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# **District of Columbia Citizens for Better Public Education Collection**

## **An inventory of District of Columbia Citizens for Better Public Education (DCCBPE) at DC Public Library**

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This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on October 19, 2020.

English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW

Washington, DC

[archives.dcpl@dc.gov](mailto:archives.dcpl@dc.gov)

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	People's Archive, MLK Library
<b>Creator:</b>	D.C. Citizens for Better Public Education
<b>Title:</b>	District of Columbia Citizens for Better Public Education (DCCBPE) Collection
<b>ID:</b>	002
<b>Date [inclusive]:</b>	1965-1982
<b>Physical Description:</b>	7 Linear feet
<b>Physical Description:</b>	15 Boxes
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English

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## Biographical / Historical

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The District of Columbia Citizens for Better Public Education (DCCBPE) was organized in 1964 to assess educational needs in the District and to lobby for educational improvements before the United States Congress and local government officials. DCCBPE's first public meeting was held on March 28, 1965 at Rankin Chapel on the campus of Howard University, with United States Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy as the keynote speaker. The organization was involved in many major issues affecting public education in the District during the 1960s and 1970s, including decentralization of the school superintendent's authority, de facto segregation, Home Rule efforts, and student rights. DCCBPE founded the Reading is Fundamental (RIF) program headed by Margaret McNamara (wife of Robert McNamara, Secretary of Defence) RIF provided free books to students and eventually spread nationwide giving away books to millions of children. DCCBPE also hosted an annual awards dinner, which honored persons who made exceptional contributions to public education. DCCBPE ceased operations in 1984.

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## Scope and Contents

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The collection contains District of Columbia Citizens for Better Public Education (DCCBPE) annual and board of directors' meeting minutes, administrative directives, legislative testimony, financial reports, and copies of the organization's newsletter, the Bulletin Board. Other materials included are numerous studies and reports sponsored by DCCBPE including Student Responsibilities and Rights, A Quest for Educational Opportunity in a Major Urban School District, and Creating Resource Allocation System.

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## Arrangement

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Series 1: Office Files (1982-1983; 1.25LF): Contains office files maintained by DCCBPE covering annual meetings, board member meetings, copies of Energetic News, executive directors' reports, and various topical files.

Series 2: Special Education (1978-1983; 1.25LF): Contains fact sheets, plans, newsletters, legislation, publications, litigation, maps, agreements, and reports relating to special education in the District.

Series 3: Newsletters (1965-1982; 1.75LF): Contains copies of DCCBPE's newsletter, The Bulletin Board.

Series 4: Reports (1974-1976; 1.25LF): Consists of reports on decentralization, resource allocation, school lunch/breakfast programs, and student rights and responsibilities for D.C. schools. Of particular significance is a report prepared in 1974 titled A Quest for Educational Opportunity in a Major Urban School System: The Case of Washington DC, which was the result of a study conducted by the Educational Finance and Governance Center of Syracuse University under contract with DCCBPE.

Series 5: Directories and Handbooks (1973-1978; 1.25LF): Contains a directory of services for children with disabilities; guides on special education services, student assessment, and placement. Series also includes the 1977 edition of the D.C. Public School's Administrative Procedure Handbook.

Series 6: Publications (1967-1979; 0.25LF): Consists mainly of monographs published by DCCBPE.

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## Administrative Information

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### Publication Statement

People's Archive, MLK Library

901 G Street NW  
Washington, DC  
[archives.dcpl@dc.gov](mailto:archives.dcpl@dc.gov)

### Revision Description

Finding aid revised to be more evergreen. 2019-10-21

### Custodial History

The records were donated to the Library by Miles Mark Fisher, IV, 1984 President of the District of Columbia Citizens for Better Public Education (DCCBPE).

### Processing Information

Standard processing procedures were applied to this collection at the time of its processing in 1997. This work included the rearrangement and reorganization of documents, discarding of duplicates and unnecessary binders, and all routine transmittal documents. When applicable or needed, preservation copying of newspaper clippings was performed.

### Conditions Governing Use

There are no restrictions on the use of this collection.

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## Controlled Access Headings

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- Education
- Public schools
- Associations, institutions, etc
- People with disabilities
- Special education

## Collection Inventory

### Series 1: Office Files, 1982-1983

#### Scope and Contents

Contains office files maintained by DCCBPE covering annual meetings, board member meetings, copies of Energetic News, executive director's reports, and various topical files.

Title/Description	Instances	
Board of director's meeting minutes and agenda, 1982-1983	Box 1	Folder 1
Board of director's meeting minutes and agenda, 1982-1983	Box 1	Folder 2
Board of director's meeting minutes and agenda, 1982-1983	Box 1	Folder 3
Board of director's meeting minutes and agenda, 1982-1983	Box 1	Folder 4
Mercedes A. King, 1982-1983	Box 1	Folder 5
Mercedes A. King, 1982-1983	Box 1	Folder 6
Executive Director's reports, 1982-1983	Box 1	Folder 7
Testimony, 1983	Box 1	Folder 8
Annual meeting working papers, 1982	Box 1	Folder 9
Statement on the fiscal year budget, 1984	Box 1	Folder 10
Annual meeting, 1982	Box 2	Folder 1
National Capital Comprehensive Plan, Undated	Box 2	Folder 2
Conferences and meetings, 1982	Box 2	Folder 3
D.C. Education Coalition, 1982	Box 2	Folder 4
Handicapped hearings, 1982	Box 2	Folder 5
Fiscal budget information, 1983	Box 2	Folder 6
Energetic News (Vols. 1-4), Undated	Box 3	Folder 1
Special Education Workshop, 1980	Box 3	Folder 2
Reading is Fundamental Committee report, Undated	Box 3	Folder 3
Learning disabilities, 1979	Box 3	Folder 4

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### Series 2: Special Education, 1978-1983

## Scope and Contents

Contains fact sheets, plans, newsletters, legislation, publications, litigation, maps, agreements, and reports relating to special education in the District.

Title/Description	Instances	
Residential placements, Undated	Box 4	Folder 1
Comprehensive plan for the Delivery of Services to the Handicapped Children and Youth, 1976	Box 4	Folder 2
Civil Action #16-77 - Children's Defense Fund, Undated	Box 4	Folder 3
Miscellaneous notes of Deborah Ramsey, 1981-1983	Box 4	Folder 4
Children's Center, 1972	Box 4	Folder 5
Revised Agreement for Residential Placement, 1980	Box 4	Folder 6
Proposal Board of Education Rules - Special education of D.C., 1980	Box 4	Folder 7
Compliance monitoring branch information, 1980-1981	Box 4	Folder 8
Information from Closer Look, Undated	Box 4	Folder 9
Comprehensive Plan, 1979	Box 4	Folder 10
Committee on Special Education meeting, 9/24/1980	Box 4	Folder 11
Special education complaint management system, 1980	Box 4	Folder 12
Department of Education News, 1980	Box 4	Folder 13
Development I.E.P. information, 1977	Box 4	Folder 14
Fact Sheet - special education, Undated	Box 5	Folder 1
Intensive Junior high school instruction - discussion paper only, 1980	Box 5	Folder 2
WandS NSC - D. Ramsey information, Undated	Box 5	Folder 3
Annual program plan amendment - Education of the Handicapped Act, 1979-1980	Box 5	Folder 4
Annual Program, 1979	Box 5	Folder 5
Special education memorandum of Agreement, Undated	Box 5	Folder 6
Special education monitoring and observation, 1973	Box 5	Folder 7
D.C. Law 2-137 - Mentally Retarded Citizens Constitutional Rights and Dignity Act of 1978, 1978	Box 5	Folder 8
Newsletter, 1978-1981	Box 5	Folder 9
Overview of program administration, 1980	Box 5	Folder 10
Parent Involvement Committee Workshop - I.E.P., Undated	Box 5	Folder 11
Parent Involvement Committee, 1980		

	Box 5	Folder 12
Quality monitoring - D.C.P.S., 1980-1981	Box 5	Folder 13
Referral process for Assessment identification, Undated	Box 5	Folder 14
Road Map to Special education for Handicapped Children, 1978	Box 5	Folder 15
Residential placement agreement, 1980	Box 6	Folder 1
Special education information, Undated	Box 6	Folder 2
Special education cases, 1980	Box 6	Folder 3
Draft FY 1981-83 State Plan for Part B of the Education of the Handicapped Act, 1981-1983	Box 6	Folder 4
Special Education Fair, 1981	Box 6	Folder 5
Special Transfer form - Area A, Undated	Box 6	Folder 6
General, 1971-1975	Box 6	Folder 7
Who is Really Special?, Undated	Box 6	Folder 8
Task Force-Cedar Knoll Oak Hill, 1981	Box 6	Folder 9
Waddy decision testimony, 1973	Box 6	Folder 10
Workshop parent training, 1980	Box 6	Folder 11
Court hearing, 1981	Box 6	Folder 12

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## Series 3: Newsletters, 1965-1982

### Scope and Contents

Contains DCCBPE's newsletter, The Bulletin Board from 1965-1982.

Title/Description	Instances	
Bulletin Board - April 1965-December (non-inclusive), 1970	Box 7	Folder 1
Bulletin Board - April 1965-December (non-inclusive), 1970	Box 7	Folder 2
Bulletin Board - April 1965-December (non-inclusive), 1970	Box 7	Folder 3
Bulletin Board - April 1965-December (non-inclusive), 1970	Box 7	Folder 4
Bulletin Board - April 1965-December (non-inclusive), 1970	Box 7	Folder 5
Bulletin Board - April 1965-December (non-inclusive), 1970	Box 7	Folder 6
Special Report: Merit Pay Differential, December 1970	Box 7	Folder 7
Special Report: Staffing: The Clark Plan, December 1970	Box 8	Folder 1
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), February 1971-December 1975	Box 8	Folder 2



Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), February 1971-December 1975	Box 8	Folder 3
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), February 1971-December 1975	Box 8	Folder 4
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), February 1971-December 1975	Box 8	Folder 5
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), February 1971-December 1975	Box 8	Folder 6
Invierno, 1974-1975	Box 8	Folder 7
Special Report, January 1976	Box 9	Folder 1
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), January 1976-October 1978	Box 9	Folder 2
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), January 1976-October 1978	Box 9	Folder 3
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), January 1976-October 1978	Box 9	Folder 4
Special Report, October 1978	Box 9	Folder 5
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), December 1978-September 1982	Box 10	Folder 1
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), December 1978-September 1982	Box 10	Folder 2
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), December 1978-September 1982	Box 10	Folder 3
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), December 1978-September 1982	Box 10	Folder 4
Bulletin Board (non-inclusive), December 1978-September 1982	Box 10	Folder 5
Parent Resource Paper, September 1979	Box 10	Folder 6

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## Series 4: Reports, 1974-1976

### Scope and Contents

Consists of reports, some of which were sponsored by DCCBPE. Topics covered by the reports include decentralization, resource allocation, school lunch/breakfast programs, and student rights and responsibilities for D.C. schools. Of particular significance is a report prepared in 1974, titled A Quest for Educational Opportunity in a Major Urban School System: The Case of Washington, D.C. which was the result of a study conducted by the Educational Finance and Governance Center of Syracuse University under contract with DCCBPE.

Title/Description	Instances	
Final draft: A Quest for Educational Opportunity in a Major Urban School System: The Case of Washington D.C., December 1974	Box 11	Folder 1
A Quest for Educational Opportunity in a Major Urban School System: The Case of Washington D.C., August 1975	Box 11	Folder 2
Report on the School Lunch and Breakfast Programs in Washington D.C. by Marcy Gross, August 1975	Box 12	Folder 1
Equalization: A Report on Compliance with Two Court Decisions in the District of Columbia, June 1975	Box 12	Folder 2
Student Responsibilities and Rights: A Training Booklet, 1976	Box 12	Folder 3

Creating a Resource Allocation System for the D.C. Public Schools, January 1977	Box 12	Folder 4
Creating a Resource Allocation System for the D.C. Public Schools, April 1977	Box 12	Folder 5

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## Series 5: Directories and Handbooks, 1973-1978

### Scope and Contents

This series contains a directory of services for handicapped children and guides regarding special education services and student assessment and placement. Also included is the 1977 edition of the D.C. Public School's Administrative Procedure Handbook prepared during Vincent Reed's tenure as School Superintendent.

Title/Description	Instances	
Directory of Services for Handicapping Conditions, September 1973	Box 12	Folder 6
Directory of Services for Handicapping Conditions, September 1973	Box 12	Folder 7
Directory of Services for Handicapping Conditions, September 1973	Box 12	Folder 8
Directory of Services for Handicapping Conditions, September 1977	Box 13	Folder 1
Assessing Special Education: A Guide for Parents and Advocates, 1980	Box 13	Folder 2
D.C. Public Schools Central Administration Directory, 1976-1978	Box 14	Folder 1
Administrator's Guide to Student Identification, Undated	Box 14	Folder 2
D.C. Public Schools Administrative Procedure Handbook - Vincent E. Reed, 1977	Box 14	Folder 3
D.C. Public Schools Administrative Procedure Handbook - Vincent E. Reed, 1977	Box 14	Folder 4

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## Series 6: Publications, 1967-1979

### Scope and Contents

Consists mainly of monographs published by DCCBPE.

Title/Description	Instances	
Toward Better Schools: A Summary of the Passow Report, 1967	Box 15	Folder 1

Early Education: School for Children Under Six, 1968	Box 15	Folder 2
Your School Record: Questions and Answers about a New Set of Rights for Parents and Students, 1976	Box 15	Folder 3
Student Rights and Responsibilities, 1974	Box 15	Folder 4
What Every Teacher Should Know About Student Rights, 1975	Box 15	Folder 5
A Handbook for Standardized School Testing: For Parents and Students, 1978	Box 15	Folder 6
Kendall Demonstration Elementary School - Gallaudet College, Undated	Box 15	Folder 7
Minorities in Marine Education, 1982	Box 15	Folder 8

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