



STATEMENT

March 9, 2010

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Phallan Davis 202-741-0915 direct or email [pdavis@dccouncil.us](mailto:pdavis@dccouncil.us)

## **Councilmember Bowser on charter revocation of Young America Works Public Charter School**

**Washington, DC** – In a March 5 emergency meeting, the D.C. Public Charter School Board voted unanimously to begin the process of revoking Young America Works Public Charter School’s (YAW) charter. The school is located at 6017 Chillum Place NE in Ward 4. According to the Board, the school violated terms set forth in its charter agreement and applicable laws. The Board announced that after sending YAW a letter explaining its decision, the school will have the option of a public hearing. Such a request must be made within 15 days of receipt of the letter.

It is clear that student safety and achievement were foremost in the concerns of the Board’s decision. In a November 30 letter to the Board, I expressed the worries of surrounding Lamond neighbors about troubling disorderly conduct associated with the school. And I also shared my concerns about student safety after witnessing a school brawl first-hand. Not too long after the brawl, there was a stabbing at the school.

The decision to revoke any school’s charter is not an easy one. But the Board did what was best for the students and the community. All students deserve a good, quality education. I am confident that the Board will do its best to make the transition as seamless as possible, for children and families.

**-WARD 4-**

*A native Washingtonian and former ANC commissioner, Councilmember Muriel Bowser is Chair of the Committee on Public Services and Consumer Affairs. She is also a member of the Committees on: Economic Development, Human Services, Public Works and Transportation, and Public Safety and the Judiciary. Visit [www.murielbowser.com](http://www.murielbowser.com) for more information.*

1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 110, Washington, DC 20004  
202-724-8052 phone 202-741-0908 fax

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