

District of Columbia Government Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A Box 75115 Washington, DC 20013



March 15, 2006

Dr. Clifford B. Janey, Superintendent District of Columbia Public Schools 825 North Capitol Street, NE Washington, D.C., 20002

Dr. Janey:

On March 9, 2006, at our regularly scheduled monthly meeting, our Commission voted unanimously to request from your office the following information:

- (1) Details on the school modernization order and priorities.
- (2) Specifics on the public participation process regarding the Facilities Master Plan.
- (3) Update on the establishment of Boston Latin at Eastern Senior High School.

With the recent passage of the School Modernization Financing Act of 2006, which will provide DCPS a \$200 million annual capital budget, we seek to understand the process that determined which of the schools will be modernized, and in what order. We note that in the recently approved capital improvement plan, Eastern Senior High School -- located in our ANC -- was not among the schools scheduled to be modernized during the next six years despite significant capital needs at the school. During a community forum in January, we heard from teachers and students a clear desire that the building be modernized -- and some sense that the school was overlooked during the planning processes that determined the modernization schedules.

With the new funds just approved, we understand that DCPS, in dialogue with the community, will be adjusting its plans, scheduling many more modernizations each year. We understand that DCPS plans to engage the public in dialogue about the facilities master plan, due to be released in May. How can our Commission can best participate in this public process?

We read with great interest the proposal to establish a version of Boston Latin at Eastern beginning with the 2007-2008 school year. We look forward to learning more about this proposal -- what it would entail; how it would affect current students; and how DCPS will be engaging parents, students and neighbors in any planning processes.

In close, if you could respond to this request by April 10, 2006, it would be greatly appreciated.

On behalf of the Commission,

Joseph Fengler

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Chair, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 6A

cc: Tommy Wells, District 3 School Board Member