



May 24, 2013

Ms. Richelle Harvey
[REDACTED]

Dear Ms. Harvey,

Thank you for submitting an application to establish a public charter school in the District of Columbia. The District of Columbia Public Charter School Board (“Board”) has completed the 2013 Application Review process and I regret to inform you that at its public meeting held May 20, 2013, the Board did not approve your application to establish Nannie Helen Burroughs Public Charter School in the District of Columbia.

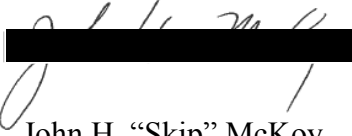
The Board’s decision was based on a thorough evaluation of the written application and information gathered from the applicant interview and the public hearing. The following findings were basis for denial:

- The founding group did not clearly articulate the elementary school curriculum and its program’s goals.
- The applicant seeks to offer a curriculum with an assessment-driven, multi-sensory approach to “prepare students to achieve success based on the measures of the DC CAS,” but failed to describe how this approach or the variety of curricular programs and instructional strategies will be implemented in a cohesive and coherent manner to create the desired results.
- The proposed school anticipates serving only students with disabilities who require a minimum amount of support. This assumption likely underestimates the population of students proposed to be served, and the school did not articulate how it would serve students requiring higher levels of support. They also did not outline how they would serve autistic students, who the applicants assume would constitute 10% of the population of students with disabilities.
- The founding group has identified individuals to fill the school’s leadership positions with limited experience. Further, the founding group did not provide a process to evaluate leadership’s performance or conduct a thorough search for the positions.
- The finance narrative and budget contained conflicting estimated revenues.
- The lack of clarity in the budget narrative made it difficult to determine whether the amount of resources allocated would be sufficient to meet the needs outlined in the rest of the application.
- The entire application contained numerous grammatical and syntax errors.

We recognize the hard work and effort that went into the development of your application. If you wish to receive additional feedback as it relates to the Board’s denial decision, please e-mail Monique Miller at mmiller@dpcsb.org by Thursday, June 6th to schedule an appointment. This feedback can be useful should you decide to revise your application for submission in upcoming review cycles.

Thank you for your interest in public charter schools and your commitment to improving public education in Washington, DC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. McKoy", is written over a solid black rectangular redaction box.

John H. "Skip" McKoy
Chair
DC Public Charter School Board