



**BOARD OF ETHICS AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**



July 28, 2026

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL



**RE: Resolution of Complaint Concerning District of Columbia
International School Public Charter School Board's Compliance with
the Open Meetings Act (#OOG-2025-0018)**

Dear [REDACTED]:

On February 12, 2025, the Office of Open Government (“OOG”) received your complaint (#OOG-2025-0018) (“Complaint”) alleging that the District of Columbia International School Public Charter School Board (“DCI PCSB,” or the “Board”) does not publish the location, including web links, of its meetings.¹

The Office of Open Government has the statutory charge to ensure that public bodies adhere to the Open Meetings Act.² The OMA reiterates the District of Columbia’s long-standing public policy that “all persons are entitled to full and complete information regarding the affairs of [the] government and the actions of those who represent them.”³ To support this policy, the OMA requires that its provisions be construed broadly to increase public access to public bodies’ meetings.⁴

Pursuant to 3 DCMR § 10400 *et seq.*,⁵ I reviewed and assessed your Complaint. OOG’s legal staff conducted an investigation that included review of the District of Columbia International Public Charter School’s (“DCI PCS,” or the “PCS”) and District of Columbia Public Charter School Board’s (“DC PCSB”) websites, and DCI PCSB Chairperson Alexandra Pardo’s response to the Complaint.

Upon consideration of the aforementioned (detailed background below), and the investigation results, I find that DCI PCSB has not violated the OMA, because at the time OOG conducted its investigation, the Board’s complete meeting notices from the date of this Complaint and for upcoming meetings were posted on the PCS’ website. As such, I must dismiss this matter pursuant to 3 DCMR §10403.1(b), because the action of (alleged) unpublished location, including

¹ Email from [REDACTED] to Office of Open Government (OOG), on February 12, 2025.

² D.C. Official Code § 2-571, *et seq.*

³ D.C. Official Code § 2-572.

⁴ D.C. Official Code § 2-573.

⁵ D.C. Municipal Regulations Section 3-10400 – Filing and Presentation of Complaints.

web links, of the Board's meetings was not substantiated through OOG's investigation and therefore the Complaint is dismissed because the Board did not violate the OMA. The justification for the dismissal follows.

My analysis begins with the facts, then a discussion of the OMA's Notice of meetings provisions. I will conclude with a discussion of my enforcement authority under the OMA.

I. BACKGROUND

A. The Complaint

On February 10, 2025, you sent an email to OOG concerning alleged OMA violations by eleven Boards of Trustees, followed by an email inquiry about whether to submit separate complaints against forty-seven Boards of Trustees in alleged violation of the OMA or a detailed report of the total violations. In response to your question, OOG suggested that you "submit one complaint that collectively captures the 47 (or more) charters with [] a detailed report of the total, elaborating the potential problems with each."⁶ On February 12, 2025, you submitted the Collective Complaint (Complaints) via email to OOG. Your Collective Complaint contains the Complaint against District of Columbia International School Public Charter School Board, as follows: "No locations, no links."⁷

The following is a summary of DCI PCSB Chairperson's email response to the Complaint.

B. Summary of DCI PCSB Chairperson's February 25, 2025, email response to the Complaint

OOG provided the Chairperson of DCI PCSB with a redacted (to protect personal identifiable information) copy of the Complaint, thereby availing the Board of the opportunity to respond to the said Complaint. Chairperson Pardo responded to the allegations in your Complaint via email on February 25, 2025, in part, as follows:

The Board link at the DCI page (<https://dcinternationalschool.org/about-us/board-of-trustees/>) includes the school calendar, agendas, minutes, and notices. Notices are posted "the Monday before each meeting."

The agendas posted for each meeting have the meeting locations.

[SY24-25 Annual Meeting Calendar and Agendas.](#)⁸

⁶ Email from [REDACTED] to Office of Open Government (OOG), on February 10, 2025; Email from Director Niquelle Allen (OOG) to [REDACTED], on February 12, 2025.

⁷ Email from [REDACTED] to Office of Open Government (OOG), on February 12, 2025.

⁸ Email from Chairperson, DCI PCSB to Attorney Advisor Joan Lelma (OOG), on February 25, 2025.

C. Summary of OOG's Investigation

As previously mentioned, OOG reviewed DCI PCS' and DC PCSB's websites along with DCI PCSB Chairperson Alexandra Pardo's response to the Complaint. OOG reviewed the past meeting notices from February 13, 2025, for February 20, 2025, meeting to June 15, 2026, notice for June 18, 2026, which were posted on the PCS' website to determine OMA compliance. The review included an examination of the corresponding meeting agendas to determine whether DCI complied with the OMA. That is, if for virtual meetings web links were provided and hybrid meetings web links and the physical location were provided to attend the meetings. The allegation in your Complaint is "No locations, no links," without more.⁹ Since you have not complied with 3 DCMR § 10400.8 by providing the date of the meeting that is the subject of the allegation, OOG has reviewed DCI PCSB's meeting notices from the date of your Complaint to June 15, 2026, to ensure that the Board consistently provides its meeting location.¹⁰

I, now move to discuss the Notice of meetings provision concerning publication of the Board's meeting notices in full, to include location (web links) of the meetings.

II. DISCUSSION

A. **The OMA requires that a public body provides notice (which includes date, time, location, and draft agenda) as soon as possible of its scheduled meeting and when the schedule is changed, but not less than forty-eight (48) hours or two (2) business days before its meeting, whichever is greater, except for emergency meetings.**

All meetings properly constituted to conduct public business as defined under the OMA,¹¹ unless specifically and legally exempted,¹² are presumed to be open to the public, and the public must receive advanced notice of the date, time, location and draft agenda.¹³ Pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-576(1), the public must be given notice as soon as possible of a scheduled meeting and when the schedule is changed, but not less than forty-eight (48) hours or two (2) business days before its meeting, whichever is greater, except for emergency meetings. If one of the requirements of the notice is absent (date, time, location, and draft agenda) pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 2-576(5), a proper meeting notice has not been provided.

You state in your Complaint that there are "[n]o location, no links" for the public to attend DCI PCSB's meetings.¹⁴ OOG's staff conducted a review of DCI PCS' website on April 30, 2025, May 29, 2026, and June 16, 2026, and no OMA violations were identified. OOG's

⁹ Email from [REDACTED] to Office of Open Government (OOG), on February 12, 2025.

¹⁰ See 3 DCMR § 10400.8, "Complaints shall include the following details regarding the meeting complained of: ...

(b) The date of the open meeting ..."

¹¹ D.C. Official Code § 2-574(1).

¹² D.C. Official Code § 2-575(b).

¹³ D.C. Official Code § 2-576(5).

¹⁴ Email from [REDACTED] to Office of Open Government (OOG), on February 12, 2025.

investigation revealed that all the past meeting notices from February 13, 2025, for February 20, 2025, meeting to June 15, 2026, notice for June 18, 2026, meeting have the location of the Board's meeting; for virtual meetings a Zoom link was provided and for hybrid meetings, a Zoom link and the physical location were provided to attend the meetings. It therefore follows, DCI PCSB has not violated the OMA regarding publication of its meeting location, including web links, as you alleged. Next, I will discuss my enforcement authority under the OMA and conclude.

III. CONCLUSION

The facts alleged in the Complaint concerning location, including web links, of District of Columbia International School Public Charter School Board do not amount to a violation of the OMA. I am only empowered to seek injunctive and declaratory relief when certain OMA violations have occurred.¹⁵ Your Complaint does not establish a violation of the OMA. As such, I am dismissing it for the reasons stated herein, and under the OOG's regulations.¹⁶ Attached is a copy of your Complaint.¹⁷

The Office of Open Government's 2026 OMA training schedule for Boards of Trustees for DC public charter schools is published, and the training invites for the third training were sent to Boards' chairpersons and members.¹⁸ The invites for all the trainings will be dispatched likewise; that is, two weeks before each scheduled training session, with a reminder closer to the respective sessions. Per the training schedule, the next session will be on September 9, 2026.¹⁹ Public body chairpersons and members must attend at least one of OOG's OMA training sessions annually. The staff of public bodies are encouraged to attend the trainings.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact OOG Attorney Joan Lelma at joan.lelma@dc.gov.

Sincerely,



Niquelle M. Allen, Esq.
 Director of Open Government
 Board of Ethics and Government Accountability

¹⁵ See D.C. Official Code § 2-579.

¹⁶ 3 DCMR § 10403.1 ("The Director [of Open Government] may dismiss a complaint on one or more of the following grounds: . . . (b) The action complained of does not violate the [OMA]").

¹⁷ See 3 DCMR § 10403.2.

¹⁸ See <https://www.open-dc.gov/news/2026-oma-trainings-boards-trustees-dc-public-charter-schools>.

¹⁹ Ibid.