

From: [Christy Bakir](#)
To: [SPCSA Public Comment](#)
Subject: Discovery Charter School amendment
Date: Friday, October 7, 2022 9:06:21 AM

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My name is Christine Bakir and I am a parent of a 3rd grader and 5th grader at Discovery Charter School.

Discovery Charter School will seek an amendment in December to increase enrollment by 99 students at our Hillpointe campus. I'd like to share some things about our school that might not be obvious on state reports.

I have been involved as a parent with DCS since its opening in August of 2011. My oldest child started kindergarten when it was a brand-new school. She graduated from Discovery Charter School in 2020 and went on to be an honor student in high school. School choice has given me the opportunity to have input in the formative years of a new school, with all of its ups and downs. And to be closely involved in my children's education to ensure their success.

When Discovery first opened at Hillpointe, it served K-8 students in 1 large building on the current campus. (The same building which now houses our middle school). The following year, a second building was rented and enrollment doubled. By the 4th year of Discovery Charter School, the school rented all 4 buildings on the current campus. The students were developing their love of learning in a safe and nurturing, though small, environment. Approximately 2 years later, new administration took over, and the school has thrived. Remodeling was done to add additional classrooms to the office building. Enrollment continued to grow. Two years ago, the middle school building was remodeled and more classrooms were added. The school facility is now at full capacity, with every classroom occupied during instructional hours. There is an outdoor classroom for three classes. PE and lunch are outside. Specials teachers work from a cart that they move from class to class. Our sports teams, including basketball and volleyball, practice only outside.

And through it all, the students have made do with what they have. I am pleased to say that our students are blessed with great teachers and staff that are adaptable to the environment given. The school facility has reached full capacity, but there is still room on campus for 1 more building. The possibility of a gym, specials classrooms, additional instructional classrooms, and possibly storage would make it feel like our school is finally offering our students everything they deserve.

As you can see, the school has increased enrollment almost every year of its existence. Administration has ensured that the student diversity has increased as well. 60% of our

students are non-white and over 37 zip codes are represented at our school. DCS is asking for an increase of 99 students at our Hillpointe campus to make this dream of a final building come true. It seems arbitrary to suggest that we shouldn't add any more students in our zip code, when for the past 11 years that is what our school has always done.

Please approve our amendment.

Sincerely,

Christine Bakir