



**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2B**

November 25, 2019

Mayor Muriel Bowser  
Mayor  
Government of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20004  
[muriel.bowser@dc.gov](mailto:muriel.bowser@dc.gov)

Chairman Phil Mendelson  
Chairman  
Council of the District of Columbia  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504  
Washington, DC 20004  
[pmendelson@dccouncil.us](mailto:pmendelson@dccouncil.us)

Chancellor Lewis Ferebee  
Chancellor  
DC Public Schools  
1200 First Street NW  
Washington, DC 20002  
[Lewis.Ferebee@k12.dc.gov](mailto:Lewis.Ferebee@k12.dc.gov)

RE: Needed Renovations to the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens

Dear Mayor Bowser, Chairman Mendelson, and Chancellor Ferebee,

At its regular meeting on November 13, 2019, the Dupont Circle Advisory Neighborhood Commission (“ANC 2B” or “Commission”) considered the above-referenced matter. With 9 of 9 Commissioners in attendance, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission approved the following resolution by a vote of (9-0-0):

WHEREAS, the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens (SWWFS), located within the boundaries of ANC 2B, is a citywide educational resource serving students from all eight wards, with the majority of attendees living outside of Ward 2,

WHEREAS, over the past several years, SWWFS has demonstrated one of the strongest year-over-year track records of academic improvement of any public elementary school in the city,

WHEREAS, beginning in 2018 school administrators and community members repeatedly called the DC Public Schools’ (DCPS) attention to the issue of overcrowding at the school,

WHEREAS, DCPS lists capacity for the SWWFS building as 513 students and the actual enrollment for the 2019 academic year is 546 students and projected enrollments for 2020 and 2021 are 568 and 597 students respectively and such projections do not include the

possible influx of additional students from the Embassy of China's expanded apartment building at 2300 Connecticut Avenue NW,

WHEREAS, the student experience is currently negatively impacted by overcrowding at the school, which also threatens academic gains and is degrading the work environment for teachers and other school staff,

WHEREAS, the physical plant at SWWFS will be hard pressed to accommodate the number of students currently projected to enroll prior to modernization, even with the addition of portable classrooms, and

WHEREAS, DCPS has repeatedly voiced a reluctance to invest in modification of the existing plant in light of the full modernization scheduled to begin in FY 2022.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2B calls on Mayor Bowser, the DC Council, and DCPS to advance initiation of the first stage of modernization at SWWFS to FY 2020 by allocating the funding necessary to commence planning for modernization of the physical plant at SWWFS and planning for and acquiring the swing space necessary to facilitate modernization.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that ANC 2B encourages DCPS to execute, with haste, all strategies for maximizing space and minimizing disruption to student learning until such time as a complete modernization and expansion of the facility may be completed.

Commissioners Mike Silverstein ([2B06@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B06@anc.dc.gov)) and Daniel Warwick ([2B02@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2B02@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission's representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Warwick". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel Warwick  
Chair