

David Torres
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Testimony

Hello, my name is David Torres. When I arrived in Danbury from Philadelphia I was 18 years old. My three children went through the Danbury public school system. I am now a concerned grandfather who still cares about the well being of his grandkids.

I am here today to ask you to please include Danbury Prospect for funding this year. This is not an issue about all charter schools. It is about this great school and the needs of Danbury. I had the pleasure of visiting one of the Prospect schools in Brooklyn. I was so impressed by the way that school operated. What impressed me the most was seeing how diverse the school was. Especially the teachers. I was impressed with how caring and inclusive the community at the school was. I really enjoyed seeing a class where the students were speaking mandarin and were so engaged.

I want to see that in Danbury. I work with our youth all of the time many of whom drop out of school because they have no role models and feel lost. Danbury Prospect will be a great option for parents that want a smaller environment and where diversity is an important part of their international program. Many of our schools in Danbury are overcrowded. Danbury Prospect would help by providing another educational option to our city and to many parents that cannot afford private schools.

School choice should not only be for the rich. We should all have some educational choices. Where you were born and your race should not determine the level of education you get. I feel that many minorities in Danbury do not have educational choices.

Please I would like to ask you today to please help us open Danbury Prospect. I ask you not to look at Danbury Prospect as just another charter school. I want you to see it the school for what it has accomplished, what it will do for our minority community and how it can help ease the overcrowding in Danbury.

Thank You