



Behavioral Health in the DC Education System



Welcome



We'll be starting soon. While we wait for everyone to join, please...

1) Put your name in the chat and introduce yourself

2) Tell us in the chat, who you feel comfortable/safe going to in your school building when something goes wrong or you need help?

Feel free to use initials (Ms. B) or titles (Teacher) if you do not want to share their name.

Introductions



Learn more about
the Office of the
Student Advocate



The Office of the Student Advocate

We guide and support students, parents, families, and community members in navigating the public school system in DC.



PAVE

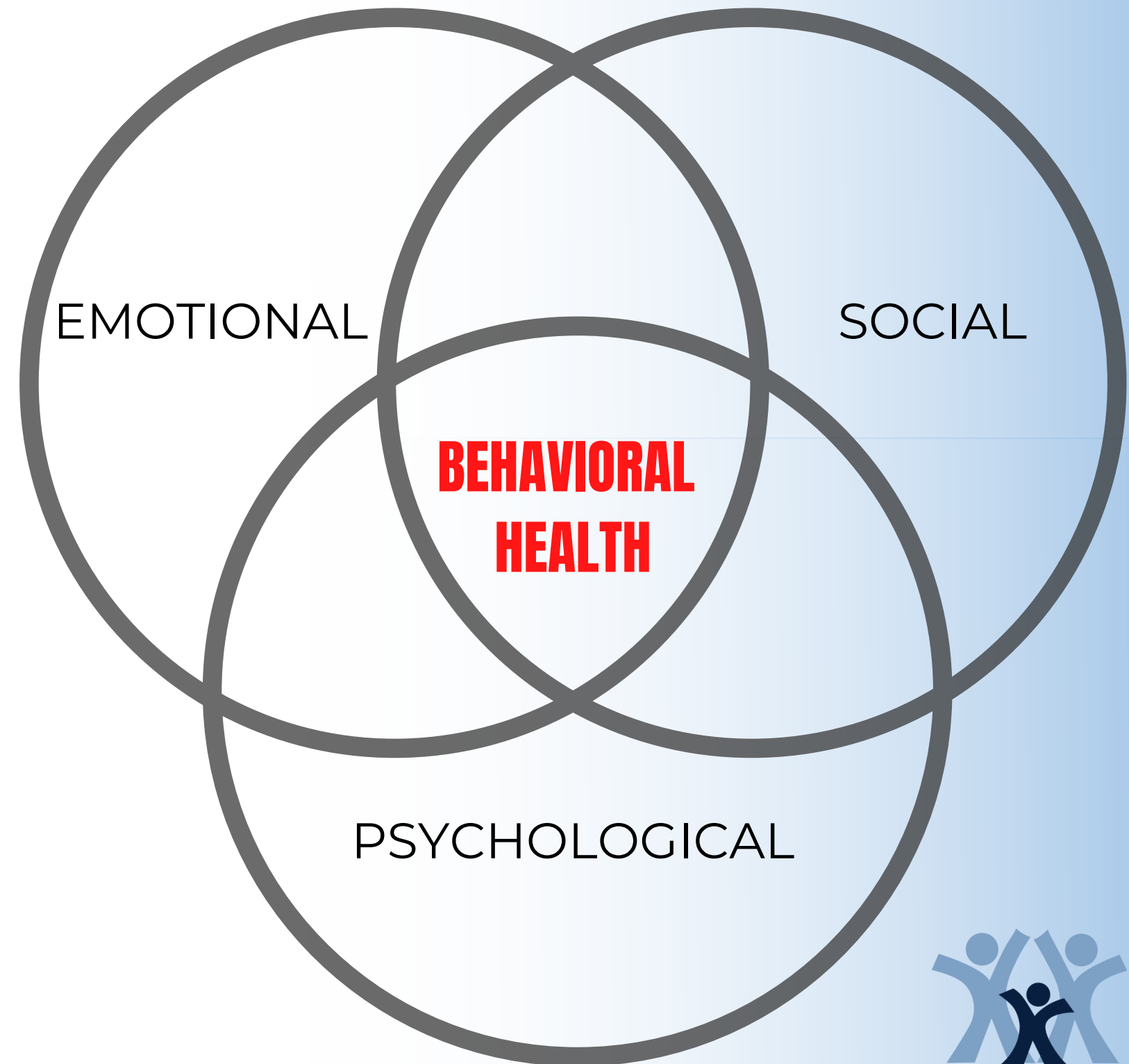
PAVE connects, informs, and empowers parent leaders to give families in DC a voice and choice in the vision for education in our city.



What is Behavioral Health?

In DC, "Behavioral health" is defined as "a person's overall social, emotional, and psychological well-being and development."

Behavioral health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.



School Based Mental Health

SCAN TO
LEARN
MORE



The Department of Behavioral Health operates a school based program in public and public charter schools that offers prevention, early intervention and clinical services to youth and their families.

Clinicians in Schools

SCAN TO
LEARN
MORE



Behavioral health clinicians in public schools:

- Provide support for teachers and staff
- Support school climate
- Complement services
- On hand after traumatic events



School Based Mental Health Expansion

SCAN TO
LEARN
MORE



11 CBO'S

DBH partnered with 11 Community Based Organizations (CBOs)

STRATEGIC COHORTS

Schools separated into 4 Cohorts based on need for expansion rollout

COHORT 1

Top 52 schools with highest need; invited for participation in SY 18-19

COHORT 2

Additional 67 schools; invited for participation in SY 19-20

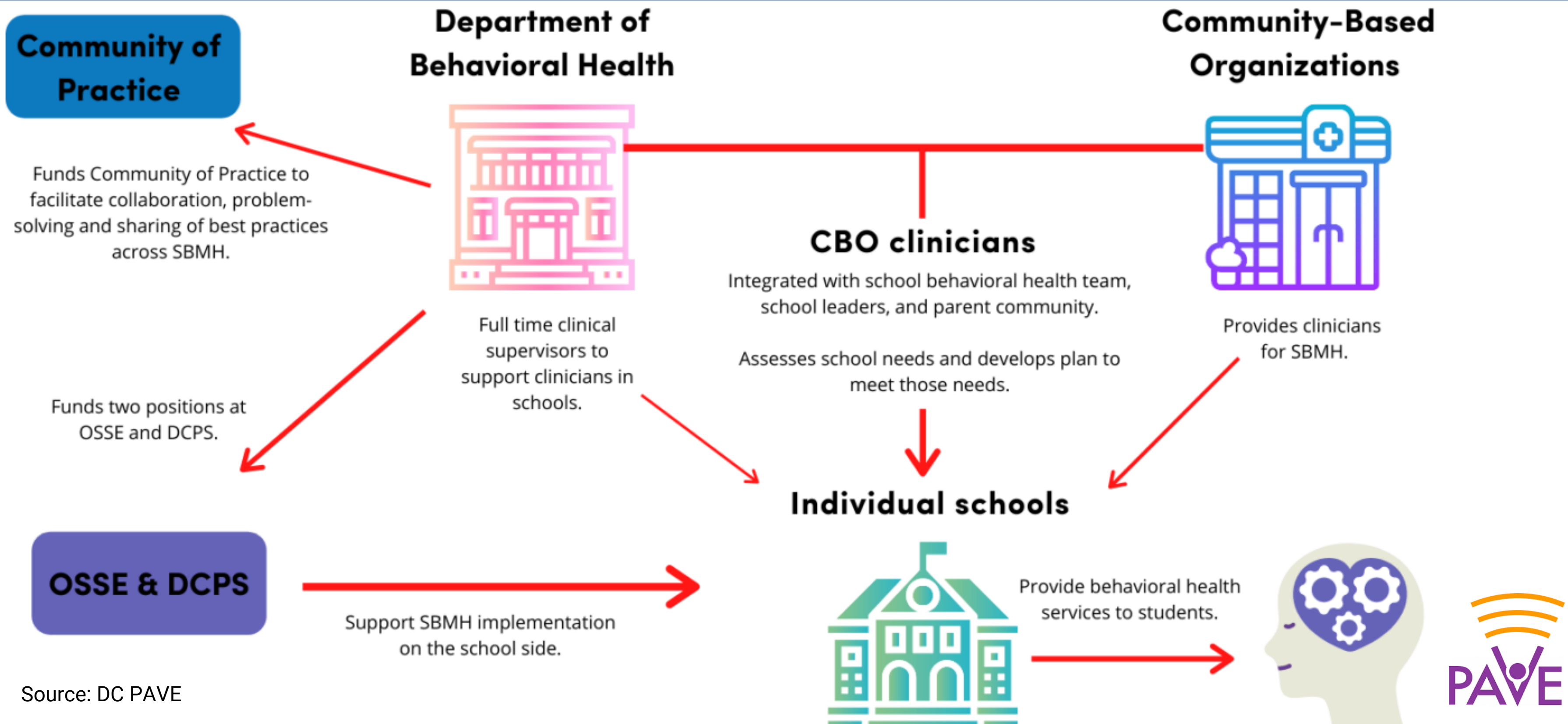
COHORT 3

47 schools; invited for participation in SY 20-21

COHORT 4

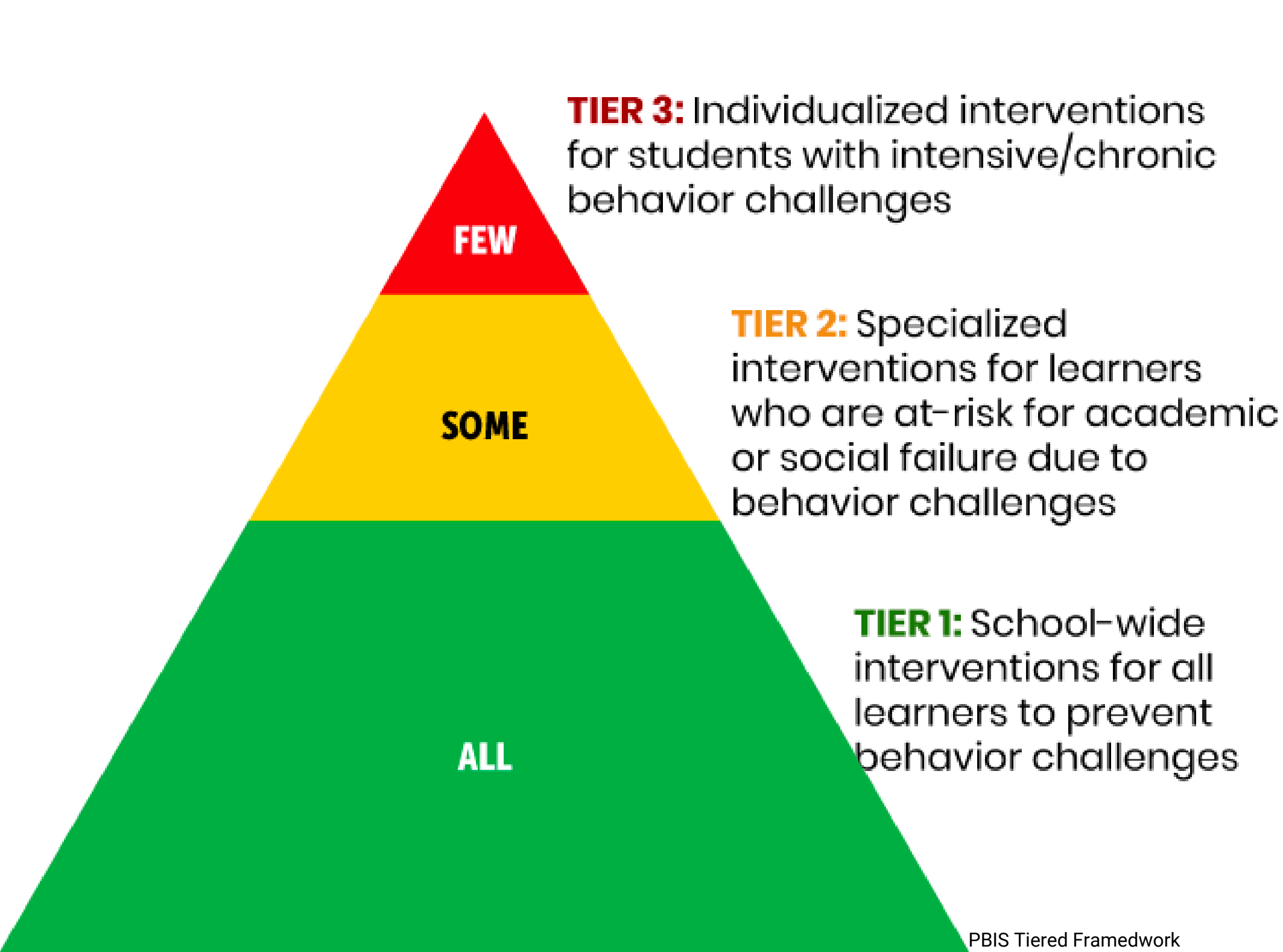
80 schools; invited for participation in SY 21-22

Roles in Expansion



Multi-Tiered System of Support

SCAN TO
LEARN
MORE

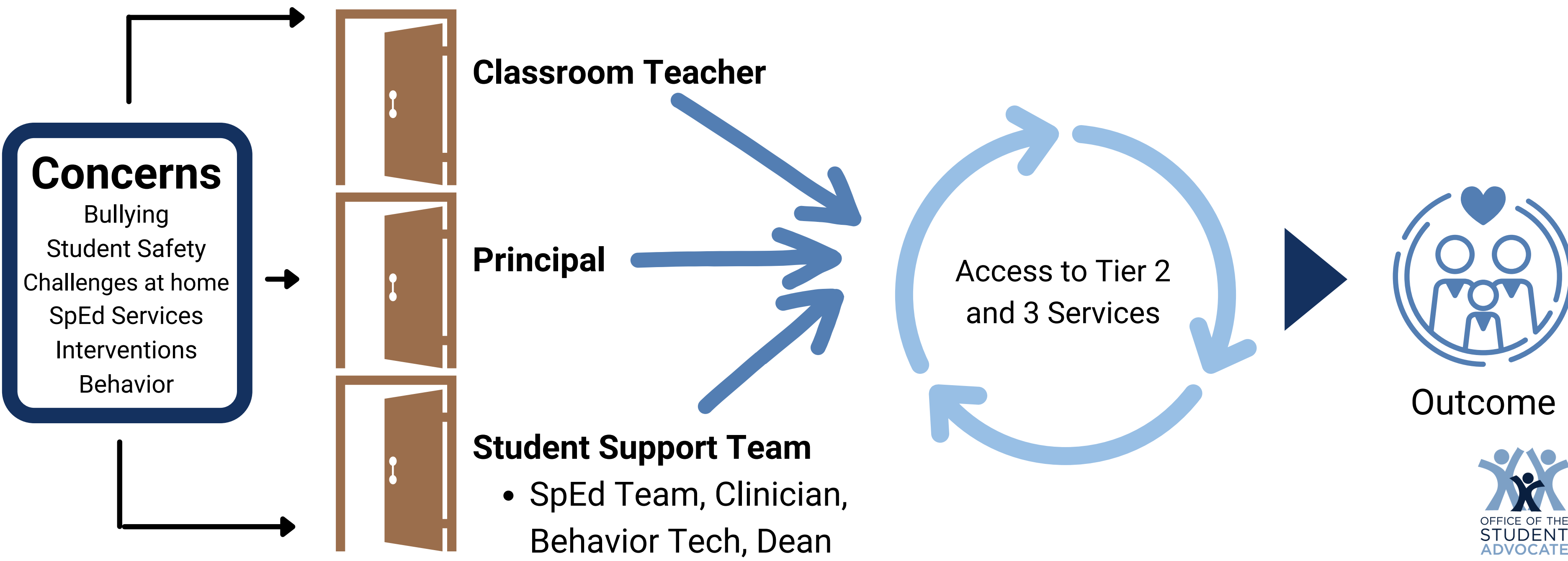


- Individual Therapy
- Functional Behavior Assessments (FBA)
- Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP)
- Wraparound Support
- Crisis Response

- Check-in Check-out
- Social Skills Groups
- Small Group Counseling
- Restorative Justice Circles & Conflict Resolution

- Behavior Expectations
- Acknowledgement System
- Social Skills Instruction
- Active Supervision & Engagement

There is No Wrong Door When Accessing Support



Referring a Child to Services

DCPS

1. Student or adult completes referral form
2. School-based mental health team reviews form, identifies provider
3. Within 10 school days, provider contacts student and parent/guardian(s)



DC Charters

Depending on your school each process will look different, but will look similar to the steps below

1. Student or adult expresses interest in services
2. SBMH team completes formal intake
3. Student is paired with clinician for screening

School Based Mental Health Professionals

*Not every school will have all of these roles

PSYCHOLOGIST

Specialize in treatment of disorders and provide mental, emotional, and behavioral support

SOCIAL WORKER

Provide services related to truancy, behavior, social adjustment, family concerns, etc.

COUNSELOR

Work with students on career, academic, and personal development; do not provide therapy

DBH CLINICIANS

Psychologists placed by DBH where needed to provide additional treatment and support for students

CBO CLINICIANS

Additional psychologists from community based organizations placed into schools through the school based mental health expansion

PSYCHIATRIST

Specialize in diagnosing mental, emotional, and behavioral disorders; can support treatment as well

Who pays for services?

	SCHOOL PROVIDED SERVICES FROM SCHOOL STAFF	DBH PROVIDED SERVICES	COMMUNITY BASED ORGS WHEN ACCESSED OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL
Covered by the District	✓	✓	
Medicaid	✓		✓
DBH		✓	
Private Insurance			✓ Some may accept but not all

IDEA VS. School Based Mental Health Support



It is important to know:

- 1. All students receive Tier I services**
- 2. Both can work together or be accessed separately**
- 3. Mental health support does not always result in an IEP or 504**
 - **Services can be implemented into an IEP**

Remember



The expansion is still being monitored and evaluated and known roadblocks do currently exist

EX.

- **Waitlists**
- **Vacancies at schools**
- **Shortage of bilingual clinicians**
- **Funding restrictions in how money is used**



Questions?

Discussion

- What's the best way for schools to share information about available supports with you?
- What glows or grows have you experienced when trying to access mental health supports at schools?
- Is there something that you wish school staff, clinicians, or the people who oversee these programs knew?



Announcements & Next Steps

DBH is seeking input to help to strengthen school based behavioral health services.

- Make your voice heard and complete the Strengthening School Behavioral Health Survey by March 31!

Students (grades 4-12): bit.ly/3eXtrPM

Families: bit.ly/3eXtw62

School Staff: bit.ly/3utUAQN

THE OFFICE OF THE STUDENT ADVOCATE



(202) 741-4692



student.advocate@dc.gov



studentadvocate.dc.gov



DC_Advocate



DC.Advocate



**CONNECT
WITH
US!**