

In The Matter Of:

*Delaware Department of Education
Delaware Design Lab High School*

*Public Hearing
February 13, 2018*

*Wilcox & Fetzer, Ltd.
1330 King Street
Wilmington, DE 19801
email: depos@wilfet.com, web: www.wilfet.com
phone: 302-655-0477, fax: 302-655-0497*



STATE OF DELAWARE
DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

IN RE: DELAWARE DESIGN LAB:
HIGH SCHOOL :

Public Hearing taken pursuant
to notice at the EastSide/CSNC Administration
Building, 1101 Delaware Street, New Castle,
Delaware, beginning at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday,
February 13, 2018, before Gloria M. D'Amore,
Registered Professional Reporter and Notary
Public.

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APPEARANCES:

On behalf of the State of Delaware
Delaware Department of Education:
DENISE STOUFFER,
LEAD EDUCATION ASSOCIATE

On behalf of the State of Delaware
Delaware Department of Justice:
CATHERINE T. HICKEY, ESQUIRE
Attorney for State of Delaware
Department of Education

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1 MS. STOUFFER: Good evening. I
2 declare this public hearing to be open.

3 My name is Denise Stouffer. I
4 am the Lead Education Associate. And I have
5 been appointed by the Secretary of Education
6 to conduct this public hearing.

7 At this time, I ask the other
8 person to introduce themselves.

9 MS. HICKEY: My name is
10 Catherine Hickey. I am a Deputy Attorney
11 General with the Delaware Department of
12 Justice. This evening I am serving as
13 Counsel to the Hearing Officer.

14 MS. STOUFFER: And to our
15 right, we have our court reporter.

16 Delaware Design Lab High School
17 has filed an application for a modification
18 to their Charter.

19 As required by law, the matter
20 was referred to the Charter School
21 Accountability Committee for investigation
22 and report.

23 The joint public hearing is
24 being held by the Department of Education and



1 the State Board of Education to receive
2 public comments on the application.

3 I would like the record to
4 reflect that the notice of the time, date and
5 place of today's meeting was published in The
6 News Journal and The Delaware State News on
7 January 23, 2018.

8 In addition, notice was posted
9 at the Charter School Accountability
10 Committee's official place of business, on
11 the Delaware Department of Education's
12 official website, and on the State Public
13 Meeting Calendar on the State's official
14 website on January 9, 2018.

15 Further, the Applicant was
16 personally notified of the time, date and
17 place of today's public hearing on
18 January 24, 2018.

19 A court reporter is present so
20 that a record of this hearing can be made.
21 It will be necessary for each speaker to
22 clearly identify his or herself before
23 beginning to speak so that the court reporter
24 will be able to note who you are.



1 The record of this hearing will
2 be provided to the Secretary of Education and
3 Members of the State Board of Education
4 together with any written or electronic
5 comments received during the course of the
6 modification process.

7 To date, we have not received
8 any comments on this modification.

9 We will proceed in the
10 following manner.

11 First, we will hear from any
12 representatives from the Charter School who
13 wish to comment on the modification
14 application. Then we will take comments from
15 anyone else who desires to speak.

16 There are sign-up sheets to my
17 left at the table by the door. If you desire
18 to speak, please sign up now.

19 I will pause for a moment to
20 permit anyone who desires to speak to sign
21 up.

22 First, however, I would like a
23 show of hands of all who desire to speak or
24 make any comments on behalf of Delaware



1 Design Lab.

2 We can go off the record.

3 (Off the record.)

4 MS. STOUFFER: Back on the
5 record.

6 At this point, I will accept
7 comments from the school.

8 MS. REBECCA COLLINS: Good
9 evening. My name is Rebecca Collins. I am
10 the Interim Executive Director of Delaware
11 Design Lab High School.

12 Our charter modification is to
13 reduce our approved enrollment to 350
14 students beginning with the class coming in
15 for the year 2018/2019. It is a very
16 straight forward application. Our building
17 is so small that we cannot accommodate the
18 original requested number of students.

19 Additionally, we do not believe
20 that it is feasible to achieve the number of
21 students originally stated in the charter
22 application.

23 And for those reasons, we would
24 request that modification be approved by the



1 Secretary at the end of this process.

2 I do not believe that there is
3 anyone here to make public comments. I will
4 leave the podium at this time.

5 MS. STOUFFER: Is there anyone
6 else who desires to speak?

7 We are going to go off the
8 record until 6:30 since the hearing was
9 noticed from 6 to 6:30.

10 (Off the record at,
11 approximately, 6:05 p.m.)

12 MS. STOUFFER: Back on the
13 record.

14 (Back on the record at,
15 approximately, 6:30 p.m.)

16 MS. STOUFFER: Is there anyone
17 else here who desires to speak in reference
18 to the major modification for Delaware Design
19 Lab High School?

20 If not, I want to thank you all
21 for participating today.

22 The Secretary will consider
23 your comments in making her decision at the
24 conclusion of the modification application



1 process.

2 This hearing is now closed.

3 (The Public Hearing was
4 concluded at, approximately, 6:30 p.m.)

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1 State of Delaware:

2 New Castle County:

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4 CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

5

6 I, Gloria M. D'Amore, Registered

7 Professional Reporter and Notary Public, do

8 hereby certify that the foregoing record,

9 Pages 1 to 9 inclusive, is a true and

10 accurate transcript of my stenographic notes

11 taken on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, in the

12 above-captioned matter.

13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set

14 my hand and seal this 15th day of February,

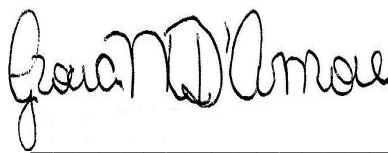
15 2018, at Wilmington, Delaware.

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GLORIA M. D'AMORE, RPR

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