



Ward 4 Candidate Forum Agenda

Agenda:

- **Introductions and Opening Remarks (20 minutes)**
- **Parent Q&A - (50 minutes)**
 - Meaghan Mountford - Providing Equitable Supports for Student Learning
 - Shayne Swift - Mental Health Support
 - Chelly Jones - Supporting Families in Response to COVID
 - Open chat questions
- **Candidate Closing Remarks (15 minutes)**
- **Closing and Next Steps (5 minutes)**

Parent Name	Question
Meaghan Mountford, Washington Latin PCS and Shepherd ES, Ward 4 Parent Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - According to a report by EmpowerK12, an estimated 9800 fewer DC students will be on math grade level and 15,600 fewer students on ELA grade level in 2021. We know that the loss in learning as a result of this pandemic will not be evenly distributed, will hit at-risk and vulnerable communities hardest, and will most certainly deepen already existing disparities in academic success across race and income level. - Because of the financial hit DC has taken in this crisis, our surplus becoming a deficit, we are terrified of having our schools lose funding that was already below sufficiency when the needs are even greater. - How can we ensure every child, every family, has what they need to be successful - especially those most at-risk and furthest from opportunity? How can we address the inequity and inconsistencies in each child’s education so they are fully supported?
Shayne Swift, DC International PCS, Ward 4 Parent Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID has been extremely challenging for families in DC. While the city has done some work to increase mental health supports available in schools in the past, now we have to rethink everything in light of the pandemic. - What supports will you work to put in place for kids, parents, and school staff and what will you do <i>differently</i> to make sure schools can provide all of the support that is needed?



<p>Chelly Jones, DC International PCS, Ward 4 Parent Leader</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Consistency in education no longer exists. Every child's distance learning and extended social isolation looks different, not just school-by-school, but their access to the internet, to devices, to their parent's help, to food, to time, to safety, to housing, and to social-emotional support. What is your plan to support students and their families with ALL of their needs - especially those that are homeless?
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