

CHRONOLOGY OF THE AGENDA ITEM

In 2015, Partners for Equity in Child and Adolescent Health (Partners), formally known as the Urban Health Program established a framework to “enhance the well-being of Georgia’s children by increasing access to healthcare and improving the delivery of healthcare to underserved children and adolescents throughout the state.” Under the Partners’ program, the number of SCBCs increased from 2 to 48 since 2013.

Voices for Georgia’s Children compiled a comprehensive overview of information regarding school-based health centers in Georgia. Their review describes the problem of access to quality health care, benefits of school-based centers, cost saving information, and school successes in Georgia. Overall results indicated that school-based health centers improve outcomes for students by improving their academic achievements.

In January 2020, DCSD and Emory started working together under a Memorandum of Understanding to develop School Based Health Clinics in DCSD schools. It was envisioned that the clinics would be housed within existing spaces inside the schools. The original six schools that were selected to have clinics were Doraville United ES, Flat Rock ES, Indian Creek ES, McNair DLA, Browns Mill ES, and Pleasantdale ES. The clinics at Doraville United ES and McNair DLA were constructed inside the school and are complete. Two additional schools, Oak View ES and Pine Ridge ES, were added in 2023. In November 2023, it was determined that the clinics should be housed in modular units on the school property in lieu of using much needed classrooms space in the school.

The approval of this Board Agenda Item will support the District’s School Based Health Clinic initiative which will assist in increasing students’ access to quality health care, improving academic achievement by decreasing absences related to illnesses, improving the overall health of students, and increasing community collaboration.