



**Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A
Government of the District of Columbia
Washington, DC 20011 and 20012**

**RESOLUTION #4A-12-1-2020-2
Request that the District of Columbia Re-Establish
Vocational Education in D.C. Public and Charter High Schools**

**December 1, 2020
Introduced by Commissioner Patience Singleton, 4A04**

WHEREAS, the Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (“ANCs”) are the bodies of government with the closest ties to the people and they are expected to advise the city on issues, including fees, education, taxes, zoning, social services programs, health, emergency preparedness, economic development, transportation and infrastructure issues;

WHEREAS, the government of the District of Columbia is required by law to give “great weight” to comments from ANCs;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A is an interested party and stakeholder. ANC 4A covers more than 16,000 DC residents and includes the Ward 4 neighborhoods of Brightwood, Colonial Village, Crestwood, North Portal Estates, Shepherd Park, and Sixteenth Street Heights;

WHEREAS, ANC 4A recognizes the need to prepare Washington, DC youth for high-paying careers beyond high school;

WHEREAS, vocational education in numerous trades can provide opportunities for students who do not want to pursue college education. Vocational education affords students the opportunity to gain the knowledge, skills, and credentials needed to become entrepreneurs and/or secure careers in growing, high-demand fields;

WHEREAS, the high cost of post-secondary education makes it difficult for many young people to afford vocational and technical training;

WHEREAS, vocational education provides many other benefits to students and society overall, including:

- vocational education is associated with a lower probability of dropping out of high school and a higher likelihood of graduating on-time; and

- many studies suggest that youth participation in criminal activity is reduced with increased access to vocational education;

WHEREAS, ten out of the 28 top fastest-growing careers could be pursued with vocational training available through public school (National Center for Education Statistics);

WHEREAS, the United States has 30,000,000 jobs with an average income of \$55,000 per year that do not require a bachelor's degree yet increasingly require some level of post-secondary education;

WHEREAS, in the next decade, an estimated 3,000,000 new workers will be needed in infrastructure positions in the United States, including in positions for designing, building, and operating transportation, housing, utilities, and telecommunications facilities;

WHEREAS, vocational education ensures that competitive and skilled workers are ready, willing, and capable of holding jobs in high-wage, high-skill, and in-demand career fields such as science, technology, engineering, mathematics, nursing, allied health, construction, information technology, energy sustainability, and many other career fields that are vital in keeping the United States competitive in the global economy;


THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that ANC 4A recognizes the importance of vocational and technical education in preparing a well-educated and skilled workforce in the United States. A competitive global economy requires workers who are prepared for skilled professions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that ANC 4A urges the DC Government to reintroduce vocational and technical education in DC public and charter high schools and encourages educators, guidance and career development professionals, administrators, and parents to promote vocational and technical education as a respected option for students;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Commissioner Patience Singleton, ANC 4A04, is hereby authorized to serve as the Commission's representatives in all matters relating to this resolution;

ADOPTED by unanimous vote at a regularly scheduled public meeting (notice of which was properly given, and at which a quorum of seven of seven members was present) on December 1, 2020, by a vote of 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Respectfully submitted,



Gale Black
ANC4A Chair

Cc: Honorable Muriel Bowser, Mayor
Chancellor Dr. Lewis Ferebee, DC Public Schools
Councilmember-Elect Janeese Lewis George, Ward 4
Frazier O'Leary, State Board of Education Member, Ward 4