



August 3, 2021

The Honorable Phil Mendelson
Chairman
Council of the District of Columbia
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 504
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Chairman Mendelson,

We write to express our support for Ward 4 Councilmember Janeese Lewis George’s proposed amendments to the B24-275, the “Fiscal Year 2022 Local Budget Act” and its emergency version to ensure every DC Public Schools (DCPS) school building has a full-time librarian.

School librarians facilitate both student achievement and collaboration among students while fostering a love for reading at an early age.

In June of this year, members of the State Board adopted SR21-4, “Supporting School Librarians in Every School”¹, urging the Council to take immediate action to ensure all DCPS schools have guaranteed librarian positions.

We appreciate Councilmember Lewis George’s amendment to ensure all DCPS schools have full-time librarians beginning this fall but ultimately believe even more needs to be done by Council to more equitably fund DC’s public schools. We must make sure that all schools have the personnel needed to support the well-rounded education of our students.

Respectfully,

The DC State Board of Education

¹ SR21-4, “Supporting School Librarians in Every School” was adopted by the State Board on June 16, 2021.
<https://simbli.eboardsolutions.com/Meetings/Attachment.aspx?S=9000&AID=216891&MID=7470>

