



Advisory Neighborhood Commission 1C

PO Box 21009, NW, Washington, DC 20009

www.anc1c.org

Representing Adams Morgan

Commissioners: **Brian Hart** (1C01) **Marty Davis** (1C02) **Ted Guthrie** (1C03)
 Gabriela Mossi (1C04) **Elham Dehbozorgi** (1C05)
 Billy Simpson (1C06) **Wilson Reynolds** (1C07) **Jimmy Rock** (1C08)

July 21, 2014

Ms. Abigail Smith
Deputy Mayor for Education
1350 Penn. Ave. NW, Suite 303
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Student Assignment and DCPS School Boundaries Review Process

Dear Deputy Mayor Smith,

At a duly noticed public meeting held on July 9, 2014, with a quorum of 6 of 8 Commissioners present, ANC 1C passed the attached resolutions by a vote of 6-0. Please consider these resolutions with great weight in your proposal deliberations.

Sincerely,

Brian Hart
Chair, ABC and Public Safety Committee, ANC 1C

ANC 1C Resolution on Community Access to Oyster-Adams School

Whereas, John Quincy Adams School, located at 2020 19th Street, NW has a long historical link to its neighborhood, Adams Morgan.

Whereas, Adams and the now defunct Morgan school (both elementary schools at the time) were the first public schools in the city of Washington to integrate in 1955. No longer would children who lived next door to Adams or across the street be told to go elsewhere;

Whereas, the Adams School was a center of the local community for many years;

Whereas, the merger of Oyster and Adams seven years ago was accomplished without adequate public input and barred children from the immediate neighborhood from attendance. Children who lived next door and across the street were again told to go elsewhere with no substantial rationale provided to the community by DCPS;

Whereas, denying neighborhood children access to Oyster-Adams has substantially harmed the Adams Morgan community, depriving residents of an important community hub, prejudicing their basic right to a great neighborhood school, and causing substantial issues related to transportation and public safety.

Whereas, the Deputy Mayor for Education, along with a community advisory committee, has performed an in-depth analysis of the public education system's school boundaries, and has issued a preliminary report indicating that Adams Morgan students may again gain access to Oyster-Adams.

Whereas, this boundary correction would require minimal near-term cost in accommodating the only 75 children who live within the ANC 1C01 restored boundary, while remedying the serious harm and inequity imposed upon the Adams Morgan community.

Now therefore, be it resolved ANC 1C strongly supports the Deputy Mayor for Education's proposal to restore the Oyster-Adams school boundary for the Adams Morgan community.

ANC 1C Resolution to Ensure Quality Neighborhood Schools

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 with respect to education;

Whereas, the government of the District of Columbia is obligated to accord “great weight” to advice from ANCs;

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 high standards in all areas that affect student achievement;”

Whereas, the Deputy Mayor of Education (DME) is currently leading “a comprehensive review of its (the District’s) student assignment policies, including school attendance boundaries and feeder patterns”;

Whereas, ANC 1C recognizes the importance of a quality public education to the health and vitality of all communities;

Whereas, ANC 1C values quality matter-of-right public schools from pre-school through high school and will work to ensure that all residents have access to this option within our community and throughout the city;

Whereas, ANC 1C recognizes that many parents desire clear and predictable pathways through the public school system and would prefer a school within the community;

Whereas, ANC 1C recognizes that many community schools serve not only students residing within the community but also from other wards;

Now therefore, be it resolved that ANC 1C, along with its ANC colleagues in ANC 1B, 2A, 2B, 2D, 2F, 3B, 3E, 4B, 4D, 6E, and 7C, require DCPS to ensure access to quality matter-of-right public schools from pre-school through Grade 12 in each community.