



Part I: General Information

\*All applicants must complete this section\*

SUBMITTED BY: Nicole Solomon Mitchell, Board Chair, Statesmen College Preparatory Academy for Boys Public Charter School

SUBJECT: Charter Amendment Request for: (Mark all that apply)

- Enrollment Ceiling Increase
Program Replication of Grades Served
Grade Level Expansion (Single Grade)
Grade Level Expansion (Grade Band)
Additional Facility or New Location
Goals and Achievement Expectations
Mission or Education Philosophy
Curriculum, Standards or Assessments
Name Change - Campus or Facility
Campus Reconfiguration
LEA Status for Special Education
Special Education Enrollment Preference
Governance Structure (Bylaws, Articles of Incorporation or Management)
Graduation Requirements
Competency-Based Learning Application

SUBMISSION DATE: 5/3/2019

SCHOOL BACKGROUND

Please address the following questions in their entirety. This information provides helpful background to the DC PCSB Board as it reviews these requests.

Overview of School Performance

- 1. Provide the following information about your Local Education Agency (LEA) by campus:
a) Campus name(s) and location(s): Statesmen College Preparatory Academy for Boys PCS, 4250 Massachusetts Ave. SE Washington, D.C. 20019
b) Year opened: 2018
c) Grade levels served (Currently and at maturation of charter agreement, if applicable): Statesmen currently serves fourth grade. At maturation, it will serve grades 4th through 8th.
d) Date that charter will be eligible for possible renewal: 15-year renewal in 2033.

2. Please select the performance indicators below that describe the school's current performance\*: (Mark all that apply)

- Currently rated Tier 1, or met at least 2/3 of targets on the most recent PK-only PMF or Alternative Accountability Framework.
School is not currently under corrective action.
Has historically met enrollment projections w/in 80% of target.
School has been in operation for 3+ years.
School is currently accredited. Enter expiration date.

\*If the school has multiple campuses or varying PMFs, please describe the academic performance of each campus here: N/A

Disclaimer: While processing this application, DC PCSB staff may contact you later to request additional information for the Board's consideration. By submitting this application, you agree to cooperate with DC PCSB staff to ensure your application is processed in a timely manner. For questions, please contact DC PCSB staff person Laterica (Teri) Quinn at (202) 328-2660.

## PROPOSAL

---

**Statesmen College Preparatory Academy for Boys Public Charter School** submits to the DC Public Charter School Board this application to amend its charter agreement by changing the item(s) selected above. If approved, this amendment will be effective on July 22, 2019 (leave blank if this has not been determined).

1. Please provide details on the selected amendment(s) above and describe the requested change(s), including the school's rationale for the proposed changes. Describe any planning that is already underway to prepare for the proposed amendment.

**After an exhaustive and difficult search for space SY18-19, Statesmen signed a one-year sublease with Rocketship Education D.C. PCS to co-locate at its Legacy Prep campus at 4250 Massachusetts Ave. SE in Ward 7. The sublease consists of just enough room for Statesmen's inaugural class of 55 fourth graders and includes three classrooms, a large open space, one small break out room, a main office and faculty lounge. Because Rocketship is expanding, Statesmen must vacate the Legacy Prep campus no later than June 30, 2019. The current sublease ends then, and there is no option to renew or extend the terms.**

**As a result, in February 2019 Statesmen signed a two-year sublease with Building Pathways for space in the P.R. Harris Building located at 4600 Livingston Road SE in Ward 8. The new space will accommodate Statesmen's growth to fifth grade SY19-20 and sixth grade SY20-21. if it chooses, there is enough room in the building to grow the School to maturation with grades 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**Statesmen notified PCSB of the two-year sublease on February 28, 2019 and sent a signed copy of the lease to PCSB on March 5.**

**Statesmen is requesting that its charter be amended to reflect its new address which, if approved, will be 4600 Livingston Road SE, Washington D.C. 20032.**

2. How will the proposed amendment(s) support or enhance the school's mission?

**The move to P.R. Harris allows Statesmen to keep a commitment to its current families to locate the School in Ward 7 or 8. It also gives Statesmen the space necessary to build out fifth and sixth grades with an option to stay in the building longer and grow to eighth grade should it decide to do so.**

3. While considering this amendment request, DC PCSB staff may review the school's history of board actions, DC PCSB audits, community complaints, enrollment trends, and any relevant data used by DC PCSB to monitor equity in schools. Please describe any DC PCSB audits, notices of concern or other board actions issued against your school in the past 3 years. What was the outcome? Please explain what steps, if any, you've taken to address the concerns that prompted a DC PCSB audit, board action, or community complaint.

**There have been none.**

4. DC PCSB will review the school's Financial Audit Reviews (FAR) and current financials to determine the fiscal health of the organization. If applicable, describe how the proposed

amendment will impact the school's finances. Explain any anticipated expenses for the proposed changes and how the school will finance them. *[EXCLUDES the following amendments: Governance, Goals, Mission, Curriculum, Name Changes and Graduation Requirements. If not applicable, write N/A.]*

**Note:** *If applicable, in addition to your narrative please attach a proposed [5-year Operating Budget](#).*

**For the most part, the sublease falls within Statesmen's funded per pupil facilities allotment. The total cost of the sublease per pupil is significantly less than the total cost of the sublease per pupil at Rocketship. (Five-year Estimated Operating Budget attached separately.)**

5. How has the school informed its external stakeholders (e.g. local ANC commissioners, neighbors) and internal stakeholders (e.g. staff, parents) of the proposed amendment(s)? Please attach any written communication (e.g., meeting minutes). Describe any notable support for or opposition to the proposed amendment(s). If concerns have been brought to your attention, how do you plan to address them? *[EXCLUDES the following amendments: Governance, Goals, Mission, Curriculum, Graduation Requirements and Competency-Based Learning Credits. If not applicable, write N/A.]*

**Within a week of signing the sublease with Building Pathways, Statesmen emailed and sent letters introducing the School to all 8D ANC Commissioners, Ward 8 EdCouncil, Ward 8 Councilmember, DME, SBOE Ward 8 Vice President, and others (see details attached). Statesmen's Leadership Team and Board Chair also attended 8D ANC and EdCouncil meetings in April.**

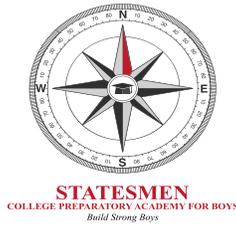
**While the Ward 8D ANC and EdCouncil are both receptive to an all-boys charter school and want high-quality options for Ward 8, there continues to be frustration associated with the process of charter schools acquiring space. As soon as Statesmen became aware of PCSB's requirement to amend its charter and participate in a Public Meeting, it reached out to Ward 8D Commissioners to share this information, answer any additional questions and invite them to tour Statesmen at its current location. Statesmen School and Board continue to look for ways to engage 8D ANC Commissioners, EdCouncil members, and others in the community to build support for the School.**

**At the beginning of SY18-19 Statesmen told all enrolled families that its location would have to change SY19-20 and that the School's goal was to remain in Ward 7 or 8. Currently, about half of Statesmen's families live in Ward 7, and the other half live in Ward 8.**

**Statesmen's current families were made aware of the new address in February 2019. Of Statesmen's 55 current fourth grade families, 53 have expressed interest in returning for fifth grade. We have conservatively estimated that 45 will actually fully enroll, giving Statesmen a retention rate of 83 percent.**

6. When did your school's board approve the proposed amendment(s)? Please attach minutes from the meeting and vote results.

**The Board voted to amend the charter at a Special Meeting, Sunday, April 28, 2019 (minutes attached below).**



## Statesmen College Preparatory Academy for Boys PCS

### April 28, 2019 Board Meeting Minutes

#### [Special Meeting of the Board pursuant to Article II, Section (c) of the Bylaws]

1. **Board Members Present (all by phone):** Alicia Adams, Samantha Barbee, Mary Brown, Satira Streeter Corbitt, Shawn Hardnett, Sandi McCoy, Ray McKenzie, Nicole Solomon Mitchell and Greg Van Houten
2. **Members Absent:** Toni Barton, James Cadogan, Bisi Oyedele and Raymond Weeden.
3. **Discussion Regarding Recent Community Meetings:** Discussed recent Ward 8 ANC Meeting and need to address the concerns of some community members regarding lack of adequate notice about Statesmen's move to Ward 8. Beyond any concerns about notice, it was noted that there was, on the whole, strong enthusiasm and support for Statesmen.
4. **Vote to Waive By-Law Provision Requiring Five-Days of Notice in Advance of Board Meeting:** Notice of April 28 Board Meeting was circulated via e-mail on April 26. By-laws, as currently written, require all board meetings be held on at least five (5) days-notice. Board voted to waive the notice requirements in the by-laws to proceed with meeting.  
Sandi McCoy moved, Ray McKenzie seconded, and all participating board members voted in favor.
5. **Vote to Change Address on Charter:** Sandi McCoy moved, Ray McKenzie seconded, and all participating board members voted in favor of changing Statesmen's address on its Charter to reflect its move to the PR Harris Building in Ward 8 located at 4600 Livingston Road SE, Washington, D.C. 20032.