughout the next few months, I will be sharing updates with you on the progress of the construction. Please see attached for the first construction update.

There is a space for questions and feedback in the attached document. We are looking forward to having our whole Anacostia community at one location! Have a great day!

Best,

Ms. Bridgewater

Construction Update #1

A big upgrade is around the corner

Construction has started on the new home for DC Prep's Anacostia Elementary Campus (AEC). As we've been sharing since we first acquired the property in 2021, for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year, AEC will join Anacostia Middle Campus (AMC) at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, also known as the Wilkinson Building. AEC and AMC will be co-located on Pomeroy Rd, but will continue to operate as distinct schools, with separate entrances and separate classroom and school facilities.

The construction work is on track to be completed this summer, and will cap off the final phase of DC Prep's \$50 million renovation. We are so excited for what the new building will mean for AEC students and families, including:

- A single drop off & pick up location for families who have both elementary and middle school students.
- Expanded outdoor play areas, including multiple play structures for elementary school students, and a dedicated early childhood playspace for PK3 and PK4.
- Compared to our current V Street building, a larger gym, cafeteria, and massive multi-purpose space for events and community meetings.
- The beautiful brand new building our students deserve.

What's been happening so far...

Interior demolition will be wrapping up soon, and then classroom spaces will start to take shape. Kindergarten - 3rd grade classrooms are already starting to be framed, and early childhood classrooms will be following not far behind. Some photos of early progress are included below. Stay tuned in the future for more progress photos!

Want to learn more?

While the AEC portion of the new building is still under construction, the middle school side has been complete and in use since 2022. AEC families are welcome to [sign up for a tour](#) of the middle school to see the site, get a peek of construction in progress, and get a sense of what the new AEC facility will look and feel like.

Stay tuned in the coming weeks to hear about additional events planned for AEC families to learn more about the new building.

If you have questions or feedback, [please share them with us](#).



Rendering of the front of AEC's new home



Rendering of the rear of AEC's new home



Rendering of the new AEC gym



Photo of the gym under construction



Rendering of the Kinder - 3rd Grade play area

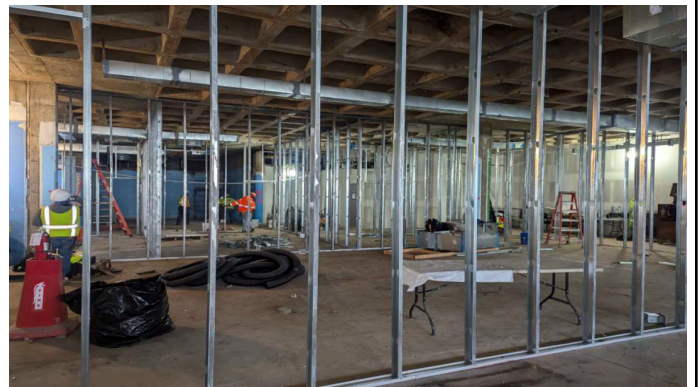


Photo of Kinder - 3rd grade classrooms under construction



Outlook

FW: Exciting Update re Anacostia Elementary Campus

From Laura Maestas <lmaestas@dcprep.org>**Date** Mon 3/10/2025 10:35 AM**To** Aria Montcrieff <amontcrieff@dcprep.org>**Laura Maestas***Chief Executive Officer*

DC PREP

Home Office (we've moved!)

2330 Pomeroy Road, SE

Washington, DC 20020

*(Pronouns: she, her, hers)***C** 917.783.3468**E** lmaestas@dcprep.org**WWW.DCPREP.ORG***Celebrating 20 years of excellence in Washington, DC.*

From: Laura Maestas**Sent:** Friday, March 7, 2025 3:21 PM**To:** 8B06@anc.dc.gov**Subject:** Exciting Update re Anacostia Elementary Campus

Hi, Commissioner Hickman—

I hope you are doing ok—so much going on in DC these days!

I wanted to reach out to share a progress update on the renovation at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. I am thrilled to share that we are on track to complete the renovation on time for Anacostia Elementary Campus (currently located at 1409 V St SE) to move to their new home (2330 Pomeroy Rd SE) in time for SY25-26. As you may recall, when we signed the lease on the former Wilkinson Elementary School building, we shared a vision for having both AEC (our Ward 8 elementary school) and AMC (our Ward 8 middle school) at the same location. In the first phase of the renovation, we focused on the portion of the building that is now AMC. After DCIA moved out of the building last summer, we started the 2nd phase of the renovation. Soon that work will be complete!

Our families & staff are so excited to have both schools in one location. Managing drop-off and pick-up will be so much simpler for families who have children at both schools. I'm also very excited to be able to give our students more outdoor space, in addition to a beautifully renovated building that is conducive to our program needs!

Would you like to schedule a time to connect? I'd be glad to share more about the work we're doing to support families with the transition from V Street to Pomeroy Rd, or to give you a tour of the construction progress!

My best,
Laura

Laura Maestas

Chief Executive Officer

DC PREP

Home Office (we've moved!)

2330 Pomeroy Road, SE

Washington, DC 20020

(Pronouns: she, her, hers)

C 917.783.3468

E lmaestas@dcprep.org

WWW.DCPREP.ORG

Celebrating 20 years of excellence in Washington, DC.



Outlook

FW: An update on Anacostia Elementary School

From Laura Maestas <lmaestas@dcprep.org>

Date Mon 3/10/2025 11:25 AM

To Aria Montcrieff <amontcrieff@dcprep.org>

Laura Maestas*Chief Executive Officer*

DC PREP

Home Office (we've moved!)

2330 Pomeroy Road, SE

Washington, DC 20020

*(Pronouns: she, her, hers)***C** 917.783.3468**E** lmaestas@dcprep.org**WWW.DCPREP.ORG***Celebrating 20 years of excellence in Washington, DC.*

From: Laura Maestas**Sent:** Friday, March 7, 2025 2:57 PM**To:** Lockridge, Wanda (Council) <wlockridge@dccouncil.gov>**Subject:** An update on Anacostia Elementary School

Dear Ms. Lockridge--

I hope you are finding moments of peace amid all that is happening in the world these days!

Earlier this week I was thinking about you & made a note that I needed to reach out. Because we are SO close to being done with the 2nd phase of the renovation at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. I can hardly believe it—this has been so many years in the making! 😊 As you may recall, when we were told we could pursue a lease on Wilkinson Elementary, we outlined a vision for having both AEC (our Ward 8 elementary school) and AMC (our Ward 8 middle school) at that location. In the first phase of the renovation, we renovated the portion of the building that is now AMC. After DCIA moved out of the building last summer, we started the 2nd phase of the renovation. Once that work is done this summer, we will move AEC from its current location (1409 V St SE) to join its sister campus at AMC. Our families & staff are so excited to have both schools in one location. As a mom, I know you can imagine how much simpler it will be for families to navigate drop-off and pick-up once they're at the same location! I'm also very excited to be able to give our students more outdoor space. I can't wait to see their smiles!

Would you like to schedule a time to talk more about this? I'd be glad to share more about the work we're doing to make sure that we support families with the transition from V Street to Pomeroy Rd, if that would be helpful!

With gratitude,

Laura

Laura Maestas

Chief Executive Officer

DC PREP

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SCHOOL NAME: DC Preparatory Academy Public Charter School

SUBMITTER: Michela English

SUBMISSION DATE: September 16, 2021

SCHOOL BACKGROUND

Campus name(s) and location(s): **Anacostia Elementary Campus, Anacostia Middle Campus, Benning Elementary Campus, Benning Middle Campus, Edgewood Elementary Campus, Edgewood Middle Campus.**

Year(s) opened: **2003**

Grade served: **PK3-8**

Date the charter will be eligible for renewal: **2032**

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Summarize the school's proposed changes. (Provide details in the following subsection.)

Anacostia Middle Campus: DC Prep began planning for their Anacostia Elementary Campus (PK3-3rd grade) during the 2014-2015 school year, and the Anacostia Middle Campus (4th-8th) soon after. DC Prep is currently leasing and operating their Anacostia Middle Campus on the ground floor of 2501 MLK Jr Ave SE (Birney Facility). While investigating opportunities to stay at 2501 MLK Ave SE long-term, DC Prep learned in the summer of 2020 that long term occupation would not be possible as the flagship tenets of the facility would stay long term. That summer, DC Prep also learned that the Budget Support Act of 2020 provided a potential solution. With the D.C. Infrastructure Academy moving into a newly renovated facility at Spingarn to further expand its programming; a public charter school would be able to operate in the Wilkinson Facility (2330 Pomeroy Rd SE). Since news of the Budget Support Act, DC Prep has worked with neighbors and the school community to plan for the move into the Fort Stanton neighborhood. MCN Build, who DC Prep has hired for the renovation work, is an experienced general contractor and has completed several school construction and renovation projects throughout the city. MCN Build is fully insured and bonded and has all the necessary permits and licenses to do construction in the city. The project will include renovation of the existing school building.

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

The Wilkinson Facility (2330 Pomeroy Rd SE) will become the long-term home for our Anacostia Middle Campus. Construction on the site will begin in late Fall 2021. Over the next several months, our team of architects, engineers, and builders will complete major renovations, transforming the site into a beautiful, long-term home and inspiring learning environment for our AMC students, families, staff, and the Fort Stanton community. We will move to this new home in the beginning of the 2022-2023 school year, serving students in 4th, 5th, and 6th grade, with the capacity to ultimately serve 330 students in 4th through 8th grade at scale.

- 3. 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?**

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio, DC Prep's Chief of External Affairs, has attended and presented at over 3 ANC 8B meetings, met with the previous and current ANC SMD Commissioners of 8B04 (where the Facility resides) Darrell Gaston and Kevin Coleman and 8A07 (the neighboring SMD commission) Hannah Baker and Steven Tiller. DC Prep has also presented at the Fort Stanton Civic Association, met with the Ward 8 State Board of Education Representative, Charlene Reid, met with Councilmember Trayon White and his office, and has held monthly community meetings with Fort Stanton neighbors since November 2019.

These outreach efforts lead to DC Prep receiving a letter of support from the 8B ANC Commission, the Fort Stanton Civic Association, Martha's Table, the Federal City Council, several Fort Stanton neighbors, and a number of DC Prep families and staff. With the abundant evidence of community support, DGS prepared and shared legislation for the disposition of Wilkinson to DC Prep. This led to a public hearing hosted by DC Council's Committee on Economic Development and Committee on Facilities. Neils, as well as DC Prep parents, staff, Board members, and Fort Stanton neighbors all publicly testified and answered questions from the Committee Chairpersons and other Councilmembers who were in attendance. Prior to the August 3rd Council meeting, where the Council would vote on the legislation, Councilmembers received over 1,000 advocacy emails from DC Prep families, staff, alumni, and supporters asking Councilmembers to vote "yes" for the disposition of Wilkinson. This resulted in the Council unanimously voting "yes" for the disposition of Wilkinson to DC Prep.

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

DC Prep's Board plans to vote on AMC's relocation to Wilkinson at its September 21st 2021 Board Meeting

FACILITY/LOCATION

1. Please check the reason below that best describes your proposed change.
- ☒ An entire campus or school seeks to relocate from its current location to a new location.
 - ☐ A single campus seeks to remain in its current location *and* expand into an additional location.
 - ☐ A school seeks a new campus to be housed in a new facility.
2. List all the facilities and addresses the school currently operates, along with the new facility(ies) the LEA plans to operate. Include the campus(es) located in each facility, highlighting any changes from what is currently written in the school's charter agreement.

Current Facilities

Anacostia Elementary Campus (AEC) – 1409 V St, SE – Washington, DC 20020

Anacostia Middle Campus (AMC) – 2501 MLK Jr Ave, SE – Washington, DC 20020 (temporary space)

Benning Elementary Campus (BEC) – 100 41st St, NE – Washington, DC 20019

Benning Middle Campus (BMC) – 100 41st St, NE – Washington, DC 20019

Edgewood Elementary Campus (EEC) – 707 Edgewood St, NE – Washington, DC 20017

Edgewood Middle Campus (EMC) – 701 Edgewood St, NE – Washington, DC 20017

New Facilities

Anacostia Middle Campus (AMC) - 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE - Washington, DC

20020 (AMC will move from the current, temporary location to this long-term building in the Summer of 2022)

3. What's the rationale for relocating, expanding, or dividing into a new location? Why did the school choose this particular location?

AMC is currently at capacity at its temporary location at 2501 MLK Jr Ave, SE. Moving to 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE would allow for AMC to continue to grow class by class, operating 4th-8th classes at scale. Because of the size of the Wilkinson Facility, it is also possible in the future to co-locate both AEC and AMC in the same facility which is similar to DC Prep's other campuses that either share facilities or are across the street from each other. 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE is less than a mile from AEC and is located between the 8B and 8A ANC commissions, where a sum of over 330 of DC Prep's students reside.

4. Is the proposed facility a property the school plans to purchase or lease? If the school has already purchased or leased the property, when did it acquire the property? How many square feet is the proposed space?

2330 Pomeroy Rd SE will be leased from DC Government. On August 3rd, DC Council voted unanimously to approve the disposition of 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE to DC Prep. DC Prep is currently negotiating with DGS and plans to have a 25 year lease signed by October 2021. 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE has a total of 138,578 gross square feet, with 104,282 finished square feet above grade.

5. If the school plans to move a current campus into a new location, please answer the following:
- a. How will the location change impact students who currently attend this campus? How will the school ensure students re-enroll?

DC Prep will be accepting re-enrollment paperwork at our current location through and beyond the last day of school in the current 2021-2022 academic year to ensure there are no additional barriers to re-enrollment.

- b. How will the school support families who need transportation to access the new location?

Additional transportation services will not be needed as the new location is near AEC, and most AMC families with ample bus routes.

6. Describe the proposed location's neighborhood (e.g., residential, commercial, metro-accessibility). What value will the school bring to this community? In the response, list traditional and public charter schools in close proximity to the new location, identifying schools that serve the same grade span the school will serve at full capacity at this location. Describe how the school's academic performance, demographics, and

mission compare to these schools.

2330 Pomeroy Rd SE was the former Wilkinson Elementary School, a DCPS school that closed in 2009. Located in Fort Stanton, it is in the same neighborhood as Martha's Table, the Smithsonian Anacostia Community Museum, and the Fort Stanton Recreation Center. The school is 3 blocks away from Moten Elementary School, a DCPS school that serves grades PK3-5th. Moten serves a similar demographic to AMC but does not include grades 6th-8th. Moten is rated a one on the STAR Framework while all DC Prep Schools that were eligible were rated at least a 4. The facility is also in proximity to KIPP Douglass Campus which houses KIPP Heights (1st - 4th) and KIPP Aim (5th - 8th). All of DC Prep's schools, including AMC's feeder school, AEC were named as Tier 1 schools under the PMF framework. AEC was the highest rated school in Ward 8, and one of the highest in the City. While KIPP Heights is a Tier 1 school, it's feeder school, KIPP Aim, is a Tier 2 school.

7. Describe how the school has engaged its internal community (e.g., staff, families, students) in its decision to relocate, expand, or divide into this new location. Submit documentation of the school's communications with its staff and families regarding the proposed location. Explain any concerns the school's internal community raised. How did the school respond? How will it engage these stakeholders moving forward?

Since the opening of AEC, and the move to the V St facility, the DC Prep Anacostia community has been aware that DC Prep was looking for a long-term home for AMC. Once 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE became a viable option, DC Prep sent a letter to our school community which is attached. Throughout the construction, families, school staff, and the community will be updated about the project through a monthly email and school leader announcements.

8. Describe how the school has engaged the community surrounding the proposed location. Submit documentation of communications with nearby principals, neighbors, ANC representatives, Councilmembers, and others, notifying them of the school's plans. Explain any concerns the surrounding community raised. How did the school respond? How will it engage these stakeholders moving forward?

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio, DC Prep's Chief of External Affairs, has attended and presented at over 3 ANC 8B meetings, met with the previous and current ANC SMD Commissioners of 8B04 (where the Facility resides)

Darrell Gaston and Kevin Coleman and 8A7 (the neighboring SMD commission) Hannah Baker and Steven Tiller, presented at the Fort Stanton Civic Association, met with the Ward 8 State Board of Education Representative, Charlene Reid, met with Councilmember Trayon White and his office, and has held monthly community meetings with Fort Stanton neighbors since November 2019.

These outreach efforts lead to DC Prep receiving a letter of support from the 8B ANC Commission, the Fort Stanton Civic Association, Martha's Table, the Federal City Council, several Fort Stanton neighbors, and a number of DC Prep families and staff. With the abundant evidence of community support, DGS prepared and shared legislation for the disposition of Wilkinson to DC Prep. This led to a public hearing hosted by DC Council's Committee on Economic Development and Committee on Facilities. Neils, as well as DC Prep parents, staff members, and Fort Stanton neighbors all publicly testified and answered questions from the Committee Chairpersons. Prior to the August 3rd Council meeting, where the Council would vote on the legislation, Councilmembers received a total of over 1,000 advocacy emails from DC Prep families, staff, alumni, and supporters asking Councilmembers to vote "yes" for the disposition of Wilkinson. This resulted in the Council unanimously voting "yes" for the disposition of Wilkinson to DC Prep.

9. Will there be newly created seats for additional students? If so, discuss student recruitment efforts in the new school community.

While there will not be 'newly created' seats, this move would allow AMC to continue to expand and include 6th, 7th, and 8th grade classes, as the temporary location would only allow AMC to hold 4th and 5th grade classes.

10. What is the maximum occupancy at the new location? If the maximum occupancy load for staff and students is less than the total number of staff and students who will occupy the facility at any point in the future, please explain how the school will address this issue.

DC Prep is gutting and renovating the interior of the new location prior to occupancy and are designing the space to support an occupancy load in excess of our total number of staff and students.

11. Does the proposed space require renovations either to serve as a school or to be accessible for students with disabilities?

Yes, currently, the main lobby has been renovated and is currently used by the DC Infrastructure Academy. the remaining parts of the internal, and external, spaces of the facility will require renovation.

12. In addition to providing a [5-year Operating Budget](#), please answer the following questions regarding the financial impact of the proposed location:

a. For each of the five budget years, how much does the proposed new facility cost, and how many students will be served at the new site?

1.

	SY22-23	SY23-24	SY24-25	SY25-26	SY26-27
Students	226	284	332	332	332
Facilities Allocation	\$ 770,235	\$ 967,905	\$ 1,131,495	\$ 1,142,810	\$ 1,154,238
Occupancy Expenses	\$ 651,944	\$ 636,423	\$ 649,152	\$ 662,135	\$ 675,377
Principal	\$ 664,655	\$ 674,693	\$ 684,883	\$ 695,228	\$ 705,728
Interest	\$ 288,386	\$ 278,348	\$ 268,158	\$ 257,813	\$ 247,313
Per Pupil Facilities Cost	\$ 7,102	\$ 5,597	\$ 4,826	\$ 4,865	\$ 4,905
Per Pupil Facilities Allocation	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,442	\$ 3,477

b. What is the school's per-pupil facilities cost, and how does this compare with its per-pupil facilities allowance?

1.

	SY22-23	SY23-24	SY24-25	SY25-26	SY26-27
Students	226	284	332	332	332

Facilities Allocation	\$ 770,235	\$ 967,905	\$ 1,131,495	\$ 1,142,810	\$ 1,154,238
Occupancy Expenses	\$ 651,944	\$ 636,423	\$ 649,152	\$ 662,135	\$ 675,377
Principal	\$ 664,655	\$ 674,693	\$ 684,883	\$ 695,228	\$ 705,728
Interest	\$ 288,386	\$ 278,348	\$ 268,158	\$ 257,813	\$ 247,313
Per Pupil Facilities Cost	\$ 7,102	\$ 5,597	\$ 4,826	\$ 4,865	\$ 4,905
Per Pupil Facilities Allocation	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,442	\$ 3,477

- c. If the school plans to operate multiple facilities, in addition to the proposed new location, what is the LEA's total facilities cost (e.g., rent expense, property taxes, property insurance, amortization of leasehold improvements (LHI) and furniture, fixtures, and equipment (FFE), depreciation of building, debt service for building, LHI and FFE, utilities, repairs, maintenance, etc.)? How does this expense compare with the school's per-pupil allowance?

1.

	SY22-23	SY23-24	SY24-25	SY25-26	SY26-27
Students	2249	2307	2355	2355	2355
Facilities Allocation	\$ 7,664,857	\$ 7,862,528	\$ 8,026,118	\$ 8,106,379	\$ 8,187,443

Occupancy Expenses	\$ 2,914,167	\$ 2,615,453	\$ 2,667,764	\$ 2,721,118	\$ 2,775,537
Principal	\$ 1,804,719	\$ 1,315,249	\$ 2,259,359	\$ 2,345,251	\$ 2,432,374
Interest	\$ 2,366,260	\$ 2,560,645	\$ 2,081,905	\$ 2,025,970	\$ 1,966,624
Per Pupil Facilities Cost	\$ 3,150	\$ 2,814	\$ 2,976	\$ 3,012	\$ 3,047
Per Pupil Facilities Allocation	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,408	\$ 3,442	\$ 3,477

- d. What additional sources of funding does the school plan to use to pay for this new facility during each of the five budget years?

Raised funds through philanthropic giving

- e. If applicable, what contingencies does the school have in case it enrolls fewer students than anticipated?

DC Prep includes a contingency in each year's budget to safeguard against unforeseen circumstances



**Government of the District of Columbia
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8B**

October 24th, 2020

Advisory Neighborhood Commission
1809 Savannah Street SE
Washington, DC 20032

DC Prep
707 Edgewood Street NE
Washington, DC 20017

Dear DC Prep,

The advisory neighborhood commission 8B has recommended to the deputy mayor of education that DC Prep be located at Wilkinson Elementary School, located 2330 Pomeroy Road, SE.

The commission voted unanimously to oppose the building of the charter school to be located on Frankford Street SE, and after much consideration, community meetings and meetings with both your school and government leaders, it's our hope that a compromise could be made by locating DC Prep at Wilkinson.

If and when this proposal is accepted by DC, the commission stand ready to support DC Prep in its lease negotiations with DC Department of General Services and Deputy Mayor for Education.

We abs a body fills this is a compromise toe nausea that the community of ANC 8B04 and DC Prep can both agree and work with.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Commissioner Darrell Gaston, the advisory neighborhood commissioner for both Wilkinson ES and Frankford Street SE at 2026902662 or 8b04@anc.dc.gov

Sincerely,

Keon Johnson

Chairperson

October, 24, 2020

Darrell Gaston

SMD Commissioner

October, 24, 2020

TO: AEC & AMC Staff & Families

DATE: 7.30

Dear Anacostia Elementary & Anacostia Middle Community,

We are thrilled that in a few short weeks we will open our Anacostia Middle Campus. And while we look forward to welcoming our 4th graders to their temporary home at the Birney Building (2501 MLK Jr SE), we are anxious to ensure that our AMC team has a permanent middle school building in Ward 8. We know you are, too!

Long before we opened AEC in 2015, our team was working to identify a permanent facility for Anacostia Middle Campus. It's been a long search! Most recently, we've explored two options:

- Building a new school on a property on Frankford St, SE, in the Fort Stanton Community. This location is currently undeveloped; members of the immediate community expressed concern that a school would create issues with traffic and litter. As a show of good faith, DC Prep paused any additional work on the site in November 2019 and has been working to secure a long-term lease in a publicly owned building.
- Remaining in the Birney building (AMC's temporary location) long term, pending Excel Academy vacating the building at the end of their lease (which was set to expire after SY20-21).

Until the Mayor's budget announcement on May 18th, we believed there was a strong chance that we could become the primary tenant at Birney once Excel relocated. However, at the budget announcement Mayor Bowser made clear that Excel Academy will remain at Birney. Without Excel vacating Birney, there is not enough space for our AMC community at Birney once we grow to include a 6th grade.

Fortunately, the City approached the decision to keep Excel at Birney in a way that addresses multiple community needs-- in her budget proposal, the Mayor also requested money to renovate the former Spingarn High School Campus as the future home of the DC Infrastructure Academy (DCIA), and sought authority to allow a charter school that was located in the Birney Building to lease the Wilkinson building (currently home to DCIA). In this way, the City honored the needs of Excel families who are invested in remaining in their current school building, while also recognizing the needs of DC Prep families, who need a permanent building for Anacostia Middle Campus. In parallel, the City is ensuring that DCIA has a permanent home, Spingarn is revitalized, and Wilkinson (long underutilized) can once again fulfill its original intent-- to provide great public education to school children!

We believe that the Wilkinson building could be a great option for our permanent location. It is less than a mile from AEC, borders Martha's Table, offers an abundance of space-- both indoors and out! In addition, the Wilkinson facility is very large. While not a certainty, it may be possible over time to co-locate AEC and AMC. This would solve a concern many parents have raised

about how to manage pick-up and drop-off when siblings attend different campuses. Finally, we have been in close contact with the Fort Stanton community over the last 9+ months. Due to our strong track record of results, the Fort Stanton Civic Association has sent a letter of support to Councilmember White on our behalf and the ANC Commissioner has conveyed verbal support.

While there are “unknowns” until we can sign a lease, we are grateful that Wilkinson could potentially be our long-term home. That this is even an option is a testament to our AEC students-- their strong results make the best case for ensuring they have a middle school building!-- and to so many of you who supported our advocacy efforts to secure a permanent building. *Thank you-- we are so grateful for your partnership!*

As always, the path to secure a school building is long and winding. While the budget and the Budget Support Act have been passed, we’re not “there” yet! Before the City can lease us the building, they must hold a public hearing and hold a council vote. If you live in Ward 8, please contact your Ward 8 Councilmember, Trayon White (twhite@dccouncil.us) to express support for AMC leasing the Wilkinson building. A sample letter is listed at the bottom of this email.

Thank you, and we’ll be sure to share more information in the coming weeks as we learn more about this opportunity.

With Gratitude,

Laura Maestas
Chief Executive Officer

&

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Chief of External Affairs

To: [REDACTED]

CC: [REDACTED]

Subject: DC Prep Letter of Support

As a Ward 8 resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. As a (parent/guardian) of a DC Prep student, I have seen, firsthand, the impact DC Prep can have on the lives of young people. Thank you.

Sincerely,

(NAME)

(ADDRESS)

TESTIMONY OF BREANNA DAVIS TRIBBLE
COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES
COMMITTEE ON BUSIENSS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMNT

Joint Hearing on Bill 24-294, the “Wilkinson School Disposition Authorization Act of 2021”

July 12, 2021
12:00 pm

Good afternoon Chair White, Chair McDuffie, and Councilmembers. My name is BreAnna Davis Tribble, and I am a Fort Stanton/Ward 8 resident. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Bill 24-294, the Wilkinson School Disposition Authorization Act of 2021, which will allow DC Prep to build its Ward 8 middle school at the former Wilkinson School.

As a mother of a young child, it is very important to me that our kids are reaching their fullest potential. Through my interactions with representatives of DC Prep, I can tell the educators and staff share this same value and are striving to ensure the very best for these kids. I support DC Prep opening its Ward 8 middle school at the Wilkinson campus because I believe the campus will meet the students/families’ needs such as having a building that can accommodate their students and staff in terms of size and one that is in close proximity to where children live. I urge the Council to pass this bill soon so this new school can open for the 2022–23 school year. Thank you.

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Marlo Tucker <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, August 1, 2020 12:22 AM
To: wlockridge@dccouncil.us
Cc: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: DC Prep Letter of Support

CAUTION: The email below was sent from outside DC Prep. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe. If you believe that this email is suspicious, please forward to 'helpdesk@dcprep.org' and DO NOT RESPOND to the sender.

As a Ward 8 resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. As a parent of a DC Prep student, I have seen, firsthand, the impact DC Prep can have on the lives of young people. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marlo Tucker

[REDACTED] Washington, DC [REDACTED]

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Latisha Nero [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 20, 2020 12:53 PM
To: wlockridge@dccouncil.us
Cc: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: DC Prep Letter Of Support...

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To Whom It May Concern,

As a Ward 8 and Fort Stanton resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus into the Wilkinson Elementary Building located on 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. We believe DC Prep will be an added benefit and strong partner for the Fort Stanton community. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Latisha Nero

[REDACTED]

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Stephanie Bell [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 4:14 PM
To: wlockridge@dccouncil.us
Subject: Letter of Support for DC Prep

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Ms. Lockridge

As a Ward 8 and Fort Stanton resident, I write to you in support of DC Prep locating their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located on 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE. I believe that DC Prep will be good stewards of the Wilkinson Building if given it for their school.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Bell

[REDACTED]

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Kimberly Davis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 4:52 PM
To: wlockridge@dccouncil.us
Cc: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: DC Prep Letter of Support - Wilkinson Elementary Building

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Good Afternoon,

As a Ward 8 and Fort Stanton resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus into the Wilkinson Elementary Building located on 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. We believe DC Prep will be a strong partner for the Fort Stanton community. We know they will be active and engaged with community needs, and will be good stewards of the Wilkinson Building. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Kim Davis
[REDACTED]

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: BreAnna and Jeffery Tribble [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 12:57 PM
To: wlockridge@dccouncil.us
Cc: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: DC Prep Letter of Support

CAUTION: The email below was sent from outside DC Prep. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe. If you believe that this email is suspicious, please forward to 'helpdesk@dcprep.org' and DO NOT RESPOND to the sender.

Hello,

As a Ward 8 and Fort Stanton resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus into the Wilkinson Elementary Building located on [2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020](#). We believe this location is perfect for DC Prep and the students and families of Anacostia Middle. We know that DC Prep be good stewards of the Wilkinson Building and just as importantly that they will be active and engaged with the Fort Stanton community.

Thank you for your time!

Best,

Breanna Davis Tribble
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPhone

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Samson Girma [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 6:24 PM
To: wlockridge@dccouncil.us
Cc: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: DC Prep Letter of Support

CAUTION: The email below was sent from outside DC Prep. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know that the content is safe. If you believe that this email is suspicious, please forward to 'helpdesk@dcprep.org' and DO NOT RESPOND to the sender.

Good evening,

As a Ward 8 and Fort Stanton resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus into the Wilkinson Elementary Building located on 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. We believe DC Prep will be an added benefit and strong partner for the Fort Stanton community. DC Prep is one of the highest rated charter schools in Washington, DC. We know their academic approach will be top-notch, they will be active and engaged with community needs, and will be good stewards of the Wilkinson Building. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Samson
[REDACTED]

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Jonathan Cochrane [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 4:43 PM
To: wlockridge@dccouncil.us
Cc: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: DC Prep Letter of Support

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Dear Ms. Lockridge,

As a Ward 8 and Fort Stanton resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus into the Wilkinson Elementary Building located on 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. We believe DC Prep will be an added benefit and strong partner for the Fort Stanton community.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Cochrane

[REDACTED]

--

Jonathan D. Cochrane
Email: jonathan.d.cochrane@gmail.com

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Nicole Davy [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 31, 2020 3:21 PM
To: twhite@dccouncil.us
Cc: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: DC Prep Letter of Support

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Dear Councilman White,

As a Ward 8 resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. As a parent of a DC Prep student, I have seen, firsthand, the impact DC Prep can have on the lives of young people.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter,

Nicole Davy
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Carmelita [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 8:45 PM
To: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: Letter of Support - Anacostia Campus

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Dear Mayor Bowser and DC Councilmembers,

As a parent and Ward 8 resident, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. Through my students, Ezra Marshall at DC Prep Edgewood, and Jaden Cathey & Eryn Cleveland at DC Prep Anacostia, I have seen, firsthand, the impact DC Prep can have on the lives of young people. In particular, I really appreciate that DC Prep provides a rigorous academic curriculum in which students are challenged to think critically, develop emotionally and communicate effectively.

DC Prep is the right school for my family because they have demonstrated over the last 9 years, their commitment to my students' success both academically and emotionally. DC Prep fosters a community where both parents are students are valued and I am happy to be a part of that community.

The families of Ward 8, the most impoverished ward of the city, deserve for DC Prep to have a permanent location that is easily accessible. The Wilkinson Elementary Building will be the perfect location allowing for a smooth transition from the W Street location.

High quality education can change the trajectory of our students lives. The students deserve it, their families deserve it and the generations following deserve it.

I look forward to the successes that will come from our DC Prep Anacostia students.

Thank you,
Carmelita Marshall

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Lisa McMillan <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, October 16, 2020 4:38 PM
To: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: support letter
Attachments: support letter.docx

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Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Emma Bivona
Sent: Wednesday, November 4, 2020 8:01 AM
To: Ciara Ray; Brooke Jones; Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: RE: Letter of Support - B. Jones

Dear Mayor Bowser and DC Councilmembers,

As a school leader and teacher at the Anacostia Middle Campus, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. I've been at DC Prep since School Year 2014-2015, but in education for 12 years, so I've seen a wide range of what schools offer and the support that could be given. I moved to the area because of the mission of DC Prep, but I stayed because I was blown away by the level of support, community, bought in teachers to kids' learning and investment in the students as people. I know there's a lot of good that is in Southeast DC. We only want to add to that, and offer families a really solid option that does all of what I mentioned above. I realized very early on that the education and experience that was taking place at DC Prep was unmatched. I look forward to our AMC preppies being able to experience that in a school home that is truly their own. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Emma Bivona
Assistant Principal

From: Ciara Ray [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 12:17 PM
To: Brooke Jones [REDACTED]; Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio [REDACTED]
Cc: Emma Bivona [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Letter of Support - B. Jones

Dear Mayor Bowser and DC Councilmembers,

As a school leader and teacher at the Anacostia Middle Campus, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. I've been at DC Prep since School Year 2014-2015, but in education for 12 years, so I've seen a wide range of what schools offer and the support that could be given. I moved to the area because of the mission of DC Prep, but I stayed because I was blown away by the level of support, community, bought in teachers to kids' learning and investment in the students as people. I know there's a lot of good that is in Southeast DC. We only want to add to that, and offer families a really solid option that does all of what I mentioned above. I realized very early on that the education and experience that was taking place at DC Prep was unmatched. I look forward to our AMC preppies being able to experience that in a school home that is truly their own. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ciara Ray
ELA Department Chair

[Ciara Ray](#)

Middle School Teacher, ELA Dept. Chair, & GLL
DC PREP
Anacostia Middle Campus
2501 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20020

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
WWW.DCPREP.ORG

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The highest-performing network of charter schools in Washington.

From: Brooke Jones [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 3, 2020 11:26 AM
To: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio [REDACTED]
Cc: Emma Bivona [REDACTED] Ciara Ray [REDACTED]
Subject: Letter of Support - B. Jones

Hey Neils – My letter of support below! Thanks for all your work with AMC!!

Emma & Ciara, will you guys send one to Neils to at some point this week? Sorry if you already have! You can use the template below and just change out the things about me!

Dear Mayor Bowser and DC Councilmembers,

As the Assistant Principal of Community at the Anacostia Middle Campus, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. Through my four years teaching at DC Prep and my nine years teaching in DC total, I have seen and experienced, firsthand, the impact DC Prep can have on the lives of young people. In particular, I really appreciate that DC Prep intentionally forms great relationships with families and is committed to ensuring preppie's success beyond our doors by making sure they find the high school that is the right fit for them! Thank you.

Sincerely,

Brooke Jones
Assistant Principal

Brooke Jones
Assistant Principal
DC PREP
Anacostia Middle Campus
2501 MLK Jr. Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20020

■■■■■
■■■■■
■■■■■
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Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio

From: Ben Hsieh
Sent: Friday, November 20, 2020 9:23 AM
To: Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio
Subject: Ben Hsieh - Letter of Support for Anacostia @ Wilkinson

Hi Neils,

Could you please submit my letter with the rest of the ones we are getting? Sorry it's taken me so long!!

Thanks,
Ben

Dear Mayor Bowser and DC Councilmembers,

As the Director of Facilities & Business Operations, I write this letter of support for DC Prep to locate their Anacostia Middle Campus in the Wilkinson Elementary Building located at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020. Through the almost two years that I have been a part of this community, I have seen and experienced, firsthand, the impact DC Prep can have on the lives of young people. I spent a considerable amount of time directly engaging with the current 4th graders at DC Prep AMC and their families in Fall 2019 through our aftercare program and I can personally attest to the emotional maturity and intellectual curiosity of the students in this (and all) DC Prep class.

Sincerely,

Ben Hsieh

Director of Facilities & Business Operations

Pronouns: he, him, his

DC PREP
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Washington, DC 20017
M [240.205.9517](tel:240.205.9517)
T [202.635.4590](tel:202.635.4590)
F [202.635.4591](tel:202.635.4591)
E BHsieh@dcprep.org
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Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education
John A. Wilson Building | 1350 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Suite 307 | Washington, DC 20004

July 11, 2021

Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 107
Washington, DC 20004

Councilmember Kenyan R. McDuffie
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 506
Washington, DC 20004

Dear Councilmembers White and McDuffie,

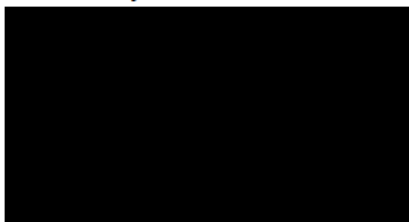
I am writing in support of designating the former Wilkinson Elementary School as surplus, meaning that the government no longer requires the property for District-operated public uses. This is aligned with the Mayor's introduction of the Wilkinson School Disposition Process Amendment Act of 2020 in FY21's Budget Support Act, as well as the Wilkinson School Disposition Authorization Emergency and Temporary Act of 2021, recently introduced as well. These acts allow the Mayor to give the right of first offer to purchase, lease, or use the former Wilkinson Elementary School building to a charter school facility incubator or a public charter school that occupied the former Birney Elementary School, in whole or in part, as of October 1, 2020; and allows the Mayor to hold a combined surplus and disposition public hearing instead of two separate hearings.

My office assessed whether the former Wilkinson Elementary School is needed for DCPS now or in the future based on information and analysis included in the 2018 Master Facilities Plan, EdScape, and the 2020 Master Facilities Plan supplements. We determined the building is not necessary and can be surplus.

I am also in support of DC Prep PCS gaining access to the former Wilkinson Building per the legislated process. Allowing DC Prep PCS to lease the building solves the permanent home needs of both Excel Academy and the DC Prep Anacostia Middle School.

I appreciate your attention to this matter, and please let me know if there is anything else I or my office can do to support this effort.

Sincerely,



Paul Kihn
Deputy Mayor for Education



Testimony of Kevin Clinton
Chief Operating Officer
Federal City Council

Committee of Government Operations and Facilities
Chair Robert White, Jr.

Committee on Business and Economic Development
Chair Kenyan McDuffie

Joint Hearing on Bill 24-294, the “Wilkinson School Disposition Authorization Act of 2021”

July 12, 2021
12:00 pm

Good afternoon Chair White, Chair McDuffie, and Councilmembers. My name is Kevin Clinton and I am the Chief Operating Officer of the Federal City Council. I am here to testify in support of the disposition of the Wilkinson School to allow DC Prep to locate its Ward 8 middle school at the site so that it can open for the 2022-23 school year.

At the Federal City Council, we believe that high-quality schools should be given the opportunity to grow. DC Prep has a great track record for student success. Its other middle schools have been the highest performing in the city and all of DC Prep’s schools were rated Tier 1 by the PCSB. DC Prep is uniquely committed to the long-term success of its students, including all of the way through completing college.

As you’ve heard today in testimonies, the local community is on board. The Wilkinson site was identified as a good place for DC Prep after consultation with the Fort Stanton community after joining or hosting more than 20 community meetings. Last fall, the Fort Stanton Civic Association

and ANC 8B both authored letters of support. Parents and students that attend the nearby DC Prep elementary want their kids to continue on through middle school with DC Prep.

We urge the Council to act swiftly on this disposition. DC Prep's Anacostia Elementary Campus opened in 2015, and its first cohort is aging up quickly into middle school. DC Prep explored another option which was opposed by the local community, and up until the summer of 2020, the school thought that it could stay in the Birney Building long term. Fortunately this opportunity at Wikilinson arose because the DC Infrastructure Academy will be moving to Spingarn.

DC Prep is already doing the background work to have the school up and ready by 2022-23 school year. It's already working with DGS on the terms of a long-term lease, as well as hired an architect and general contractor to start the design work.

The Wilkinson campus is an underutilized city asset that would work perfectly as a new middle school. It's what families and students want. It's what the local community wants. DC Prep has proven it can elevate student achievement. They need the facility space to grow and continue to elevate achievement.

Thank you.



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8B

June 8, 2021

Dear Members of the DC Council,

As a resident of ANC 8B, and as the Single Member District ANC Commissioner for 8B02, I am writing to express my support for the disposition of the Wilkinson Building to DC Prep.

Thank you,

Paul Trantham
ANC Commissioner 8B02



July 7, 2021

Hello Chair White, Chair McDuffie, and Councilmembers,

Please let this serve as an official letter of support of DC Prep and its proposed location at 2330 Pomeroy Rd SE.

Martha's Table has had the opportunity to meet with Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio, Chief of External Affairs, to hear the plans that they have for a new middle school. Martha's Table looks forward to continuing to work with the DC Prep team as partners in the community and we look forward to welcoming their school into the Fort Stanton community.

Sincerely,



Kim R. Ford
President & CEO

Sindy Tavaréz

From: L Ferrell [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, September 18, 2019 8:44 AM
To: Sindy Tavaréz; Neema Desai
Subject: Letter of Support - DC Prep AMC

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Good morning,

Please see me letter of support for DC Prep AMC.
Thank you very much.

As a new parent, I was very reluctant to send my precious little boy into the school system at 3 years old. I was weary of bullying, poor communication, and a lack of oversight in regards to my child's well being. I was nervous because the reputation of the Districts school system precedes it; however when I enrolled my son into DC Prep - Anacostia in 2015, I was greeted with warmth, professionalism, and a smile that I still see 4 years later. Sending my child to DC Prep - Anacostia was not a choice that I made lightly and it is not a choice that I regret---I am very proud to be a parent here. This school has exceeded every expectation that I have had from enrollment, to curriculum, and especially the staff. This school has prepared my son academically and socially for his future and now my daughter is enrolled. My children have gained lifelong friendships, valuable lessons, and together we have gained family in DC Prep - Anacostia. Compared to their peers enrolled at other schools, my children are far more advanced and well versed in their academics. I am forever grateful to Principal Desai, former teacher and administrator Ms. Lockett, and every member of the staff who have wiped tears from my children's eyes, gave hugs when their day wasn't going as planned, cut on their favorite song and had a dance party when they needed some cheering up, and called on the weekends just to check-in. I strongly support the advancement of DC Prep - Anacostia and I advocate for my children's education at this school. I hope the middle school is approved so my children can continue their fine education at this establishment.

All the best,
Lauren Ferrell





Saint Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

The Mother Roman Catholic Church of Southeast Washington
1401 V Street Southeast • Washington, DC 20020-4809 • 202.678.3709 202.678.3325 Fax

October 23, 2019

To Ward 8 Residents:

For the last three years, we have been neighbors of DC Prep. Throughout this time, we have found the DC Prep team to be collaborative and solutions oriented. When we have needed a favor (e.g., access to their parking lot after school hours) or to secure a meeting space for our Parish, they have been quick to offer their facility. DC Prep has also provided members of their staff to assist us with cleaning our gutters, our hardwood floors to be stained, our books and bookcases.

We firmly believe DC Prep is invested in our Ward 8 community and are willing to work together to meet the needs of students, families and neighbors.

Sincerely,

Linda Clay Roberson

Parish Manager

St. Teresa of Avila Catholic Church

TESTIMONY OF LATISHA NERO

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FACILITIES
COMMITTEE ON BUSIENSS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMNT**

Joint Hearing on Bill 24-294, the “Wilkinson School Disposition Authorization Act of 2021”

**July 12, 2021
12:00 pm**

Good afternoon Chair White, Chair McDuffie, and Councilmembers. My name is Latisha Nero and I am a Ward 8 resident. I am also a DC Public Schools teacher and have been in education for 12 years. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Bill 24-294, the Wilkinson School Disposition Authorization Act of 2021, which will allow DC Prep to build its Ward 8 middle school at the former Wilkinson School.

As a Fort Stanton resident, I take pride in doing my part to ensure that our community is a comfortable and safe place for all. Over the past few years, I have been heavily involved in the discussions around the potential location for DC Prep’s Ward 8 middle school. When community concerns arose regarding the proposed Frankford Street SE location, DC Prep, specifically Mr. Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio, was very accommodating and provided ample opportunity for all parties to share opinions and feedback. The number of challenges that would exist from building a middle school from the ground up in a small residential neighborhood were alarming. Subsequently, the Fort Stanton residents and DC Prep agreed that logistically the proposed location would not support the development of a brand-new middle school.

The Wilkerson campus is an ideal location for DC Prep’s new middle school. It is located within Ward 8, is an existing school building structure, and presents none of the logistical barriers that existed with the Frankford St SE location. Mr. Neils Ribeiro-Yemofio has worked around the clock to engage all impacted parties in the effort to find a new location for the

Ward 8 middle school. Monthly updates are shared with the community via an online newsletter and at every ANC 8B community meeting. This engagement process has taken place over multiple years, and it is time for a final decision to be made.

As a resident who has been involved in the search for the middle school's location since the beginning, I fully support DC Prep's initiative to build its Ward 8 middle school campus at the former Wilkinson School. I urge the City Council to support this initiative as well and pass this bill as soon as possible. DC Prep, its families, and its students have been more than patient throughout this process. Any further delay will ultimately have a significant impact on the education of innocent children who so desperately want and need a stable learning environment.



Home Office
707 Edgewood Street, NE
Washington, DC 20017

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WWW.DCPREP.ORG

Dear Mayor Bowser and City Councilmembers,

On behalf of the more than 2,100 students we serve and the many friends of great public education in DC (many of whom are signing on to this petition) we ask that you approve the proposed disposition and surplus of the former Wilkinson Elementary School (2330 Pomeroy Rd SE). That will enable us to lease and renovate the building as the future home of DC Prep's Anacostia Elementary & Middle School.

DC Prep has served Ward 8 families since our earliest days. Year after year, Ward 8 families have made the long commute to our Edgewood and Benning campuses because they trust DC Prep to provide their children with a high-quality education. Today, we serve more than 600 students who live in Ward 8 and attend one of our six campuses in Wards 5, 7 & 8.

We opened our Anacostia Elementary Campus (AEC) six years ago. Based on the 2019 School Quality Reports-- the last released-- it is the 5th highest-performing charter school citywide. Two years ago, we were approved by the Public Charter School Board (PCSB) to open AMC and, on August 31st, we opened Anacostia Middle Campus (AMC) in the basement of the Birney building with 79 4th graders, co-located with Excel Academy. Last November, we wrote to you to ask for your help in identifying an under-utilized city-owned building that we could lease for our students, which would allow Excel to stay at and fully utilize the Birney building. We had purchased a piece of land at 1619 Frankford St, but after Fort Stanton community members raised concerns about a school at that site, we asked for your partnership in identifying a solution. We thank the Mayor for the solution she included as part of the approved FY21 budget. By allowing DC Prep to lease Wilkinson: 1) DC Prep students and families will have a school building; 2) DCPS's Excel Academy will be able to remain at and utilize the full Birney building as its permanent home; and 3) The Fort Stanton community's concerns about building on 1619 Frankford St will be addressed. We believe that Wilkinson provides a perfect solution for our students-- who need a building-- and the Fort Stanton community.

DC Prep has no desire to open schools for the sake of opening schools. We open schools when there is family demand for what we can offer. Based on OSSE's STAR framework, it is undeniable that Ward 8 has too few high-quality middle school seats. Families shouldn't have to commute across town to attend a Tier 1 middle school! Allowing us to renovate Wilkinson for our students will enable us to turn what is currently an underutilized city-owned building into a vibrant school community, housing an Elementary and Middle School.



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Beyond the work we do each day to provide a great school to our DC Prep families, we are committed to partnering with the broader Fort Stanton community who will be most impacted by our presence and have worked hard to build trust with community leaders. Accompanying this petition, we are pleased to share letters of support from community organizations and elected officials, in addition to individual residents of Fort Stanton and the broader Ward 8 community.

On behalf of the DC Prep community,

Laura Maestas

DC Prep, CEO



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I, NAME, support DC Prep's efforts to lease the former Wilkinson Elementary School in Ward 8 as the future home of their Anacostia Elementary & Middle campuses. Please include your name here.	Email Address	I live in Ward...
Aisha Williams		Ward 8
Alease Medlock		Ward 8
Alexis Muse		Ward 7
Andrew Whitener		Ward 1
Andria Fernandez		Ward 5
Anthony Witherspoon		Ward 7
Anzjole Callahan		Ward 4
Ashley Johnson		Ward 7
Ashley Taylor		Ward 8
Autumn Stafford		Ward 5
Benjamin Hsieh		Ward 6
Benjamin Love		Ward 7
Bianca Phillips		Ward 7
Briana wimpye		Ward 8
Brooke Jones		Ward 6
Camilla ONeal Wills		Ward 8
Carmelita Marshall		Ward 8
Cassandra Lamar		Ward 7
Chalaya shirts		Ward 7
Charday D.Eury		Ward 7
Charlena Brown		Ward 8
Chiquita Raynor		Ward 7
Christina Murphy		Ward 7
Christina Shelton		Ward 7
Christine Vaughn		Ward 7
Christopher Joyner		Ward 7
Cindy Delmas		Ward 8
Corey Williams		Ward 8
D. Roach		Ward 7
Dan Englender		Ward 6
Darren Kataja		Ward 5
Davia Mathis		Ward 8
David Burke		Ward 2
DeAngelo Gatling		Ward 7
Denise Light		Ward 8
Detroy Garrett Jr.		Ward 7
Diamond Bennett		Ward 8



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Dominique		Ward 8
Donshawn Thomas		Ward 8
E C		Ward 5
Edward Newby		Ward 8
Emily Griffin		Ward 1
Emily Johannsen		Ward 6
Emma Bivona		Ward 6
Emma Harbaugh		Ward 1
Ernetta Dye		Ward 8
Frederick Haudel		Ward 5
Gail M Winslow		Ward 8
Genet Gm		Ward 8
Harish Ramroop		Ward 7
Hilary Dauffenbach-Tabb		Ward 3
Jailen Hawkins		Ward 8
James Francis Smyth		Ward 6
Janay Burrell		Ward 7
Jawanda Wright		Ward 7
Jody McGraw		Ward 5
Kailah Robinson		Ward 8
Kamishia Lee		Ward 4
Kate Whitener		Ward 1
Katie Kuzma		Ward 6
Kawan M Jones		Ward 7
Keenan Kelley		Ward 6
Keona Jones		Ward 8
Keshonda Pyos		Ward 8
Kimisha Robinson		Ward 7
Kinea McCray		Ward 8
Krystal Tucker		Ward 8
Kyia Branham		Ward 5
LaShawn Scott		Ward 7
Latinique Cooper		Ward 8
LaTonya Harris		Ward 7
Lauren Ferrell		Ward 8
Lisa McMillan		Ward 8
Lital Ehrlich		Ward 8
Luis Ledesma		Ward 5
Marc Cowans		Ward 8
Mariah Isamah		Ward 7
Mary Frances Smyth		Ward 6
Mary Pendleton		Ward 1
Maura Ross Englander		Ward 6



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Megan Caradine		Ward 4
Megan Marrinan		Ward 1
Michelle Lee		Ward 7
Monica DeLilly		Ward 8
Mykia Winn		Ward 6
N'Diya Pinkney		Ward 8
Nakeshia Arrington		Ward 8
Natalie Powell		Ward 8
Natasha Spencer		Ward 7
Neva Dozier		Ward 7
Princeton Tymus		Ward 8
Qualitra Brown		Ward 5
Rachel Dias		Ward 6
Rachel McClam		Ward 5
Rachelle Goldson		Ward 8
Rich Myers		Ward 6
Ronnisha Martin		Ward 8
Roshell Dews		Ward 8
Ryan Benjamin		Ward 5
Sebrina Mccollum		Ward 4
Sebrina Mccollum		Ward 4
Shadyia Simms		Ward 7
Shanai Brinkley		Ward 8
Shanay Williams		Ward 8
ShaQuanda Humble		Ward 8
Sharmiese Green		Ward 8
Sharnae Spencer		Ward 7
Shartell Benjamin		Ward 8
Shaunice Tucker		Ward 8
Shavon Johnson		Ward 7
Shayla Hughley		Ward 8
Sheree Pendleton		Ward 8
Shrice Lassiter		Ward 8
Siobhan Flynn		Ward 5
Stacey Smith		Ward 7
Stanley McCray		Ward 8
Stevenwilliams		Ward 8
Sydney Johnson		Ward 8
TaRajah Ruffin		Ward 8
Tazzley Hayes		Ward 8
Tenika McEachin		Ward 8
Thomas Lynch		Ward 6
Thomas Picarsic		Ward 6



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Thomasine Marshall		Ward 8
Tia green		Ward 8
Tiera Lyles		Ward 7
Tiquana Clemmons		Ward 8
Trumaine Pendleton		Ward 8
Tyeisha Holland		Ward 8
Uniqueka Sitton		Ward 8
Waynette Postell		Ward 8
Zulma Barrera		Ward 8