



Notice of Petition to Amend Charter:
Mission Statement Amendment Request –

EW Stokes PCS

Open for Public Comment

Public Comment Accepted Until June 23, 2025

SUMMARY: The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (DC PCSB) announces an opportunity for the public to submit comment on a request from Elsie Whitlow Stokes Community Freedom Public Charter School (EW Stokes PCS) to amend its charter agreement. The school seeks approval to update its mission statement by specifying its values and educational model. The school submitted its application on April 1, 2025.

Elsie Whitlow Stokes Community Freedom Public Charter School began operation in school year (SY) 1998 – 99. The school enrolls 689 students in grades prekindergarten-three (PK3) – 5. Its current and proposed mission statements are as follows:

Current Mission	Proposed Mission
The Elsie Whitlow Stokes Community Freedom Public Charter School prepares culturally diverse elementary school students in the District of Columbia to become leaders, scholars and responsible citizens who are committed to social justice.	<p>The Elsie Whitlow Stokes Community Freedom Public Charter School prepares students in the District of Columbia to be global leaders, scholars and responsible citizens who are committed to justice in their communities and throughout the world.</p> <p>Stokes School teaches children to think, speak, read, write and learn in two languages: English and French and English and Spanish. With a dual focus on academic excellence and community service, Stokes School accomplishes its mission by creating an environment of achievement, peace and respect for all.</p>

PUBLIC MEETINGS: The public hearing will be on June 23, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. The vote will be on August 25, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. Please visit www.dcpsb.org to register.



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HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENTS: You may submit comments by any one of the methods listed below.¹

1. Testify during the public meeting on June 23, 2025. To register, please visit <https://dcpcsb.org/public-comment>. Click “Sign up to Testify at the Meeting,” then complete the form. Please note you must sign up no later than noon on June 23, 2025.
2. Submit a written comment on or before 11:59 pm the day before the public meeting via
 - a. “Submit a Written Comment” at <https://dcpcsb.org/public-comment>.
 - b. Postal mail, hand delivery, or courier: Attn: Public Comment, DC Public Charter School Board, 100 M Street SE, Ste 400, Washington, DC 20003.
3. Submit voicemail testimony by calling (202) 328-2660 and selecting option 2. You will have up to five minutes to record your testimony. All comments will be transcribed and made available to the public upon receipt.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS, CONTACT: Bijon Lane, Specialist, School Performance Department, at blane@dcpcsb.org.

¹ DC PCSB reserves the right, but shall have no obligation, to review, pre-screen, filter, redact, refuse, or remove any or all of a submission that it may deem inappropriate for publication, such as obscenities.