

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B

November 15, 2018

Councilmember David Grosso Chair, Committee on Education Council of the District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 402 Washington, DC 20004 dgrosso@dccouncil.us

RE: DC Council Committee on Education's Public Roundtable Regarding the District of Columbia Public Schools' Plans for Shaw Junior High School Campus and Benjamin Banneker Academic High School

Dear Councilmember Grosso:

At its regular meeting on November 14, 2018, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("ANC 2B" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With 7 of 8 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (7-0-0):

WHEREAS, Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs) were created to "advise the Council of the District of Columbia, the Mayor, and each executive agency...with respect to all proposed matters of District government policy," including education,

WHEREAS, the purpose of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) is "to ensure that every student attends a great school, and that every school meets the high standards in all areas that affect student achievement,"

WHEREAS, ANC 2B recognizes that the success of quality DCPS by-right neighborhood schools is critical to the livelihood of our communities, including Dupont Circle,

WHEREAS, ANC 2B is interested in ensuring that feeder patterns for middle schools are thought through in a strategic and focused fashion, with special attention to designing a clear vision for how DCPS shall meet students' needs with particular emphasis on the principles of equity and access to quality matter-of-right public education options,

WHEREAS, DCPS has not actively engaged the Dupont Circle community and parents at other feeder elementary schools for the proposed Center City Middle School about the potential use of the Shaw Junior High School site for a new Banneker High School, and

WHEREAS, families in Dupont Circle are concerned by the lack of a permanent, matter-of-right pathway by which to educate their children.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the DC Public Schools to engage in vigorous, extensive, and sustained outreach efforts to communicate with all stakeholders and obtain feedback on proposals regarding the use and disposition of DCPS facilities in the neighborhoods in which they are located, as current efforts are inadequate and ineffective.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B urges the DC Public Schools to provide meaningful opportunities for parents, community members, and stakeholders to engage in the planning processes involving schools so that the feasibility of creating both a middle and high school option in a Shaw location that schoolchildren can easily access will be addressed in a fair and transparent fashion prior to allocating the space at Shaw Junior High School to Banneker High School.

Commissioners Kari Cunningham (<u>2B07@anc.dc.gov</u>) and Daniel Warwick (<u>2B02@anc.dc.gov</u>) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

amo tramick

Sincerely,

Daniel Warwick

Chair