

**COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
WITNESS LIST**

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

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

on

Oversight of Education for Students with Special Needs

on

Wednesday, December 10, 2025, at 2:30 p.m.

**Room 412 (Track B)
John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20004
DC Council Website (www.dccouncil.gov)**

EXPERT WITNESS LIST

1. Shelly Gray Principal, LaSalle-Backus Elementary School,
DC Public Schools
2. Justin Lessek Executive Director, Sojourner Truth Public
Charter School
3. Cara Fuller Principal, Phelps ACE High School, DC Public
Schools
4. Kathryn Procope Executive Director, Howard University Middle
School of Mathematics and Science
5. Danielle Robinette Senior Policy Attorney, Children's Law Center
6. Tayo Belle Deputy Director, School Justice Project
7. Maria Blaeuer Director of Programs and Outreach, Advocates
for Justice and Education

PUBLIC WITNESS LIST

8. Jacque Patterson President, D.C. State Board of Education
9. LaJoy Johnson Law Ward 8 SBOE Rep, Ward 8 SBOE Rep

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| 10. Kimberly Humphrey | Ombudsman for Public Education, Office of the Ombudsman for Public Education |
| 11. Dan Davis | Chief Student Advocate, Office of the Student Advocate |
| 12. Tami Lewis | Senior Director of Government Affairs, DC Charter School Alliance |
| 13. Commissioner Salim Adofo | Chairperson, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 8C |
| 14. Emily Griswold | Founder, Staff Wellness Support |
| 15. Karla Reid-Witt | Board President , Caregiver's D.R.E.A.M. |
| 16. Todd Gluckman | Attorney, Terris, Pravlik & Millian, LLP |
| 17. Julie Camerata | Executive Director, DC Special Education Cooperative |
| 18. Faith Gibson Hubbard | Panel Chair, DC State Advisory Panel on Special Education (SAPSE) |
| 19. Jonathan Scott | Public Witness |
| 20. Nathan Ballard-Means | Public Witness |
| 21. Becky Ballard | Public Witness |
| 22. Elizabeth Torres | CEO/Co-Founder, Washington Global PCS |
| 23. Teneisha Holder | Public Witness |
| 24. Jessica Panfil | Executive Director, LAMB PCS |
| 25. Michael Rodrigues | Chief Executive Officer, St. Coletta of Greater Washington |
| 26. Caitlin Holbrook | Law Clerk, Disability Rights DC (DRDC) at University Legal Services (ULS) |
| 27. Caroline Pryor | Director of Policy + Power-Building, EmpowerEd |
| 28. Dominique Moore | Community Organizer, EmpowerEd |

29. Doreen Blue	Public Witness
30. Alexander Johnstone	Co-President, Stoddert Elementary School PTO
31. Marian Lucke	Public Witness
32. Mary Ellen Wiggins	Public Witness
33. LaChel Lewis	Public Witness
34. Tracy White	Public Witness
35. Debra Gitttens	Chief Executive Officer, Georgia Avenue Family Support Collaborative
36. Avril Codnor-Crooks	Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Community College Preparatory
37. Stephanie Maltz	Public Witness
38. Siddha Page	Public Witness
39. Jonathan Scott	Public Witness
40. Jessica Giles	Executive Director, DC, Center for Strong Public Schools Action Fund
41. Kanysha Smith	Special Olympics DC
42. Nicole Preston	President & CEO, Special Olympics District of Columbia Inc.
43. Thomas Byrd	Public Witness
44. Tianna Adams	Public Witness
45. Dr. Tanna Jackson	Director of Special Education and Quality Improvement, The Children's Guild
46. Quiana Lamons	Parent Leader, PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education)
47. Renee Davis	Parent Leader, PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education)
48. Shedrick Young	Public Witness

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| 49. Katina Phifer | Public Witness |
| 50. Elizabeth Weiss | Ward 5 DCPS Teacher and Parent, EmpowerEd |
| 51. Zellee Jones | Fellow/DC Educator, EmpowerEd |
| 52. Ange Pirko | Fellow/DC Educator, EmpowerEd |
| 53. Andrea Trujillo | Fellow/DC Educator, EmpowerEd |
| 54. DaVaughn Montgomery | Fellow/DC Educator, EmpowerEd |
| 55. Celia Daughtridge | Fellow/DC Educator, EmpowerEd |
| 56. DaVaughn Montgomery | Fellow/DC Educator, EmpowerEd |

GOVERNMENT WITNESS LIST

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| 57. Dr. Lewis Ferebee | Chancellor, District of Columbia Public Schools |
| 58. Dr. Michele Walker-Davis | Executive Director, Public Charter School Board |
| 59. Dr. Antoinette Mitchell | State Superintendent of Education, Office of the
State Superintendent of Education |