



February 2, 2024

Transmitted electronically

Dear Mayor Bowser,

We know accessible early childhood education is a priority you share with us. In Ward 1, we see two challenges that could be turned into opportunities with your support. We urge you to consider the following proposals to address these issues and sustain two crucial properties in Ward 1.

First, we know that your team has been working with the Rosemount Center, a D.C. institution for more than 50 years, since it was first told by its landlord that they will not be renewing their lease this year. We need your help negotiating with the property owner to determine their desired terms, so that Rosemount and the D.C. government can successfully collaborate on a plan of action. As you know, your support and assistance are crucial for successful collaboration in this process.

Second, due to high demand at Bancroft and other Spanish language elementary schools in the area, there is a pressing need for additional space for pre-K classrooms. There is a building for sale at 16th and Park Rd that we believe should be acquired promptly. The Boundary Study from the Deputy Mayor has also identified this as a solution with clear community backing. With your support, we can transform these challenges into opportunities for D.C. families. This proposal not only benefits Bancroft but all schools in the region and enhances the feeder pattern for Wards 1, 3, and 4. We strongly encourage you to seize this unique opportunity and are confident that you will recognize both the rationale and importance of achieving these goals for District residents.

To facilitate this process, Chairman Mendelson and Councilmember Nadeau will introduce a bill next week to authorize you to acquire these two properties. I have attached a draft with this correspondence.

Thank you for your consideration, leadership, and commitment to early childhood education.

Sincerely,

Brianne K. Nadeau

Brianne K. Nadeau, Ward 1 Councilmember

Benjamin Williams

Ben Williams, Ward 1 State Board of Education
Member

Cc: Deputy Mayor for Education, Chairman Mendelson, Rosemount Center, ANC1D, Bancroft PTO