

Allison Kokkoros to succeed Sonia Gutierrez as Carlos Rosario CEO



Mark Lerner [DC Charter Schools Examiner](#)

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The Board of Trustees of the Carlos Rosario International Public Charter School has **unanimously named** executive vice-president Allison Kokkoros to be the organization's next executive director and CEO. Ms. Kokkoros has been associated with Carlos Rosario for 20 years. She had this to say about the transition:

"I am honored and humbled to step into the role of executive director and CEO of the Carlos Rosario School. I have seen the impact we have on the community by serving the new Americans who have found their way to our nation's capital and helping them realize their dreams. I look forward to building upon the foundation Sonia Gutierrez has built over the past four decades in partnership with our students and staff."

Anyone who has spent only a few minutes around the charter school realized that Mrs. Kokkoros was the perfectly logical individual to take over once Sonia Gutierrez decided that her stellar career helping others would take another form. Ms. Gutierrez remarked:

"I have known for a long time that Allison would be the one taking my place. She is an extremely competent professional totally committed to our school and our students. She has been working at my side for the last 20 years and I firmly believe no one is more qualified than her to take my position."

I have also met Ms. Kokkoros on numerous occasions through my work in the local charter movement and I would only add to Ms. Gutierrez's words that she is an exceptionally kind individual.

The press release announcing the change noted that Ms. Kokkoros has family members that have immigrated to this country who had seen the terrible destruction of war and longed for a better life in the United States.

The new CEO takes the reins of Carlos Rosario at an especially interesting moment. The school opened a second campus last year and is now planning to expand nationally the charter's award-winning education program for adults of foreign descent.