

# Living Through History: Extension Activity

K-12 | Cornerstone

## Think Globally,

## Act Locally:

*Sharing your story about distance learning*



COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC OVERSIGHT HEARING  
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20004

CHAIRMAN PHIL MENDELSON  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
&  
COUNCILMEMBER DAVID GROSSO  
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION  
ANNOUNCE A JOINT PUBLIC OVERSIGHT HEARING

on  
Distance Learning in DC Public and Public Charter Schools

On

Friday, October 2, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.  
Live via Zoom Video Conference Broadcast  
Council Channel 13 (Cable Television Providers)  
DC Council Website ([www.dccouncil.us](http://www.dccouncil.us))  
Office of Cable Television Website ([entertainment.dc.gov](http://entertainment.dc.gov))

***“The purpose of this hearing is to **hear from community stakeholders [that’s you!] and government agencies about the roll out of distance learning during the ongoing public health emergency [the pandemic]. The Committees are especially interested in hearing about digital access, the quality of learning, and understanding how schools are ensuring [guaranteeing] student attendance and engagement.”*****

Watch Live:

- On the Council site, at <https://bit.ly/2ooL0l1>
- On the OCTFME site, at <https://bit.ly/2JNZlro>

Directions: Use the form to outline your testimony on the roll out of distance learning. If you want to present or submit your testimony, ask your teacher for help on the last page.

You then choose to write out your full testimony, provide your testimony verbally (recorded or live at a public hearing, on Oct. 2), or present your testimony to the class. Please use full sentences to explain your responses.

## Who you are and what makes you an expert on distance learning in DC

(Check off any information you do NOT want shared)

- Name: \_\_\_\_\_
- DC student for \_\_\_\_\_ years at \_\_\_\_\_ in Ward (s) \_\_\_\_\_.
- Grade-level: \_\_\_\_\_
- I have \_\_\_\_\_ siblings at \_\_\_\_\_ school(s).
- DC Resident of Ward \_\_\_\_\_.
- List any other issues you are passionate about, any volunteering or activism:

\_\_\_\_\_

Jotting down ideas: What are some themes that you want to address in your testimony? Consider what about virtual learning has had the strongest impact(s) on you and/or what could have been done differently.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Telling your story: Education during the Covid-19 pandemic



The history of virtual learning during Covid-19. Your experiences are historical artifacts and you can shape the next chapter. *Connect your issue to your personal experience.*

### Identify the issue

What issue(s) or experiences related to education (virtual learning) do you want to raise?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Personal connection

Why does this issue matter to you personally? (What is this issue important, from your perspective?)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Strategic framing

*This is a rhetorical tool [for persuading people] to view this issue from your perspective. When we 'frame' an issue, we decide how we want to talk about this issue. What are the causes? What are the important affects? Think about your word-choice as you describe the issue.*

Who is your target [intended] audience? \_\_\_\_\_

What or whose perspective do you want them to see? \_\_\_\_\_



# The Problem

*Now you are ready to frame your issue!*

Why is this issue or harm happening?

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How does this impact the kids in your classroom and their families?

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Why hasn't anyone else stopped this harm from occurring? (What do you *think*?)

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Have you experienced or seen any examples of this issue? (Don't use any names!)

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What are the larger consequences of this issue if it does not get fixed or address in some way?

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## **What is your suggested remedy?**

*You may not have an answer here, that's fine! Solving complicated issues usually require systemic change. But, it's more powerful when you show that you provide some ideas to get started. Think big or think small, what could the city do to help address these issue(s)?*

What changes do you believe can improve the situation? What would your school do with a fairer budget?

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What could your school do with a fairer budget (more resources)?

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# DC Council Education & Committee of the Whole Public Oversight Committee

Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Virtual Meeting Platform, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm.

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Those who wish to testify may sign-up online at [bit.do/EducationHearings](https://bit.do/EducationHearings) or call (202) 724-8061 by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 29.

Make sure to include your name, and that you are a DCPS student. Written testimony can be submitted by email to [astrange@dccouncil.us](mailto:astrange@dccouncil.us) until 5:00 pm on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

## How do you want to submit your testimony?

- Live on October 2nd, no more than 1-2 pages (You'll need a field trip form to miss class!)
- In writing, submitting testimony by email before October 16<sup>th</sup>
- A recorded video or audio, submitted by email before October 16<sup>th</sup>
- In class, presented to my classmates
- Posted on my social media, for my friends and family
- None, this is just for me teacher.

How important is it for students like you to speak at public hearings on education? (circle one).

Very important

somewhat important

A little important

Not important

Explain why. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_