Services for Parent Centers

For the Parent Engagement Task Force

Rene Gonzalez, Assistant Superintendent
Student Health and Human Services Division
Parents as Equal Partners Resolution & Parent Center Services

- Whereas, In order to create the conditions under which parents are likely to become active participants in their child’s education, we must identify and help to remove real life barriers that hinder parental involvement by designing and aligning programs, partnerships and services that reflect the needs and challenges our families face everyday.

- Develop... A framework and menu of viable delivery models for our Parent & Family Centers and the implementation of a District Family Support Network as a key component of the Parent Centers.
The proposed Network shall seek to remove barriers to meaningful parent engagement in our schools through the systematic alignment of comprehensive parent and family wrap-around services and trainings through a central access point, e.g. Parent & Family Centers, at every school site. The Network framework shall set forth the vision, goals and outcomes for a family support system that seamlessly links existing District student and family services, both academic and non-academic, and creates partnerships that connect parents to additional family supports provided by the County, City and other community and government institutions.

The Taskforce will also develop a menu of viable delivery models under which to operate the Parent & Family Centers and Network. Each model shall include all necessary staffing requirements and/or reconfigurations to ensure successful implementation and long-term sustainability. Her community and government institutions.
THE KEYS TO SUCCESSFUL SCHOOL-FAMILY-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

EPSTEIN’S SIX TYPES OF INVOLVEMENT

1. **PARENTING**: Assist families with parenting and child-rearing skills, understanding child and adolescent development, and setting home conditions that support children as students at each age and grade level. Assist schools in understanding families.

2. **COMMUNICATING**: Communicate with families about school programs and student progress through effective school-to-home and home-to-school communications.

3. **VOLUNTEERING**: Improve recruitment, training, work, and schedules to involve families as volunteers and audiences at school or in other locations to support students and school programs.

4. **LEARNING AT HOME**: Involve families with their children in learning activities at home, including homework and other curriculum-related activities and decisions.

5. **DECISION MAKING**: Include families as participants in school decisions, governance, and advocacy through PTA/PTO, school councils, committees, and other parent organizations.

6. **COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY**: Coordinate resources and services for families, students, and the school with businesses, agencies, and other groups, and provide services to the community.

Type 1
PARENTING

Basic Responsibilities of Families

✓ Housing, health, nutrition, clothing, safety

✓ Parenting skills for all age levels

✓ Home conditions that support children as students at all grade levels

✓ Information and activities to help schools understand children and families
Type 2

COMMUNICATING

Basic Responsibilities of Schools

SCHOOL-TO-HOME

✓ Memos, notices, report cards, conferences, newsletters, phone calls, computerized messages

✓ Information to help families
  • understand school programs and children’s progress
  • understand student tests and assessments
  • choose or change schools
  • choose or change courses, placements, programs, and activities

HOME-TO-SCHOOL

✓ 2-Way channels of communication for questions and interactions
Type 3

VOLUNTEERING

Involvement At and For the School

VOLUNTEERS

In School or Classroom

✓ Assist administrators, teachers, students, or parents as mentors, coaches, boosters, monitors, lecturers, chaperones, tutors, leaders, demonstrators, and in other ways

For School or Classroom

✓ Assist school programs and children’s progress from any location at any time

AUDIENCES

✓ Attend assemblies, performances, sports events, recognition, and award ceremonies, celebrations, and other events

Type 4

LEARNING AT HOME

Involvement in Academic Activities

INFORMATION FOR FAMILIES ON...

✓ How to help at home with homework
✓ Required skills to pass each subject
✓ Curriculum-related decisions
✓ Other skills and talents
Type 5

DECISION MAKING

Participation and Leadership

✓ PTA/PTO
  • membership, participation, leadership, representation

✓ Advisory Councils
  • School Improvement Team or School Council
  • Action Team for Partnerships
  • Title I advisory

✓ Committees

✓ Independent school advisory groups
Type 6

COLLABORATING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Connections that enable the community to contribute to schools, students, and families
• Business partners
• Cultural and recreational groups
• Health services
• Service and volunteer groups
• Senior citizen organizations
• Faith organizations
• Government and military agencies

Connections that enable schools, students, and families to contribute to the community
Current Services that can be through Parent & Family Centers

- **Mobile Health and Mental Health Clinics**
  - 12 mobile clinic providers serving hundreds of schools
  - Include asthma, vision, dental & mental health

- **Children’s Health Access and Medi-Cal Program (CHAMP)**
  - LAUSD outreach program, primarily by phone access
  - 10,000-20,000 students enrolled in healthcare annually

- **School site support and coordination teams**
  - COST – Coordination of Services Team
  - SST – Student Success Team
  - SARB – School Attendance and Review Team
  - School site advisory boards

- **Parenting skills programs**
  - 1
  - 2
Other Activities through Parent & Family Centers

- **Parent Involvement Programs**
  - Abriendo Puertas
  - DACE Involvement Classes

- **Family Literacy Programs**

- **Support for Transitions**
  - Home to Kindergarten
  - Elementary to Middle School
  - Middle to High School
  - High School to the Future

- **Parent Involvement**
  - Parent Welcoming at school
  - Home Involvement in School
  - Parent Mentoring
Activities through Local Family Support Networks that could serve parent centers in a high school complex or community

- **SB 620 Healthy Start**
  - 69 Healthy Start sites at schools
  - Provide coordinated services for families

- **Wellness Centers/Wellness Networks**
  - Being formed to serve 17 high school complexes
  - On campus family health, mental health, health advocacy & careers

- **Outside Agency - School Based Health Clinics**
  - 21 schools
  - On campus health services to students (& adults at some locations)

- **LAUSD Employee – School Based Health Clinics**
  - 11 schools
  - On campus physical examinations and immunizations
Additional Activities through Local Family Support Networks
that could serve parent centers in a high school complex or community

- Mobile health & mental health clinics
  - 12 providers serve hundreds of schools
  - Provide physical exams, immunizations, asthma support, dental, vision and other services

- Wellness Centers/Wellness Networks
  - Being formed to serve 17 high school complexes
  - On campus family health, mental health, health advocacy & careers

- Diploma Project Advisors
  - 81 advisors
  - Provide counseling, case management & support for potential dropouts

- Extended Learning Academy Counselors
  - 39 counselors
  - Provide counseling and intervention assistance