



## Ward 6 Public Schools Parent Organization

### Who We Are

The Ward 6 Public Schools Parent Organization (W6PSPO) is an all-volunteer collaboration of parents, educators, and community members helping to strengthen and support public schools in Ward 6. Our members come from all over Ward 6 (including Capitol Hill, Shaw, Southwest DC, and Navy Yard), and from other areas of the city.

### What We Believe

We believe that:

- **All students deserve excellent schools** that have adequate and equitable resources; meet high transparency, accountability, and safety standards; and provide a stable learning environment with minimal staff turnover;
- **All students should have access** to a predictable, high-quality elementary-to-high school feeder pattern of right; and
- **Parents, working with school leaders and educators, have the power** to push for real, lasting change in our schools.

### How We Work

Since 2005, W6PSPO parents and community members have met monthly to improve the education of all children attending our Ward 6 schools. We accomplish our work by:

- Sharing and providing **information on policies** impacting our schools;
- Providing a **forum for discussing best practices** in our schools;
- Advocating for our schools with decision makers in city government (including to DC Public Schools leadership and council members), through **meetings and testifying at hearings**; and
- Collaborating with other ward **education councils and education advocacy groups** such as C4DC (Coalition for DC Public Schools and Communities) and Digital Equity in DC Education.

### Past Work and Accomplishments

- Developed initiatives and secured funding to strengthen **middle school** opportunities and revitalize **libraries** in Ward 6 schools;
- Started a citywide coalition to close the **digital divide** in DC Public Schools that resulted in a \$4.6 million investment in the mayor's 2020 budget for new student computers;
- Pushed for more stringent **student safety policies** to deter abuse and criminal activity;
- Twice a year, convene more than 16 traditional public, charter, and private schools and partners in support of **safe routes to school**;
- Raised awareness of challenges facing our school system through **news stories and editorials**; and
- Successfully pushed for **outdoor school improvements** to beautify the grounds and provide outdoor learning environments (the Capitol Hill Green Schools Initiative).

### Join Us!

Check out [w6pspo.org](http://w6pspo.org) for meeting dates or contact [w6pspo@gmail.com](mailto:w6pspo@gmail.com).

Follow us at @W6PSPO.