How Did Parents Choose Our Policy Priorities?

We believe that our education system is strongest when it is created by and with parents and families. In May of 2017, over 100 parents from all wards and communities came together at the PAVE Parent Policy Summit to talk about the issues that mattered most to them and choose our policy priorities for the coming year.

At the summit, parents were able to share their stories and talk with other parents about the issues they experience every day in our education system. After hearing from each other, parents voted on their top two policy priorities. While school leaders, elected officials, and education advocates were all a part of the discussion, only parents participated in the vote, putting parents and families at the front and center of the decision-making process!

PAVE Parent Policy Priorities:

- Great Schools in Every Ward and One Citywide Report Card
- Increased Access to Quality Out of School Time Programs

Highlights from Last Year:

- PAVE helped to increase OST funding by $10.56 million, resulting in over $20.25 million in total investments.
- PAVE partnered with the Deputy Mayor of Education’s Office and surveyed 1,000 families from all across the District to drive the how the OST funding will be spent.
- PAVE partnered with OSSE to develop a parent-driven School Report Card by hosting parent feedback sessions in every ward and surveying over 1,000 families on the content and the language of the report card.
- PAVE brought a parent leader and Councilmember Trayon White to visit Bard Early College to explore dual enrollment options for families East of the River.
Creating A Parent-Driven School Report Card

Parents are looking for a diversity of high-quality options to find the best school for their child. After the passing of DC’s education plan under the new Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), parents will finally be able to find that information in one place: **DC will now have a new State Report Card to provide parents up-to-date, comparable information across both sectors.**

PAVE partnered with OSSE to make sure the new school report card reflects the information that parents want, need, and should know to make an informed decision when choosing a school for their child. **PAVE hosted feedback sessions in every ward for parents to give their input on the content, design, and language used on the report card.** To make sure all voices were heard in the process, **PAVE parents also surveyed over 1,000 families across the District.**

Increasing Access to Out of School Time Programs

Out of School Time programs allow children to learn critical life skills, expand their learning, and explore their passions. To help increase access to these essential programs, **PAVE parents met with elected officials to share their powerful stories about how OST programs impact their family, testified at public hearings, collected over 800 petition signatures, and amplified their message on social media and in their communities.**

That hard work paid off, **securing over $20.25 million in funding for OST programs!** Additionally, **PAVE parents surveyed over 1,000 DC families to determine the greatest needs and barriers for OST programs.** The Deputy Mayor of Education’s office will use this information to make sure this funding goes towards the programs and areas that need it most.

Learn More:
- **Read about the #WeNeed25 Coalition’s historic funding increase for OST programs at:** [http://bit.ly/2kzZz0f](http://bit.ly/2kzZz0f)
- **For more information on PAVE’s policy issue areas, check out our one-pagers here:** [http://www.dcpave.org/building-parent-leaders](http://www.dcpave.org/building-parent-leaders)