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## **Fenty Administration Reaches Agreement with City Council on DCPS Budget**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The Fenty Administration has reached an agreement with the City Council on the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) FY10 Budget. Following a discussion on Friday, May 29 with Chairman Vincent Gray, DCPS Chancellor Michelle Rhee, and other key stakeholders, \$24M has been restored to the budget.

“The Chancellor set out this year to create the most inclusive budget process in recent history, by engaging the community in the decision making process,” said Mayor Adrian M. Fenty. “Reaching an agreement was important to maintaining the integrity of individual school budgets.”

The original proposed DCPS budget was based on enrollment projections developed with an independent team of researchers from the Urban Institute, the Brookings Institution and the 21st Century School Fund. While DCPS performed its due diligence and fully accounted for the enrollment projections upon which the FY10 budget was based, all parties compromised and settled to fund the audited enrollment figure from the 2008/2009 school year of 44,681.

Based on the \$24M in restored funding, DCPS is confident that reductions can be made without major personnel cuts at the school level.

DCPS maintains responsibility for its portion of the district-wide student enrollment numbers, but looks forward to re-evaluating a system that attempts to hold traditional public schools liable for public charter school projections, which are outside of its jurisdiction.

“In our collective effort to best serve the District’s children, we’re pleased to have reached a compromise on this critical issue,” said Chancellor Rhee. “We look forward to working with the City Council to develop a clear process relative to enrollment projections and the budgets upon which they are based.”

Beginning next year, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education will commission an independent study of enrollment projections for future years. The Fenty Administration remains hopeful that the outstanding school governance issues will also be resolved before the new school year begins on August 24.

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