



**Testimony of Scott Pearson, Executive Director  
DC Public Charter School Board**

**DC Council Committee on Education  
Confirmation Roundtable  
Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

Thank you, Chairman Grosso and other members of the Committee, for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Scott Pearson and I am the Executive Director of the DC Public Charter School Board.

I am pleased to be here today to testify in support of an excellent nominee for the DC Public Charter School Board, Ms. Naomi Shelton.

The DC Public Charter School Board is responsible for providing DC students with diverse, quality public school options. There are currently 120 public charter schools in Washington DC, all of which aim to provide a quality and equitable education to their students. DC public charter schools have continued to improve under the strong leadership of our Board and thanks to the hard work of our school staff. The nomination of Naomi Shelton for a four-year term on the Board will help continue this foundational work.

Ms. Shelton has lived in the District of Columbia for many years and has served the people of this city in multiple capacities. She is currently the

director of K-12 Advocacy at the United Negro College Fund. At UNCF, she focuses on increasing the number of African-American students who enroll and graduate from college. Her work dovetails with her time spent at Baltimore City Public Schools central office where she provided strategic planning and talent acquisition consulting. These are goals our Board shares and we would welcome the insight Ms. Shelton would provide.

It is clear through the work Ms. Shelton has done throughout her life that bettering the educational options and opportunities for all students—in particular, students of color—has been a driving passion for her. She understands the significant role communities and parents play in the success of a student’s education. Ms. Shelton’s work experiences and values will lend themselves well to the success of DC public charter schools in providing high quality options for DC students regardless of race, gender, socioeconomic status, or part of the city in which they live.

For those reasons, I ask that you vote to support Naomi’s nomination to the Board. Thank you for scheduling this hearing, I am happy to answer any questions you may have.