

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

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

on

**Student Literacy in the District**

on

**Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Live via Zoom Video Conference Broadcast**  
**Chairman's Website ([www.ChairmanMendelson.com/live](http://www.ChairmanMendelson.com/live))**

Council Chairman Phil Mendelson announces a public roundtable of the Committee of the Whole on **“Student Literacy in the District”**. The roundtable will be held on **Thursday, July 14, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.** via Zoom Video Conference Broadcast.

The District of Columbia defines literacy as the ability to talk, listen, read and write – leading to the ability to communicate and learn. It is a combination of skills in vocabulary, receptive and expressive language, phonological awareness, knowledge of print, comprehension and printed materials. In the District, many learners ages birth through grade twelve are supposed to have access to high-quality literacy instruction and early literacy experiences; however, all learners are not on track according to their respective grade level. The purpose of this oversight roundtable is to receive testimony from government witnesses, including the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), the Public Charter School Board (DCPCSB), the State Board of Education (SBOE), regarding the state of literacy in the District to ensure all students in the District are academically successful.

Those who wish to testify must register at <http://www.ChairmanMendelson.com/testify> by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, July 12, 2022. **Testimony is limited to 4 minutes**; less time will be allowed if there are a large number of witnesses. 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 email [cow@dccouncil.us](mailto:cow@dccouncil.us) or contact Aaron Sayama, Legislative Assistant, at (202) 724-4865.

The hearing will be conducted virtually on the Internet utilizing Zoom video conference technology. Testimony should be submitted in writing to [cow@dccouncil.us](mailto:cow@dccouncil.us) in advance of the hearing. Written testimony will be posted publicly to <http://www.chairmanmendelson.com/testimony>. If you are unable to testify at the hearing, written statements are encouraged and will be made a part of the official record. Statements for the record should be submitted to [cow@dccouncil.us](mailto:cow@dccouncil.us) or left by voicemail by calling (202) 430-6948 (up to 3 minutes which will be transcribed). The record will close at 5:00pm on Wednesday, July 28, 2022.