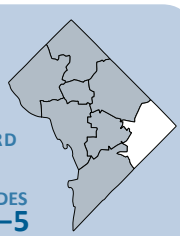
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2010–11 SCHOOL PROFILE

Houston Elementary School



WARD
7

GRADES
PS–5

Dear Parent or Guardian,

You are your child's first teacher and our most important partner in your child's education. We understand, though, that for you to be an effective partner, you need information. This school profile is designed to give you what you need to make the best decisions for your child.

In this profile, you will find important facts about school performance, facilities, and academic and extracurricular programs. You also will find practical details that will help you better communicate and be involved in the school — including the principal's name, the front office phone number and what public transportation gets you to the school.

This information is compiled first and foremost to help you support and advocate for your child. But it is also my hope that you will use it to hold principals, school staff and my office accountable at getting better at what we do every day.

Our goal is for every child in DCPS to succeed. We look forward to working with you to make this goal a reality for your child.

Sincerely,

Kaya Henderson
Interim Chancellor

1100 50th Pl. NE, Washington, DC 20019
Phone: (202) 671-6170 | **Fax:** (202) 724-4625
Principal: Charlotte Whitten-Watkins | charlotte.whitten@dc.gov
Web Site: www.dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/houston
School Hours: 8:45 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.

Charles H. Houston Elementary School prides itself on offering an excellent educational program that fosters the whole development of each student. In partnership with our students' families, we promote the intellectual, social, emotional, cultural and physical development of our students. We believe that all children can be successful when they learn to recognize their own strengths and needs as well as those of others. At Houston, we strive to educate students so that they will develop into informed citizens who are productive and can make positive contributions in the world they live in.

PROGRAMS (2010–11)

ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT
- OST Academic Power Hour
- DC Reads
- Higher Achievement
- Three-Year-Old Program
- Four-Year-Old Program

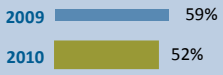
WELLNESS AND FITNESS
- Washington Tennis and Education

ARTS AND CULTURE
- Washington National Opera

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Percentage of students meeting or exceeding **math** standards on the DC CAS

Percentage of students meeting or exceeding **reading** standards on the DC CAS



School improvement status

This school does not have an improvement status under No Child Left Behind (NCLB).

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS (2009–10)

Enrollment: **246**

- Asian/Pacific: —
- Black: 98%
- Hispanic: —
- American Indian: —
- White: —
- Other: 2%

English language learners: —
Free and reduced-price lunch: 90%
Special education: 15%
In-boundary: 71%

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Facilities:

- Art room ✓
- Auditorium ○
- Computer lab ✓
- Gym ✓
- Media center ✓
- Music room ✓
- Outdoor recreation space ✓
- Science lab ○

Other:

- Parent organization ✓
- School uniform ✓
- Title I ✓

Destination School(s):

Ron Brown Middle School

Community Partnerships:

- Georgetown University
- Roving Leaders
- Higher Achievement
- Antioch Church
- Fishing School
- Youth and Family Investment
- Innovative Education Program

GETTING TO SCHOOL

U4 (Minnesota Ave/Sherriff Rd/ River Terrace)
W4 (Anacostia Station - Deanwood Station)
V14, V15, V7 (Penn Mar/Bureau of Engraving - Deanwood)
R12 (Deanwood - New Carrolton)

M Orange Line: Deanwood Station

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Parents and community members play an important role in ensuring that every child, in every classroom across the district, receives the high-quality education he or she deserves.

Volunteer at school. Volunteers are key to helping students succeed. Many schools need volunteers who can work directly with students on reading and math, but volunteers also can provide support in classrooms, the office and the library, as well as help plan and staff events, write grants, and much more. For more information, check with the principal or visit **www.dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/volunteer.**

Join the school's parent organization. Parent organizations are an important part of every school community. They provide ways to support students through community events, fundraising and other activities. Joining a parent organization helps parents meet other parents who are engaged in their child's education. For more information, contact the school.

Attend parent-teacher conferences. Stay in touch with your child's teachers and ask that they be in touch with you. Ask your child's teachers about what kind of classroom behavior they expect and how they reward positive behavior. Ask what your child should be learning, how well he or she is doing, and what you can do to help. Parent-teacher conferences will be held at school on Oct. 18, 2010; Feb. 28, 2011; and May 16, 2011.

Work with or run for the school advisory board. This group advises the principal on the comprehensive school plan — including specific programs and activities that strengthen student performance, create safe and effective schools, and involve parents and families. For more information, check with the principal.

Talk to your child about school. Your opinion matters to your child. Ask your child about one thing he or she learned at school, and keep asking every day! For more information, visit **www.dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/studentsuccess.**

WHERE CAN I FIND INFORMATION ON OTHER SCHOOLS?

If you are interested in seeing the information contained here for every DCPS school, please visit **www.dcps.dc.gov/profiles.** You will be able to search for DCPS schools based on the information that you care about, and you will also be able to compare schools side by side.

HOW CAN I STAY UP TO DATE ON WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Be sure to let your school know if your contact information changes. Visit **www.dcps.dc.gov** regularly, and sign up to receive regular e-mail updates from DCPS at **www.dcps.dc.gov/DCPS/enews.**