



# Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A

*"Serving the Foggy Bottom and West End communities of Washington, D.C."*

March 23, 2017

Mr. Antwan Wilson  
Chancellor  
DC Public Schools  
1200 First Street NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
[Antwan.Wilson@dc.gov](mailto:Antwan.Wilson@dc.gov)

Ms. Greer Johnson Gillis  
Director  
Department of General Services  
2000 14th Street NW, 8th Floor  
Washington, DC 20009  
[greer.gillis@dc.gov](mailto:greer.gillis@dc.gov)

## **RE: Support for Gym and Locker Room Renovations at the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens**

Dear Chancellor Wilson and Director Gillis,

At its regular meeting on March 15, 2017, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A ("ANC 2A" or "Commission") considered the above-referenced matter. With seven of eight commissioners present, a quorum at a duly-noticed public meeting, the Commission voted unanimously (7-0-0), after a motion made by Commissioner Harmon and seconded by Commissioner Smith, to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens is currently operating at full capacity with a waiting list, and provides athletic facilities for its students and students at School Without Walls High School,

WHEREAS, there are currently funds available to refurbish and renovate a physical plant that dates back to 1922,

WHEREAS, the school's principal, faculty, Home and School Association (HSA), and concerned neighbors have requested that renovating and updating the gym and locker room facilities be given highest priority,

WHEREAS, the students currently have no locker rooms and no place to shower or change clothes. The boys and girls have to change in the bathrooms, and they have to carry their possessions with them because there are no lockers,

WHEREAS, the school's gym is too small to be used by School Without Walls High School for basketball because it does not have a regulation size court. The high school has no gym facilities and wants to use the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens for practices and home games but cannot do that now,

WHEREAS, when work was done on the school's HVAC system in the cafeteria directly below the gym the work was not performed in the gym upstairs, and

WHEREAS, the needs of the school's gym are evident, immediate, and far more pressing than any need to renovate the school's auditorium. Renovations to the gym



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would benefit the students directly every single day. Unlike a lengthy project involving the auditorium, upgrading the gym facilities can be dealt with immediately and with minimum impact on daily operations of the school.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that ANC 2A and residents of the Foggy Bottom and West End neighborhoods strongly urge the DC Public Schools and the Department of General Services to begin a renovation of the gym and locker room facilities at the School Without Walls at Francis-Stevens at the earliest possible date, giving the project a higher priority than any other project involving the school. Our children need a place to shower, to change with dignity, and to store their belongings, and they need it now.

Commissioners Florence Harmon ([2A06@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A06@anc.dc.gov)) and Patrick Kennedy ([2A01@anc.dc.gov](mailto:2A01@anc.dc.gov)) are the Commission’s representatives in this matter.

ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION.

Sincerely,

Patrick Kennedy  
Chairperson

CC: Councilmember Jack Evans, Ward 2  
Sherri Kimbel, Director of Constituent Services, Councilmember Jack Evans  
Councilmember David Grosso, At-Large  
Anne Robinson, Committee Director, DC Council Committee on Education  
Teresa Biagioni, Director of School Planning, DC Public Schools  
Jackie Stanley, Community Outreach Coordinator, Department of General Services  
Chris Sondreal, ANC 2A Representative, Ward 2 Education Network  
Richard Livingstone, Mayor’s Office of Community Relations and Services