

**From:** [Johnson Donna R](#)  
**To:** [Kay-Lawrence Sheila](#); [Nagourney Jennifer](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Support for Freire Wilmington Charter School  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 01, 2014 9:00:09 AM

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Please include the following letter into the record of public comment for the Freire Charter School Application

*Donna Johnson*

Executive Director  
State Board of Education  
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Dover, DE 19901-3639  
302-735-4010  
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**From:** pat8hunt@aol.com [mailto:pat8hunt@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 31, 2014 11:36 PM  
**To:** Johnson Donna R  
**Cc:** Bill Porter  
**Subject:** Support for Freire Wilmington Charter School

Ms. Patricia Hunt  
30 Cragmere Road  
Wilmington, DE 19809

March 31, 2014

Delaware State Board of Education  
John G. Townsend Building  
401 Federal Street, Suite 2  
Dover, DE 19901

Dear State Board of Education Members:

I am writing as a friend of Freire Charter School Wilmington to express my support for the granting of a charter school to this exciting educational program for our city.

I first met one of the founders of Freire Charter School Wilmington when I was attending a seminar on non-violence as Director of the Delaware Chapter of the National Coalition Building Institute. In a world where our youth too frequently solve their problems with violence rather than words, I have grown to truly appreciate the educational philosophy of non-violence that is at the heart of Freire's model.

Freire Charter School is unapologetic about their non-violence philosophy, their code of conduct, and their "no second chances" policy. However, too many critics misunderstand

this part of the school's successful model. It is not used as a means to get rid of students as the opponents of Freire's Wilmington school would have you believe. Rather, it is a way for ensuring that every student at Freire can learn in a safe and supportive environment and can have access to a high quality learning environment that prepares them for success in college.

As a long-time Wilmington resident and a grandmother of students in Wilmington's public schools, I believe that replicating Wilmington's successful Philadelphia in Wilmington will set the bar high for Wilmington's children and give them the supports necessary for them to exceed expectations.

I strongly encourage you to vote in favor of Freire Charter School Wilmington on April 17, 2014.

Sincerely,

Patricia Hunt

Sent from my iPad