

Quiana Lamons
Education Agencies
FY24 Budget Oversight Hearing Testimony
Wednesday, April 5, 2023

Greetings Chairman Mendelson, Committee of the Whole members, and Committee staff,

My name is Quiana Lamons and I live in Ward 7. My kids attend DC Public schools. I currently serve as a PAVE parent leader on the Ward 7 board.

I want to thank you for your partnership and leadership on providing grants to OST Programs.

Today, I'm testifying because I'm here to request out-of-school programs in each ward that provide a variety of activities for special needs and meet the mental health needs of children. I also ask that these programs be designed to work with each individual child's specific needs and mental health issues.

I would like to work with you all to ensure that each out-of-school time site has a specialist who specialize in meeting each child's needs. I am also urging that private transportation be provided for our children to programs because public transportation does not meet the needs, understand the conditions, or have the services that all special needs children require, and we as parents would like to have a safe passageway for our children.

This matters to me because our children should have an equal opportunity to grow and learn and have all of their physical and mental skill sets sharpened and utilized in order to provide them a chance to succeed in life.

We want to ensure that every family has access to a high-quality OST program for their children that supports their individual needs where they can explore their passions and enrich their learning - regardless of income level or where they live.

In order to make this vision a reality, I would like to see you prioritize PAVE parents' requests and concerns, especially for students with disabilities.

Thank you so much for your time and partnership on OST issues.

Best,



Quiana Lamons
Ward 7 PLE Board