The Chancellor of the District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS), pursuant to Section 103 of the District of Columbia Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007 (Act), effective June 12, 2007 (D.C. Law 17-9; D.C. Official Code § 38-172(c) (2018 Repl.)), and Mayor’s Order 2007-186, dated August 10, 2007, hereby gives notice of final rulemaking action to repeal Section 520 (One Year Appointment of Principals and Assistant Principals) of Chapter 5 (Administration and Management) of Title 5 (Education), Subtitle E (Original Title 5) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR), and replace it with a new Section 520 (Appointment of Principals and Assistant Principals) of Chapter 5 (Administration and Management) of Title 5 (Education), Subtitle B (District of Columbia Public Schools) of the DCMR.

The purpose of the final rulemaking is to allow the Chancellor to appoint DCPS principals to two-year terms. The current DCMR provision limits DCPS principals to one-year term appointments. The proposed change is intended to promote retention of current principals and enhance recruitment of new principals by allowing for two-year, rather than one-year, appointments. The rulemaking retains the one-year term requirement for assistant principals and retains the right of principals and assistant principals who hold permanent status in another DCPS position to revert to their prior position at the conclusion of their terms.

A Notice of Proposed Rulemaking was published at 67 DCR 007505 on June 12, 2020 for a thirty (30) day public comment period. The comment period expired on July 12, 2020. No comments were received and no changes have been made in the Final Rulemaking. The rules were deemed approved by the Council of the District of Columbia on November 7, 2020, pursuant to Section 103(c)(2) of the Act (D.C. Official Code § 38-172(c)(2)). These rules were adopted as final on November 19, 2020 and will become effective on the date of publication of this notice in the D.C. Register.

Chapter 5, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT, of Title 5-E DCMR, ORIGINAL TITLE 5, is amended as follows:

Section 520, ONE YEAR APPOINTMENTS OF PRINCIPALS AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS, is repealed in its entirety.

A new Chapter 5, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT, of Title 5-B DCMR, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS, is established as follows:

A new Section 520 is established to read as follows:

520  APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPALS AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS

520.1 Persons appointed to a position as Principal shall serve in a term appointment of up to two (2) years, without tenure in the position.
520.2 Persons appointed to a position as Assistant Principal shall serve in a term appointment of one (1) year, without tenure in the position.

520.3 Retention and reappointment shall be at the discretion of the Chancellor.

520.4 A person who is not retained in the position of Principal or Assistant Principal and who holds permanent status in another position in the D.C. Public Schools shall revert to the highest prior permanent level of employment upon his or her removal from the position of Principal or Assistant Principal; provided, that this right shall not include the right to any particular position or office previously held.