

## Lawrence Sheila

---

**From:** Karina Magakyan <infocso@doe.k12.de.us>  
**Sent:** Friday, February 19, 2016 9:34 AM  
**To:** infocso  
**Subject:** First State Montessori Academy Major Modification Application Public Comment

**Charter School:** First State Montessori Academy

**Name:** Karina Magakyan

**E-Mail Address:** kmagakyan@yahoo.com

**Public Comment:** As an existing family at FSMA, we are incredibly excited by the possibility of keeping our kindergartener at FSMA for all of the elementary school and middle school. We have been nothing short of privileged to be a part of the FSMA family. We feel that FSMA offers what no other public school in our feeder or district has to offer: Montessori-based education, amazing teachers and materials, parental involvement and an outstanding administrative team. The children at FSMA are excited, eager learners. Seeing smiles on our children's faces and hearing that they miss school is what matters most. The vocabulary parade, the variety and quality of extracurricular activities, the outreach and the sense of community that is created at the school is unparalleled. Extending the current grade level to allow children to complete middle school at FSMA makes sense and provides families an opportunity to continue with outstanding Montessori education. Consistency is extremely important for children. So starting middle school at FSMA and then having to change schools mid-flow seems unreasonable and unnecessary. The interest in the school is tremendous. There are hundreds of families waiting for an opportunity to send their children to FSMA. Thus, expanding the school to offer 7th and 8th grade will give many of those families a chance of becoming part of FSMA and bringing more energy, ideas and resources to the downtown Wilmington area. Based on these reasons, kindly approve First State Montessori Academy's application for expansion. Thank you for your consideration. The Chang family.