

December 18, 2018

Hello!

We are writing today as parents of **TWO (three in a year)** children at **Latin American Montessori Bilingual (LAMB) Public Charter School**. We have lived in DC for almost 2 decades and live close by in Columbia Heights at **2821 13th Street NW**. We would like to ask for your support for LAMB's move to the Kingsbury building as a permanent home for our school.

For fifteen years, LAMB has been the only public, accredited, dual-language immersion Montessori school in the DC metropolitan area and one of a handful nationwide. LAMB's education model has proven results, with consistent placement in the top tier of charter schools in the city. Year after year, LAMB has a waiting list of hundreds of families who hope their children have access to this special, bilingual school. It is a wonderful unique public school experience and a family we are so thankful to be a part of.

LAMB administration has worked to keep the school small, but, as a public school dedicated to serving the city's children, LAMB is working to slowly grow so it can maintain a high-quality public school education and serve as many of the city's families as possible. As such, out of necessity, LAMB has moved five times. Many public charter schools face this situation.

Kingsbury fulfills LAMB's dream and offers a wonderful opportunity for LAMB to continue to serve the city's children and be a thoughtful and contributing member to the neighborhood. Relocating to Kingsbury means over time all of LAMB students can be together under one roof. Instead of operating from three sites, we can all be together. The amount of resources that the school can save and share to enrich academic and social development for our very diverse student population will be phenomenal (and increasingly critical to successful public schools). Importantly, Kingsbury also offers secure abundant exterior green space, off-street parking, and sufficient interior space to support the current school size and future growth to a maximum of 600 students (PK3-5th grade) by 2023. We look forward to working with our community so that the enhancements to the Kingsbury property are mutually beneficially for both the community and our school.

We are so thankful and heartened that the ANC recently voted 6-0-1 in support of LAMB's proposal for a process to eventually increase enrollment to 600 students. From the comments from ANC Commissioners, we believe they see that LAMB has worked to be good neighbors and address concerns of neighbors. If approved, we intend to continue robust support for LAMB and its surrounding neighborhood and community.

Thank you for your time and support. We are so thankful to be part of city community dedicated to supporting public schools.

Respectfully submitted,
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