

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

**CHAIRMAN PHIL MENDELSON
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
ANNOUNCES A PUBLIC OVERSIGHT HEARING**

on

Chronic Absenteeism and Truancy

on

Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 12:00 p.m.

**Hearing Room 412 (Track B)
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
DC Council Website (www.dccouncil.gov)**

INVITED WITNESSES

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| 1. Jon Rolle | Principal, Garfield Elementary, DC Public Schools |
| 2. Leia Harris | Director of Guidance, Richard Wright PCS |
| 3. Ashlee Watson | Regional Director, Culture and Engagement, Rocketship Public Schools |
| 4. Myron Long | Executive Director, The Social Justice School PCS |
| 5. Brandon Johnson | Head of School, The Social Justice School PCS |

PUBLIC WITNESSES

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| 6. Salim Adofo | Chairperson, ANC 8C |
| 7. Danielle Robinette | Senior Policy Attorney, Children's Law Center |
| 8. Tayo Belle | Deputy Director, School Justice Project |
| 9. Scott Goldstein | Executive Director, EmpowerEd |
| 10. Nicole Travers | Senior Director of School Support & Program Data, DC Charter School Alliance |

11. Hannah Mason	Senior Education Research Analyst, D.C. Policy Center
12. Jodi Ovca	Founder and Executive Director, Access Youth
13. Jessica Giles	Executive Director, DC, Center for Strong Public Schools Action Fund
14. Maya Martin Cadogan	Founder and Executive Director, PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education)
15. Tierra Stewart	Chief Program Officer, DC SCORES
16. Teklevzj Yohannas	Public Witness
17. Nehemiah Yohannas	Public Witness
18. David Trigaux	Executive Director, Washington Urban Debate League
19. Angelica Castanon	Public Witness
20. Kristin Sinclair	Public Witness
21. Joy Taylor	Capital Athletics
22. Marvin Parker	Capital Athletics
23. Samantha Trumbull	Public Witness
24. Alexandra Simbana	Public Witness
25. Nyasha Rusunguko	Director of Program Operations, Higher Achievement
26. Caroline Pryor	Director of Policy and Power-Building, EmpowerEd
27. Laura Fuchs	President, Washington Teachers Union
28. Olga Cano	Public Witness
29. Sarah Ross	Social Worker, Lee Montessori East End
30. Dierra Dupree	Public Witness
31. Jeanette McCune	Executive Director, SchoolTalk

32. Isabel Slonneger Promotor/Youth Advocate, Latin American Youth Center
33. Rustin Lewis Executive Director , Communities In Schools of the Nation's Capital
34. Kat Park Executive Director, Breakthrough Montessori PCS
35. Dylan Amankwaah Site Coordinator , Communities in Schools of the Nations Capital
36. Irene Jacobs Policy Manager, Black Swan Academy
37. Nadiya Pope Education Justice Attorney, Advocates for Justice and Education
38. Adrienne Smith Public Witness
39. Jordan Frazier Site Coordinator, Communities in Schools of the Nation's Capital
40. Sarah Hill Volunteer Coordinator, Washington Urban Debate League
41. Josh Boots EmpowerK12
42. Tara Iqbal Public Witness
43. Luis Martinez Program Manager, Latin American Youth Center
44. Quiana Lamons Parent Leader, PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education)
45. Sharn Boone Ruffin Parent Leader, PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education)
46. Ben Peisch Public Witness
47. Christina Hanson Public Witness
48. Dominique Moore Community Organizer, EmpowerEd
49. DaVaughn Montgomery Fellow, EmpowerEd
50. Zachary Wilson Fellow, EmpowerEd
51. Elizabeth Weiss Fellow, EmpowerEd

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| 52. Ashley Bryant | Fellow, EmpowerEd |
| 53. Ange Pirko | Fellow, EmpowerEd |
| 54. Zellee Jones | Fellow, EmpowerEd |
| 55. Kendall Shepard | Office Manager, Rocketship Public Schools |
| 56. JaQuan Bryant | Principal, Rise Academy, Rocketship Public Schools |

GOVERNMENT WITNESSES

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| 1. Lewis Ferebee | Chancellor, DC Public Schools |
| 2. Dr. Antoinette Mitchell | State Superintendent of Education, Office of the State Superintendent of Education |
| 3. Dr. Michelle Walker-Davis | Executive Director, DC Public Charter School Board |
| 4. Paul Kihn | Deputy Mayor for Education, Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education |
| 5. Rachel Pierre | Acting Director, Department of Human Services |
| 6. Tanya Torres Trice | Director, Child and Family Services Agency Education |
| 7. Elizabeth Wieser | Deputy Attorney General for Public Safety Division, Office of the Attorney General |
| 8. Tamira Roberson | Acting Director, Court Social Services Division, Superior Court of the District of Columbia |