

August 31, 2017

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL  
Dr. Darren Woodruff, Chair  
District of Columbia Public  
Charter School Board  
3333 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 210  
Washington, DC 20010

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL  
Scott Pearson, Executive Director  
District of Columbia Public  
Charter School Board  
3333 14<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Suite 210  
Washington, DC 20010

RE: June 19 Reversal Approving DC Prep Enrollment Petition Violated the Law – Office of Open Government Decision OOG-0004\_7.03.17\_AO

Dear Dr. Woodruff and Mr. Pearson,

We are writing to you concerning the Public Charter School Board (PCSB) vote on June 19, 2017, to approve the DC Preparatory Public Charter School (DC Prep) enrollment ceiling requests, which reversed the PCSB's April 24, 2017, decision to deny DC Prep's request, based in part on DC Prep's high number of suspensions.

On August 9, 2017, the Office of Open Government (OOG) issued a binding opinion that made it abundantly clear the Public Charter School Board's vote on June 19, 2017, approving DC Prep's enrollment ceiling requests was in violation of the public meeting requirements of the School Reform Act (SRA), the Public Charter School Board's (PCSB's) custom and practice for notifying the public, and the Open Meetings Act's (OMA's) legislative history that the public has the statutory right to be present and offer public comment at every PCSB public meeting and hearing. The OOG concluded "[t]he DCPCSB's failure to publically notice the June 19, 2017, meeting was an improper closure in violation of ... established case law."

Because the public was not notified the PCSB was going to revisit the vote it took on April 24, 2017, at its June 19, 2017, meeting, we respectfully request the PCSB void its June 19, 2017, vote approving DC Prep's enrollment ceiling requests. We ask that the PCSB notify the public it is reconsidering the vote it took on April 24, 2017, taking public comment, and holding another public meeting to consider DC Prep's enrollment ceiling request.

Sincerely,

Allyson Criner Brown, Teaching for Change, Ward 7 Parent  
Nancy Huvendick, 21<sup>st</sup> Century School Fund  
Valerie Jablow, Ward 6 Parent  
Iris Jacob, Ward 8 Parent  
Sarah Livingston, Editor, Citizen Reader  
Cathy Reilly, Public School Advocate  
Becky Reina, Ward 1 Parent  
Martin R. Welles, Esq., Treasurer, Amidon-Bowen Elementary School PTA  
Suzanne Wells, Ward 6 Parent  
Kent Withycombe, Esq., Washington Lawyers' Committee, Public Education Project Director

Cc: Mayor Muriel Bowser  
Deputy Mayor for Education Jennifer Niles  
Council Chairman, Phil Mendelson  
Councilmember Anita Bonds  
Councilmember David Grosso  
Councilmember Elissa Silverman  
Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.  
Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau  
Councilmember Jack Evans  
Councilmember Mary M. Cheh  
Councilmember Brandon T. Todd  
Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie  
Councilmember Charles Allen  
Councilmember Vincent C. Gray  
Councilmember Trayon White, Sr.  
Thomas Byrd, We Act Radio  
Valerie Strauss, The Washington Post  
Emma Brown, The Washington Post  
Alejandra Matos, The Washington Post