



Government of the District of Columbia  
Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A

**QUALITY NEIGHBORHOOD-SERVING SCHOOLS**

**RESOLUTION OF ADVISORY NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION (ANC) 4A**

**July 22, 2014**

WHEREAS, pursuant to applicable District laws, each Advisory Neighborhood Commission ("Commission") may advise the Council of the District of Columbia, the Mayor and each executive agency, and all independent agencies, boards and commissions of the government of the District of Columbia with respect to all proposed matters of District government policy including, but not limited to, decisions regarding planning, streets, recreation, social services programs, education, health, safety, budget, and sanitation which affect that Commission area [D.C. Official Code §§ 1-309.10(a)];

WHEREAS, proposed District government actions include actions of the Council of the District of Columbia, the executive branch, or independent agencies, boards, and commissions.

WHEREAS, the issues and concerns raised in the recommendations of the Commission shall be given great weight during the deliberations by the government entity, and great weight requires acknowledgement of the Commission as the source of the recommendations and explicit reference to each of the Commission's issues and concerns [D.C. Official Code §§ 1-309.10(c)(3)(A)];

WHEREAS, the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions ("ANCs") are the bodies of government with the closest ties to the people and they are expected to advise the city on issues, including fees, taxes, zoning, social services programs, health, emergency preparedness, economic development, transportation and infrastructure issues;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A represents thousands of residents in several Ward 4 neighborhoods, including Brightwood, Colonial Village, Crestwood/Crestwood North, North Portal Estates, Shepherd Park and 16<sup>th</sup> Street Heights;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) is "to ensure that every student attends a great school, and that every school meets high standards in all areas that affect student achievement;"

WHEREAS the Mission of the District of Columbia Public Schools is to implement best practice instruction and provide learning experiences that encourage students to reach their full

academic, social, emotional and physical potential within a safe, nurturing and accepting learning community;

WHEREAS, the Deputy Mayor of Education (DME) is currently leading “a comprehensive review of its (the District’s) student assignment policies, including school attendance boundaries and feeder patterns” and is considering student assignment policies that may harm DCPS schools in each community, including the Charter School program; the goal is not simply walkable schools but comprehensive neighborhood serving schools;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A recognizes the importance of a quality public education to all residents;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A recognizes the need for the current Ward 4A schools to become high performing options for its residents;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A recognizes that elementary, middle and high schools may need to be built and/or renovated in Ward 4;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A values quality matter-of-right public schools from pre-school through high school and will work to ensure that all residents have access to this option throughout the city;

WHEREAS ANC 4A’s schools Powell Elementary, Shepherd Elementary, West, Lafayette and Brightwood Elementary are growing unevenly and changing in line with rapid growth throughout Washington, DC;

WHEREAS there are limited DCPS middle grades options in ANC 4A, breaking current natural neighborhood links from elementary to middle to high school in ANC 4A and starving our students of needed public resources;

WHEREAS, however, SMD 4A08 families are in-boundary for Deal Middle School and Wilson High School and wish to preserve access; there should be limited geographic divides;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A recognizes that many parents desire clear and predictable pathways through the public school system and would prefer a school within the community; no child should be moved from a higher achieving school to a lower performing school;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A recognizes that many community schools serve not only students residing within the community but also from other wards.

WHEREAS, ANC 4A recognizes that its in-boundary high schools are Coolidge, Roosevelt, and Wilson;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that DCPS provide free access to a system of quality matter-of-right public schools from pre-Kindergarten through Grade 12, and preserves or improve our access to quality academic or otherwise appropriate education, for all students.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 4A recommends that Coolidge High School be the next DCPS high school modernized and given highly effective programs to attract and graduate the college and career-ready students of ANC 4A;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 4A recommends that once the Roosevelt High School renovation is completed, Roosevelt be given highly effective programs to attract and graduate the college and career-ready students of ANC 4A;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 4A recommends that no action be taken to implement the changes as announced until and unless any new assignment is to an existing facility that provides equal or better academic offerings; and that residents of ANC 4A be provided predictable, by-right school assignments at every level; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 4A retain its rights to attend our current in-boundary schools or be “grandfathered” into the schools to which we currently send our children.



Karrye Y. Braxton  
Chair, ANC 4A

This matter was considered at a duly noticed regular public ANC meeting, with a quorum present on 7/22/2014. This Resolution was adopted, by a vote of seven “yes” and 0 “no” and one abstentions at a specially-scheduled, open public ANC4A meeting.

cc: Vincent Gray, Mayor  
Muriel Bowser, Councilmember Ward 4  
David Catania, Councilmember, Chairperson Committee on Education  
David Grosso, Councilmember at Large  
Anita Bonds, Councilmember at Large  
Vincent Orange, Councilmember at Large  
Abigail Smith, Deputy Mayor for Education  
D. Kamili Anderson, State Board of Education, Ward 4 Representative  
Kaya Henderson, Chancellor