



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
PHILADELPHIA

Charter Schools Office

Board of Education Special Meeting

August 26, 2022

Status Update

The CSO previously raised concerns about facilities, staffing and student safety at both Bluford and Daroff:

- **Staffing** - Both charter schools have been significantly understaffed. Over the past month, Bluford indicated that it had at least 17 teacher vacancies and Daroff indicated that it had at least 25 teacher vacancies.
- **Educational Programming** - Staffing shortages may lead to compromised delivery of instruction.
- **Facilities** - Fire alarm system, building conditions, readiness for occupancy.
- **Operations** - Significantly delayed updates from the charter schools regarding student information and required transportation services.
- **Overall Student Safety**

Proposed Agreement with Bluford/Daroff Board

The Combined Board of Bluford and Daroff have agreed to the following terms:

1. Bluford will remain open for SY 2022-23 only. Bluford agrees to close its Charter School effective June 30, 2023.
2. Daroff agreed to close its Charter School effective immediately and will not file an appeal or seek a stay.
3. Bluford's enrollment for SY 2022-23 is anticipated to be up to 700 students in order to serve some Daroff students, inclusive of 7th and 8th grade students from Daroff.
4. The Board of Education reserves all rights to take immediate action to revoke the Bluford Charter on health and safety grounds if they exist.

Bluford Status Update

The CSO had previously raised concerns about facilities, staffing, and safety at Bluford:

- **Staffing** - The School has brought over personnel from Daroff to serve grades K-8, anticipated SPED population, and increased student population. The School continues to fill remaining vacancies.
- **Educational Programming** - The School has identified individuals to serve in critical roles serving students (Special Education teachers, climate staff, counselors, social services).
- **Facilities** - Fire alarm system, building conditions. The School is addressing identified issues and continues to work to complete necessary repairs.
- **Operations** - The CSO is meeting at least daily with the Schools' leadership teams to obtain status updates and track progress towards the aforementioned operational concerns.

Student Enrollment

Students enrolled at Bluford may remain enrolled there unless they choose to attend another school.

Students enrolled at Daroff have the following options:

- **Enrollment at Bluford:** Interested families/students may apply to Bluford by contacting the School directly and submitting an application. Bluford is to run a lottery, with admission preferences, for any available seats.
- **Enrollment at District School:** The Office of Student Enrollment and Placement (OSEP) has been supporting families/students who wish to attend a district school by identify a district placement based on their specific needs.
- **Enrollment at Another Charter:** The CSO has been in contact with neighboring charter schools to identify any available seats. Charter seats are very limited. If families are seeking a charter choice, they are provided with information about specific schools and Apply Philly Charter.



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SDP Enrollment Support

For Current Bluford Charter School and
Daroff Charter School Students

August 26, 2022

An Invitation to Bluford and Daroff Families

The School District of Philadelphia is inviting all families with students who are currently enrolled in Bluford Charter School and Daroff Charter School to consider enrolling in one of the many District schools that have seats available for the 2022-2023 school year.





In Catchment Students

For children living in the Bluford or Daroff catchment areas, the following District schools have available capacity.

- Barry, Commodore John
- Rhoads, James
- Cassidy, Lewis
- Hamilton, Andrew



In addition, the following District schools (which may require transportation) have available capacity.

- Bryant, William Cullen
- McMichael, Morton
- Gompers, Samuel
- Middle Years Alternative School (MYA)
- Powel, Samuel



Out of Catchment Students

For children living outside the Bluford or Daroff catchment areas, there will be a guaranteed place at the District neighborhood school serving the catchment area where they live.

- **Find Your Neighborhood School:** Visit https://webapps1.philasd.org/school_finder/.

Two Ways to Enroll Your Child

Enroll **in person** at Haverford Library in West Philadelphia

- **Location:** 5543 Haverford Avenue (Use side entrance on 56th St.)
- **Dates and Times:**
 - Monday: 11am-7pm
 - Tuesday: 11am-7pm
 - Wednesday: 10am-6pm
 - Thursday: 10am-6pm
 - Friday: 10am-5pm
 - **Saturday: 10am-5pm***
 - **Sunday: 1pm-5pm***
- **What to Bring:** Please bring proof of your child's age, your child's immunization record, and two (2) proofs of address. More information on required documentation is at philasd.org/studentplacement/registration.
(If your child has an IEP, please bring a copy of it as well.)

****Special hours added for this weekend, 8/27 and 8/28***



Two Ways to Enroll Your Child

Enroll **online** from anywhere with internet access

- Visit philasd.org/studentplacement/registration. A parent stepper and video tutorials on how to complete online registration are available.





More Information

To stay informed or find out more...

- **Visit** philasd.org/cso/bluford or philasd.org/cso/daroff.
- **Contact Us** - email your questions to ASK@philasd.org or call the School District's Call Center at 215-400-4000, Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

THANK YOU!



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