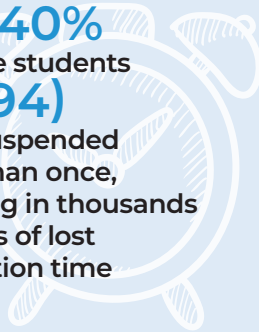


School Culture

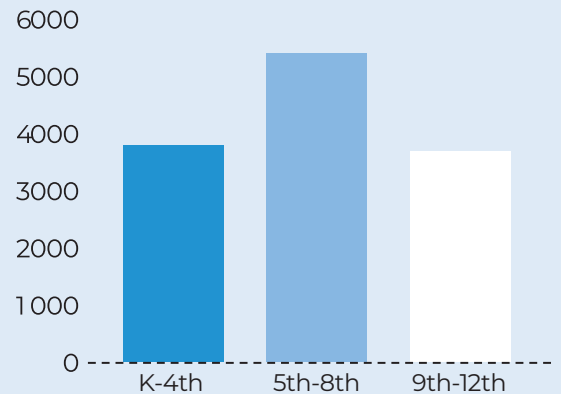
Supportive school climates and fair school discipline practices promote academic achievement and attainment for all DC students.

LAST YEAR, 8% OF STUDENTS IN PUBLIC/PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS WERE SUSPENDED OR EXPELLED

Nearly **40%** of those students (**7,894**) were suspended more than once, resulting in thousands of hours of lost instruction time



Out-of-school suspensions by grade:

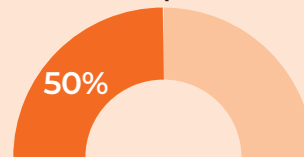


CURRENT DISCIPLINE PRACTICES KEEP TOO MANY AT-RISK AND STUDENTS OF COLOR OUT OF THE CLASSROOM

Black students are **7.7 X** more likely to receive an out-of-school suspension than their white peers

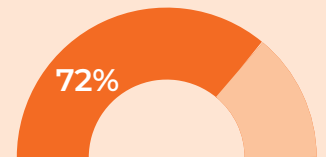
At-risk students—many of whom are students of color—are also over-represented:

Though at-risk students make up about



of the enrolled student population,

they receive about



of all suspensions.

SUSPENSIONS DO NOT PROMOTE POSITIVE SCHOOL CLIMATE OR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Over half the students suspended or expelled were already identified as truant.

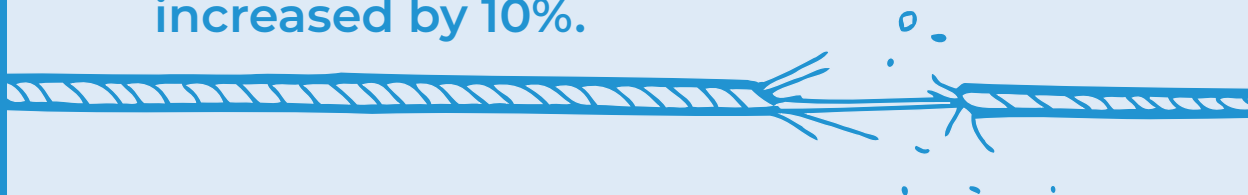
After their first suspension, these students' rate of

chronic absenteeism increased by 10%.

Of all disconnected youth,

55%

report that repeated suspensions were a reason they disconnected from school.



QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

School Culture

Supportive school climates and fair school discipline practices promote academic achievement and attainment for all DC students.

1. In DC schools, black and brown children are more likely to be suspended or expelled than their peers. If elected, how will you support schools to carry out discipline policies that are unbiased, address the root causes of student behavior challenges and protect all students?
2. How will you support teachers and administrators in making sure all schools are welcoming and safe places where students want to go and learn?
3. Students experience bullying in many forms today. How would you help reduce all types of bullying among DC children and youth?
4. What types of policy changes or investments would you make to improve school culture and make students feel more empowered both inside and outside of the classroom?