



PAULO FREIRE

SOCIAL JUSTICE CHARTER SCHOOL

134 SPRINGFIELD STREET
CHICOPEE, MA 01013
(413) 536-3201 Fax: 413-536-3206

January 19, 2023

Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education
Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
75 Pleasant Street
Malden, MA 02148

Dear Commissioner,

On behalf of the Paulo Freire Social Justice Charter School Board of Trustees, I respectfully inform you that the Paulo Freire Social Justice Charter School Board of Trustees has voted to surrender the school's charter to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and to close the school permanently upon completion of the 2022-2023 school year. Five years ago, our school was placed on probation by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and was given numerous conditions to meet in areas of enrollment, governance, and academic performance to have our probationary status lifted. Despite determined efforts to turn our school around over the last half-decade, we have not succeeded in doing so. Therefore, we have come to the decision that it is in the best interests of the students whom we serve to close our charter school and to give them the opportunity to continue their educations at peer institutions in our region. We look forward to continuing a close collaboration with DESE and MPCSA to navigate the rough waters of a school closing in a manner that best supports the successful transition to a positive future that our students and their families, our teachers, our staff, and our school community will need to make in the remaining months of the 2022-2023 school year.

The Paulo Freire Social Justice Charter School Board of Trustees voted to surrender the charter upon completion of the current school year on *January 17, 2023* at a meeting held in compliance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, §§ 18-25.J. Listed below is the contact information, including name, contact address, telephone number, and email address, for all members of the school's current board.

Moving forward, Phylis Gedeon, will serve as the contact person for all communication regarding the closure of Paulo Freire Social Justice Charter School.

134 Springfield Road
Chicopee, MA 01013

boardoftrustees@paulofreirecharterschool.org

Sincerely,

Phylis Gedeon

Phylis Gedeon, President, Paulo Freire Social Justice Charter School Board of Trustees

Phylis Gedeon

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