

**From:** [Johnson Donna R](#)  
**To:** [Nagourney Jennifer](#); [Kay-Lawrence Sheila](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Freire Charter High School  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 01, 2014 4:35:05 PM

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Please add to the record for public comment on the Freire application

*Donna Johnson*

Executive Director

State Board of Education

401 Federal St, Suite 2

Dover, DE 19901-3639

302-735-4010

[www.destateboarded.k12.de.us](http://www.destateboarded.k12.de.us)

Twitter: @destateboarded

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**From:** Shae Tolliver [mailto:shae.tolliver@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 01, 2014 4:06 PM  
**To:** Johnson Donna R; vanitysanders2012@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Freire Charter High School

Hello, I would like to share my experience in a brief story. I had the pleasure of visiting Freire Charter High School in Philadelphia on Wednesday, March, 12th along with many others. When we first entered the doors of Freire I was very impressed by how mature and respectful the students were. During our visit we were given a tour, in that tour there were a few key things that stood out to me that is uncommon in Delaware's public school system. One being that the students had a "college wall", each student that received their acceptance letter into college had a star on the wall and some stars began to overlap because so many students had been accepted. My personal experience is Delaware's public school system is that college is not talked about that much until your junior/senior year and at Freire they speak about it all throughout their school years. Another thing that stood out to me was the "achievement wall", each grade had a student on the wall for their achievements and not only was it recognition for those particular students but motivation for other students to do what it takes for a chance on that wall. The last thing that really stood out to me during the tour was the lab the students could use for extra help, during and after school hours. Whether it be extra help from a teacher or another student, the students all said it was really effective in getting where they need to be grade wise. Apart from the tour I feel as though what also was and would be beneficial here would be the grading system. Anything below a 75 is considered an F. The students had

admitted that was scary at first but if you aren't placed into certain classes after testing you take intense courses for that specific class and again, the lab is available for students still seeking extra help. Another thing that was very impressive was the zero tolerance rule. again, sounds scary but it gives a sense of comfort to the students, they can walk the halls knowing that they are safe and if a problem ever did occur mediation is always available and counseling, which about 75% of the school participates in. Overall I really feel as though Delaware NEEDS this and would hope you would consider bringing a charter school here.