

Dominique Moore
District of Columbia Public Charter School Board
ASPIRE Framework Public Comment
Monday, April 8th, 2024

Greetings Dr. Michelle Walker-Davis, the PCSB board, and staff. My name is Dominique Moore. I serve as a PAVE Citywide and Ward 4 PLE board member.

I will keep my testimony short and to the point. I want to start by thanking Dr. Michelle Walker-Davis for her continued leadership and for having a meeting with myself and other PAVE parents to discuss her initiatives and giving us the space to ask questions. We appreciated the opportunity and hope we can continue our conversations with you.

As a DC resident, I know we are in a privileged space to have as much school choice as we do and a big part of that comes from the large network of public charter schools in the District. This is not something that I nor other families take for granted. With that being said, upon looking at the proposed ASPIRE framework and participating in several discussions and presentations, I'd like to say that I truly appreciate all the work behind the ASPIRE framework. I like the shift from tiers to levels and I think that makes more sense from a user perspective. I also love the inclusion of chronic absenteeism and truancy rates because we all know that kids aren't learning if they miss an abundance of school days. One thing I would like to see more information about specifically at the high school level is the social emotional learning and status of students. I see in the framework that pre-k - eighth grade is evaluated on this, however, that it is not extended to high schools. I'd like to push you all to consider extending the CLASS measurement or something similar to all levels of education because the social emotional well-being of students is a huge indicator of how students feel about school and is tied to absenteeism, school climate, school discipline, and more. Parents and families would appreciate knowing this information and would use it when making their school choice. I also would push you all to ensure that you have meetings, presentations, and webinars with parents and families once the framework gets released to the public as a way to provide training to help them understand the adjustments and navigate the new system.

Thank you for holding this hearing and I am available for questions.

Sincerely,



Dominique Moore

Citywide and Ward 4 PLE Board Member, PAVE (Parents Amplifying Voices in Education)