



Public Comments: David Frimpong

April 25, 2019

- Good Evening, Superintendent and school board member
- My name is David Frimpong, I am a youth member of Tenants and Workers United; Alexandria United Teens.
- I am also a junior at T.C. Williams High School
- I am here today to talk about my experience on Restorative Practices and our needs as students of ACPS
- I spoke to you in January and I still have not had any community building circles this school year.
- **It has been five years** since Restorative Practices has been implemented and we have **yet** to see:
 - Additional funding based on its expansion
 - No clear evaluation plan with teacher and student feedback
 - And most importantly, even though everyone has been trained at TC, it is still not mandatory and not part of the structure.
- Each time we see a change in leadership we seem to take a step back, and see no progress and yet suspensions continue to increase.
- We are tired of having conversations we need action steps now.
- We urge you as Superintendent, Central Office and board members to prioritize our concerns as students
- As a student, this is what I would like to see:
 - **First:** Additional Funding based on its expansion by hiring a Restorative Practice Coordinator and any other personnel support needed.
 - **Secondly:** We urge ACPS staff to work with us on the development of an Restorative Practice survey to evaluate student and teacher point of view as soon as possible.
 - **Lastly:** It's time for ACPS to take next steps and require all of TC Staff who have been trained to implement the community building circles at least twice a month
- It has been hard for me to process that we invest so much money in many positions but yet we put only \$35,000 into a program that benefit our school community
- Thank you for giving me the time to speak and hope you reconsider next school years budget based on our concerns and needs.