**CHAIRMAN PHIL MENDELSON**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE**

on

Re-Opening District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS)

On

**Thursday, January 21, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.**

**Live via Zoom Video Conference Broadcast**

**Council Channel 13** (Cable Television Providers)

**DC Council Website** ([www.dccouncil.us](http://www.dccouncil.us))

**Office of Cable Television Website** (entertainment.dc.gov)

 Council Chairman Phil Mendelson announces the scheduling of a public roundtable of the Committee of the Whole on the re-opening District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS). The roundtable will be held on **Thursday January 21, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.** Live via Zoom Video Conference Broadcast.

 The purpose of this roundtable is to hear from District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) leadership on the proposed plan to increase the number of students who will return to in-person instruction for Term 3, beginning on February 1. This roundtable will be an opportunity for DCPS leadership to provide clarity on a plan to move forward with and improve distance learning while welcoming students back to in-person instruction safely during the pandemic. In addition, DCPS announced the launch of their ReOpen Community Corps, a diverse group of school-level stakeholders that convenes at every elementary school and will support and advise school leaders in understanding learning models and impacts on the community for reopening. The Committee would like to hear more about the outcomes of the community corps across the District and its impact on DCPS’s plan to partially re-open on February 1.

The number of public witnesses will be limited. Those who wish to testify must register at <http://www.ChairmanMendelson.com/testify> by the close of business on Monday, January 18, 2021. **Testimony is limited to three minutes**. Witnesses who anticipate needing spoken language interpretation, or require sign language interpretation, are requested to inform the Committee office of the need as soon as possible but no later than five business days before the proceeding. We will make every effort to fulfill timely requests, although alternatives may be offered. Requests received in less than five business days may not be fulfilled. If you have additional questions, please contact Destiny Riley, Committee Assistant, at (202) 724-8196.

Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency declaration, the roundtable will be conducted virtually on the Internet utilizing Zoom video conference technology. Because of this, written or transcribed testimony from the public is highly encouraged and will be taken by email or voicemail. Testimony may be submitted in writing to cow@dccouncil.us or may be left by voicemail (up to 3 minutes – which will be transcribed – by calling (202) 430-6948. Testimony received by close of business on January 18, 2021 will be posted publicly to <http://www.chairmanmendelson.com/circulation> prior to the roundtable. If you are unable to testify at the roundtable, written statements are encouraged and will be made a part of the official record. Written statements should be submitted to cow@dccouncil.us. The record will close at 5:00pm on February 5, 2021.