

Teresa Potter

From: Mac Ballif <mdballif@yahoo.com>
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To: SPCSA Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment in Support of DBAE Grade Expansion

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Dear State Public Charter School Authority,

My name is Michaela Ballif, and I am the mother of a rising fourth grader who is currently exploring school options for the 2025–2026 school year. As a parent, a creative entrepreneur, and an advocate for arts-integrated education, I'm writing to share my strong support for DBAE's proposed grade expansion to include 4th, 5th, and 8th grades.

My daughter is a bright, imaginative learner who thrives in settings that blend academic rigor with creative exploration. We've been deeply inspired by DBAE's philosophy and commitment to integrating the arts into every aspect of learning. As someone whose work bridges the worlds of sustainable design, marketing, and community-building, I deeply value the way DBAE fosters confidence, critical thinking, and self-expression, skills that are not only essential for academic success but for life.

I am especially excited about the opportunity for my daughter to join a school environment that honors the whole child: mind, body, and spirit. The smaller class sizes, project-based learning, and creative freedom offered by DBAE would be a game-changer for our family, and for so many others looking for something more intentional than the standard educational model.

I respectfully urge you to approve DBAE's grade level expansion for the 2025–2026 school year. Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Warmly,

Michaela Ballif

Mother | Entrepreneur | Arts Education Advocate

