

**The Finance Project and Augenblick, Palaich and Associates
ANNOUNCES AN INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION SESSION**

On

**An Adequacy Study of the Uniform Per Student Funding Formula of the
Washington DC Public Schools**

On

**Wednesday, December 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.
Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives
1201 17th St., NW
Washington, DC 20036**

The Finance Project (TFP), in partnership with Augenblick, Palaich and Associates (APA), is pleased to announce a Public Information and Discussion Session on the Adequacy Study of the Uniform per Student Funding Formula for the District of Columbia. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 12, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at the Charles Sumner School Museum and Archives, 1201 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

The purpose of the session is to provide an overview of plans for the DC Adequacy Study. In September, The Finance Project (TFP), in partnership with Augenblick, Palaich and Associates (APA), was awarded a contract by the Deputy Mayor for Education to conduct a study of the adequacy of school funding in the District of Columbia. Utilizing a two-pronged approach, the study will provide a data-driven estimate of the cost of an "adequate" pre-K through 12 education in the District of Columbia resulting in recommendations in a number of key areas;

1. changes to the structure and level of foundation funding in the Uniform Per Student Funding Formula (UPSFF), as well as the weightings for students with special learning needs that require services which entail additional costs;
2. changes to the way in which capital investments, maintenance, utilities and custodial services for school buildings and facilities are financed and managed; and
3. guidance for updating the study's basic elements on a continuing periodic basis.

Using a blend of two nationally recognized methodologies; Professional Judgment Panels and a Successful Schools Study the TFP/APA study team will examine the cost of resources required for public schools and public charter schools to meet DC academic standards, including the Common Core State Standards, once they are implemented. This will include:

- Analyses of system- and school-level data on requirements to support and maintain necessary education programs and resources for *students without any special learning needs*;
- Analyses of system- and school-level data on requirements to support and maintain necessary education programs and resources for *students with special learning needs that entail additional costs*;

- Analyses of system and school-level data on requirements to support *capital investments, maintenance, utilities and custodial services for school buildings and facilities*; and
- Analyses of the *anticipated fiscal impact*, over a five-year period, from FY 2014 through 2019, of recommended policy, program and system changes to achieve educational adequacy for all DC students.

During the first hour of the Public Information and Discussion Session, the research team will present information on plans for the study, including the methodology, benchmarks for the completion of key study elements, the role and composition of the national Advisory Group and Professional Judgment Panels and their roles in providing ongoing advice and input on the design and implementation of the research as well as the interpretation of the data analysis. During the second hour, the research team will conduct an open Listening Session, where local stakeholders and the general public will have an opportunity to ask questions, offer opinions, and voice concerns. Stakeholder comments and feedback at this meeting will inform the further development and implementation of the study methodologies.

The public is invited to attend this meeting, and to share this announcement with community members, neighborhood representatives, youth, and others who may be interested in learning more about plans for the study, and/or in sharing ideas with the study's staff.