

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE**
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

**CHAIRMAN PHIL MENDELSON
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC ROUNDTABLE**

on

Re-Opening District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) and District of Columbia Public Charter Schools (DCPCS) for School Year 2021-2022

on

Thursday, July 22, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.
Chairman's Website (www.ChairmanMendelson.com/live)
DC Council Website (www.dccouncil.us)
Council Channel 13 (Cable Television Providers)
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) and District of Columbia Public Charter Schools (DCPCS). The roundtable will be held on **Thursday, July 22, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.** via Zoom videoconference.

The purpose of this roundtable is to hear from District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) and the Public Charter School Board (PCSB) on the proposed plan to return to in-person instruction for School Year 2021-2022. Given that the District intends to return fully to in-person learning, at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year (unless a student has a medical exemption), it is imperative to ensure that both sectors are prepared and ready on the first day of school. Moreover, because so many families, particularly those east of the Anacostia River, have expressed doubt and fear about returning in-person, the Committee seeks to hear also from parents and educators as to issues affecting whether families will in fact return at the beginning of the school year.

The number of public witnesses will be limited to **50 individuals**. Those who wish to testify must register at <http://www.ChairmanMendelson.com/testify> by the close of business on Tuesday, July 20, 2021. **Testimony is limited to three minutes**. Witnesses who anticipate needing spoken language interpretation or require sign language interpretation must 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 videoconference 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 Tuesday, July 20, 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 Thursday, August 5, 2021.