

**Testimony of Darren Woodruff, Board Chair
DC Public Charter School Board**

**DC Council Committee on Education
Confirmation Roundtable
Wednesday, April 22, 2015**

Thank you Chairman Grosso and other members of the DC Council for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Darren Woodruff and I am the Board Chair of the DC Public Charter School Board.

It is my pleasure to present to you and to the public for advice and consent, one exceptional individual, Barbara Nophlin.

As DC's sole public charter school authorizer, the DC Public Charter School Board seeks to give students high-quality educational options. We determine which new applicants can open a public charter school, which public charter schools should close and we monitor public charter school performance and compliance. PCSB is recognized nationally as an authorizer and that acknowledgement came from hard work.

I am confident that the nomination of Mrs. Nophlin will help us carry out our mission to provide high quality public school options for all DC students and families. Over the course of her impressive career and term on the Board, Mrs. Nophlin has demonstrated that she possesses the skills, expertise, and passion that have made her an invaluable member of the Board. Because she has lived in Washington, DC all her life, Mrs. Nophlin understands the unique needs of DC students. She is passionate about improving her community by improving its schools. Mrs. Nophlin has served in several leadership positions including principal

at Amidon Elementary School, a DCPS school, and Paul Public Charter School, as a Head of School.

In addition to this classroom and school management experience, she was director of policy research in the former Washington, DC State Education Office.

She has shown that she is well equipped to help the Board continue down the path of making sure DC's charter sector is a national exemplar in transforming public schools. We thank you, Chairman Grosso, for scheduling this hearing today and for your support in ensuring that the Public Charter School Board remains a high-quality organization with a fully-functioning board – that can continue to be of service to the District's public school children. Thank you.