

PAVE DC Parent Voice and Choice Week 2022

Councilmember Henderson Meeting Agenda

Welcome: 10:15 - 10:20am

- **Maya Martin Cadogan**, Founder & Executive Director of PAVE
- **Leigh Sims**, Citywide and Ward 6 PLE Board Member, Northeast Stars Parent - Meeting Chair

Introductions: 10:20 - 10:22am

- Name
- Ward of residence
- Where your children attend school

Councilmember Henderson Remarks: 10:22 - 10:30am

- Opening Remarks from Councilmember Henderson

Parent Q&A - 10:30 - 11:10am - see full questions below!

- **Darya Davis**, Ward 8 PLE Member and Policy Captain, Center City PCS Parent and Somerset PCS Alumni Parent, OST Funding and Strategic Plan
- **Caroline Pahaham**, Ward 4 PLE Member and Advocacy Captain, Mundo Verde and DCI Parent, OST Funding
- **Kisha Clark**, Ward 6 PLE Member, Eastern HS Parent, Mental Health Accountability
- **Christine Miller**, Ward 1 PLE Member and Advocacy Captain, Oyster Adams Parent, School-based Mental Health Needs Assessment
- Chat questions as time allows

Closing and Next Steps: 11:10 - 11:15am

Parent Name	Question
Darya Davis , Ward 8 PLE Member and Policy Captain, Center City PCS Parent and Somerset PCS Alumni Parent, OST Funding and Strategic	In going through a divorce, we realized my son had a number of anger issues that he was displaying in everyday life. This was new to all of us but as we had challenges with the mental health supports in schools, what we found helped him process was his out-of-school-time

<p>Plan</p>	<p>program, specifically sports and his football team. However, that was not only out of school time but it was <i>completely</i> outside of school. Many parents don't have the privilege like I do to spend the money on programs through other organizations and private groups. Which is why DC should be providing OST programs in our schools for all kids and a diversity of those programs because different kids need different outlets. We know that this is tied to their mental health, especially in times like the pandemic where kids have been disconnected from each other for so long. I want to see a mandate for mental health just like there is for vaccines. And I think OST programs need to be a part of that.</p> <p>How can you as a Councilmember work in your capacity to increase funding for OST programs and create a strategic plan that centers on what our kids need both academically and mental health-wise in terms of our programming?</p>
<p>Caroline Paham, Ward 4 PLE Member and Advocacy Captain, Mundo Verde and DCI Parent, OST Funding</p>	<p>It is simply a fact that funding for out-of-school time is not equitable across the schools in the District. At some public schools, after school activities are varied and some are even offered for free. At many charter schools parents have to pay out-of-pocket for afterschool activities. My daughter Imani sometimes cannot get to the after school activities because they are so far across town and often we can't keep her enrolled in programs because they are cost-prohibitive.</p> <p>In 2018 PAVE campaigned for funding for out of school time. We asked for \$25 million and received an increase in funding, but not for the full amount.</p> <p>We are currently at \$17 million in local funding and \$5 million with one-time federal relief funds, so there is a gap of about \$8 million in local, recurring dollars when it comes to OST. Would you be willing to support and/or lead the charge in getting to the floor of what we need which is \$25 million for OST programs?</p>
<p>Kisha Clark, Ward 6 PLE Member, Eastern HS Parent, Mental Health Accountability</p>	<p>My daughter Makenna suffers from anxiety, ADHD, and depression. In middle school, we had to change schools in an effort to find a support system that met her academic, socio-emotional, and mental health needs. While she now has the support she needs at Eastern High</p>

	<p>School, it took a long time to achieve the support she needed. I know we're not alone. Implementation of a school-based mental health system can be difficult and complex. In part, There tends to be a lack of coordination between school staff, the school system, and other systems of care around wraparound services like physical health, housing, and food insecurity, among others. A deficiency in any of these areas is challenging for the student and the staff may not know or be on the same page.</p> <p>What are your plans as a Councilmember to extend your work on mental health and create a robust accountability system that makes sure our mental health resources - funding, staffing, training, and coordination of care - are working for our students and families? Is that accountability system something that the interagency council you proposed would be able to create?</p>
<p>Christine Miller, Ward 1 PLE Member and Advocacy Captain, Oyster Adams Parent, School-based Mental Health Needs Assessment</p>	<p>We all know COVID has had an outsized impact on pretty much everyone, but especially on our children. My own kids have struggled and as someone very familiar with how to access the resources available to my children through the school and District agencies; and as someone who is a native English speaker, has access to high-speed internet, and has the capacity and time to find help - I still could not figure out how to get them the help they needed.</p> <p>We see this across DC and reflected in our PAVE Fall Back to School Survey where only 49% of parents are aware of mental health supports for their children in their schools.</p> <p>We need more than just money; our students and families need to know of and be able to access these crucial mental health supports. To do this, we need to develop a needs assessment that will map out what schools have available for mental health support and where the gaps currently exist that we need filled.</p> <p>How do you envision a more comprehensive way to evaluate where we are, so we can all work together to ensure our kids have what they need the most?</p>

Other Topics: SPED and CLONING

**Katrice Fuller,
Ward 6 PLE Board Member and
Advocacy Captain,
Statesmen Academy Parent**

CM Henderson, how do we clone you to serve in more than one seat on the council!?? (MEAGHAN DOUBLED DOWN WITH THE EXECUTIVE TOO)

OST

**Monique Cole,
Ward 6 PLE Board Member and
Organizing Captain,
Mundo Verde Parent**

Do these decision makers that say there is no need have any children?

**Kisha Clark,
Ward 6 PLE Board Member,
Eastern High School Parent**

Do people even know that the Deputy Mayor has such a program to reduce OST costs? How can you and our parent leaders together make these programs known to families?

**Marisa Goldstein,
Ward 4 PLE Board Member,
CentroNia Parent**

This system privileges parents like me who have desk jobs and can refresh the DPR website and register during that 2 hour window when slots are available - how do you register if you can't be on the computer at the precise time slots become available? - **CM HENDERSON ANSWERED WITH HER RECOMMENDATION OF A PAVE ACTION AROUND USING THE DPR SYSTEM**

**Cassandra Gentry,
Citywide and Ward 6 PLE Board
Member,
Inspired Teaching Grandparent**

Is it that they don't want to spend the money for assessments or they don't want to see the measure of demand?

**Amber Golden,
Ward 4 PLE Board Member,
Duke Ellington Parent**

The poor alignment between the school day and the parents workday has been a longstanding issue. There have been times when I literally had to spend 20 hours a week driving my children to and from school when they were all in different grade levels - elementary, middle, & high school. Furthermore, safe and health options for young people once they pass 13 has almost been non-existent in my experience. Now this question may seem like sacrilege and a budget buster but bear with me - Have there been any discussions around extending the school day to embed quality training, pre-professional, internship, and out of school time programming particularly for high-schoolers? I

	know this requires massive coordination and buy in from the private sector. However, the increased mental health, economic, and violence risks in the community are base-line indicators of the need for something new.
LaJoy Johnson Law, PAVE Board of Directors Member and Ward 8 Resident, Rocketship Legacy Prep Parent	CM Henderson, can you share more about the legislation coming up surrounding OST and kids with disabilities?
Mental Health	
Letisha Vinson, Citywide and Ward 7 PLE Board Member, KIPP DC Parent	We know you and Mayor Bowser have made additional investments in mental health over the past few years and that has helped us to fund the DBH expansion. Which we truly appreciate. But we want to go further and make sure every one of our children has the mental health supports they need and as parents, we know it's still not reaching all of our kids. How can you and your office put together a mental health needs assessment to determine what supports exist and what gaps still persist across all tiers of support? How does the DME coordinate with the Department of Behavioral Health? And can you bring together all of the agencies under the Mayor to ensure our SBMH programs are accounting for the increased and intensive needs of our students amidst the pandemic?
Cassandra Gentry, Citywide and Ward 6 PLE Board Member, Inspired Teaching Grandparent	Yes, how do we push DBH and get them moving? - CM HENDERSON ANSWERED/CAROLINE ASKED
Meladie Tatum, Ward 5 PLE Board Member, DC Prep and Capital City Parent	Yes, how and where is this money going? Why aren't we seeing it?
LaJoy Johnson Law, PAVE Board of Directors Member and Ward 8 Resident, Rocketship Legacy Prep Parent	I'm tired of government agencies talking about what is not necessary when it is obviously necessary. So, how do we as parents hold DBH accountable?????? - CM HENDERSON ANSWERED/CAROLINE ASKED

<p>Meladie Tatum, Ward 5 PLE Board Member, DC Prep and Capital City Parent</p>	<p>It seems DBH is not being held accountable and could use a little fire under their seat. How do we get there? - CM HENDERSON ANSWERED/CAROLINE ASKED</p>
<p>Kisha Clark, Ward 6 PLE Board Member, Eastern High School Parent</p>	<p>As a federal policy analyst, accountability is imperative. How do you see the accountability system enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of school based mental health?</p>
<p>Tracy Barnes, Ward 5 PLE Board Member, Washington Leadership Academy and Inspired Teaching Parent</p>	<p>Have you or any of your council colleagues presented directly to the colleges/universities the idea of utilizing their students to fulfill the SBMH positions in DCPS & DCPCS? - CM HENDERSON READ THIS QUESTION ALREADY</p>
<p>Lindsey Jones-Renaud, Ward 7 PLE Board Member</p>	<p>Also, schools are still telling parents that if their child’s mental health doesn’t affect - or cause a problem - in the classroom, there’s nothing they can do. Can’t they refer us somewhere?</p>
<p>Sharnetta Boone-Ruff, Ward 8 PLE Board Member & Ward 8 City Wide Board Member, Jefferson Middle School Parent</p>	<p>Sharnetta Boone-Ruffin, Ward8 PLE & City-wide , Jefferson Middle School. How can we push immediate access for students in the schools when school counselors are overworked and not accessible for their students. Can it be a Text message or email system in house for students to use since they are on laptops and tablets in schools? This way they will receive immediate access for help.</p>