



Public Comments: Krisly Caballero
April 25, 2019

- Good Evening Superintendent and school board members.
- My name is Krisly Caballero and I am a 7th grader at George Washington Middle School
- I am also a youth member of Tenants and Workers United; Alexandria United Teens.
- It is from them, I know about restorative practice
- I'm here to share my concern as a student in ACPS.
- As you may already know:
- Overall suspensions in this school year continue to increase in ACPS.
 - Comparing the first two quarters of the previous school year, and this current school year they have **increased by:**
 - 6% at T.C. Williams
 - 12% in middle schools
 - 78% at Chance for Change Academy
 - and **148% in ACPS elementary schools!**
- These facts are not new or surprising.
- What is surprising is that ACPS Central Office is not taking this problem seriously.
- There has been no increase in funding for Restorative Practice since its implementation but we still see Restorative Practice being expanded
- How can you expand a program and not allocate more funding?
- \$35,000 is not enough funds for a program that is supposed to be exposed to almost 5,000 ACPS students.
- We need ACPS to step up and recognize that there is a problem and look for ways to solve this problem.
- We need to stop being part of the school to prison pipeline and need to find alternative to suspensions.
- Please look over at your proposed budget and consider at least \$ two-hundred thousand dollars to hire a Coordinator for the middle schools and another training needs.
- Again, please expand funding on restorative practices next school year 2019-2020.
- As a student, I hope you have taken my points into consideration.
- Thank you for giving me the time to speak.