



PAVE Town Hall with the Department of Behavioral Health
June 23, 2020 3:00pm-4:30pm

Agenda:

- **Welcome - 5 minutes**
 - **Maya Martin Cadogan**, Founder and Executive Director of PAVE
 - **Tara Brown**, Ward 8 Parent Leader
- **Introductions - 5 minutes**
 - Name
 - Ward of residence
 - Where your children attend school
- **Department of Behavioral Health Coordinating Council Members Remarks - 10 minutes**
- **Parent Q&A - See the full questions below!**
 - **Justin Duiguid**, Ward 1 Parent Leader - *Expanding information and access to school-based mental health supports*
 - **Ruschelle Moore**, Ward 6 Parent Leader - *Engaging families in school-based mental health programs*
 - **Tracy Barnes**, Ward 5 Parent Leader - *Supporting students with special needs and reimagining school culture*
 - **Mary McCane**, Ward 8 Parent Leader - *Extending school-based mental health to early childhood education*
- **Reflection and Next Steps - 5 minutes**
 - **Tara Brown**, Ward 8 Parent Leader

Parent Name	Question
Justin Duiguid, Ward 1 Parent Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the past the city has done some work to increase mental health supports available in school. But it's a whole new world! COVID-19 has vastly increased the role that parents and grandparents have taken on in our children's learning, health and safety at home. This has definitely increased the stress of families, especially those who were already struggling before this pandemic. Parents will still depend on schools to be hubs of learning and wellness, but we have an opportunity to reimagine engagement. With all the uncertainties heading into next school year now-more than ever, families need more access to mental



	<p>health supports, whether that be virtual or in person.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What supports will you commit to put in place for kids, their caregivers, and school staff to provide the mental health support that is needed - and families are aware of these supports and able to access them?
<p>Ruschelle Moore, Ward 6 Parent Leader</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As a single mom of a child with Autism, the most fearful experience I've ever encountered was my son, Nicholas, being bullied throughout middle school to the point that he wanted to kill himself. Which no parent should have to endure. According to the National Center for Education Statistics in 2018, nearly 1 in 5 students (or 21%) report being bullied during the school year impacting over 5 million youth annually. OSSE's Youth Risk Behavior Survey report showed that nearly 1 in 4 high school students in DC who are bullied reports having attempted suicide. - I work hard as a PAVE Parent leader to help make sure that all schools are equipped with proper mental health staff that make school communities a safer space for our kids across DC. How will DBH continue to support the school based mental health programs - and make sure that providers and schools are engaging families in that work and have a seat at the table?
<p>Tracy Barnes, Ward 5 Parent Leader</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I am the parent of rising 5th-grade and 9th-grade sons. They both have special needs, specifically Sensory Processing Disorder, which in their cases are high levels of anxiety. COVID-19 has turned my life, all of our lives, upside down. - As we plan for the future, it's critical that school leaders have the resources and support to work with their staff, parents, and students to reimagine what school culture and environment should look like. - How will DBH partner with Local Education Agencies (LEA's) and their special education teams to improve coordination of services and enhance the quality and level of care in school?
<p>Mary Mccane, Ward 8 Parent Leader</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - My grandchild Zihon is diagnosed with a social-emotional learning disorder and even prior to the pandemic, I felt as if there were no real strategies in place to support children who need behavioral health services. Despite his history of trauma, I still had to go through a number of special education screenings before he could get the SEL specific help he needed. Seeking support for kids with social and emotional disorders would be better if those issues could be identified during early childhood. - In the near future, what is the plan to extend school-based mental



	<p>health to early childhood and screen children for behavioral specific problems, which I think will only be made worse by the trauma experienced during COVID-19?</p>
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