



Notice of Petition to Adopt
Mergers and Acquisitions Policy
Open for Public Comment
Public Comment Accepted Until November 17, 2025

SUMMARY: The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) announces an opportunity for the public to submit comment on the newly proposed Mergers and Acquisitions Policy. As population forecasts for school-age children decline and city conditions change,¹ DC PCSB must create the policies for thoughtful charter sector planning. This policy for mergers and acquisitions offers a set of pathways to support the sector's sustainability, efficiency, and quality.

Under the School Reform Act (SRA), the assets of a closing local education agency (LEA) or campus may be transferred to another LEA if that LEA agrees to enroll the closing school's students.² This policy explains how a merger or acquisition serves as the means for this transfer of assets.³ To provide clarity and transparency to that process, the proposed policy seeks to:

1. Define mergers and acquisitions.
2. Set guiding principles to drive its evaluation of sector planning-related requests.⁴
3. Establish minimum eligibility criteria and a review process for three policy pathways: mergers, standard acquisitions, and emergency acquisitions.

PUBLIC MEETINGS: The public hearing will be on November 17, 2025, at 6 p.m. The vote will be on December 8, 2025, at 6 p.m. Please visit <https://dcpcsb.org/events> to register to attend the meeting.

HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS: To ensure your comment is processed and reviewed,⁵ please use one of the methods below:

1. Sign up to testify during the public hearing by going to <https://dcpcsb.org/public-comment>. Click on the "Sign up to Testify at the Meeting" tab to fill out the form. The deadline to sign up to testify is noon on November 17, 2025.

¹ See the DC Office of Planning's population forecasts here: <http://bit.ly/45gGGXc>.

² DC Code § 38-1802.13a(d)(2)(A)(ii).

³ Note that the process by which a merger or acquisition occurs is mechanically the same, resulting in an asset transfer and dissolution of one active charter. However, mergers and acquisitions have distinct purposes that are reflected in this policy.

⁴ Sector planning amendment requests pertain to enrollment ceiling increases (ECI), new grades served, campus replications, mergers, standard acquisitions, and emergency acquisitions.

⁵ DC PCSB reserves the right, but shall have no obligation, to review, pre-screen, filter, redact, refuse or remove any or all your submission that it may deem to be inappropriate for publication, such as obscene language.



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2. Submit a written comment identified via
 - a. Online form at <https://dcpcsb.org/public-comment>
 - b. Postal Mail, Hand Delivery, or Courier: Attn: Public Comment, DC Public Charter School Board, 100 M Street SE, Suite 400 Washington, DC 20003

Please note DC PCSB accepts written comments on or before 11:59 p.m. November 17, 2025.

3. Submit audio testimony by phone: Call (202) 328-2660 and select option 2. You will have up to five minutes to record your testimony. Please note that all comments will be transcribed and made available to the public upon receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT Hannah Cousino,
Director, School Performance Department, at hcousino@dcpcsb.org.