



San Francisco Board of Education Parent Advisory Council

Year-End Report to the Board of Education

June 14, 2016

The role of the Parent Advisory Council (PAC) is to represent parent voices and perspectives to inform Board of Education policy discussion and implementation. This report summarizes the PAC's work during the 2015-2016 school year, names some of the challenges we faced, and identifies projects that we plan to continue working on next year. A chart on the last page provides highlights about the PAC's specific goals and achievements for this year.

The PAC's Work in 2015-2016

The PAC's work is closely aligned with the goals of the district, and is shaped by what we have learned through years of reaching out to hear from families across the city. At the beginning of the school year PAC members met with Superintendent Carranza to hear about the district's top priorities for the year, and how the PAC's work might support these efforts. This dialogue helped to focus our own priorities and project teams for the year.

Major Outreach Campaigns to Engaging Families and Communities in District Policy

This year the **PAC carried out two major outreach campaigns reaching over 600** parents and community members through our own and joint efforts to gather parent input on two key district initiatives: the **Our Children, Our Families Initiative** and the **Local Control and Accountability Plan**. These two campaigns allowed the PAC to focus, support and strengthen our priorities, and in turn, bring parent voices and perspectives to Board commissioners and district leaders.

Representing Parent Perspectives to District Leaders

To share what we have learned from speaking with families across the district, PAC members met with individual Board commissioners and district staff leading specific district initiatives to advocate on issues important to families. To this end, PAC members met with:

- Linda Wells, Supervisor of Secondary Education to discuss the A-G graduation requirements, the development of an A-G report card and dual enrollment.
- Mele Lau-Smith, Executive Director of School Partnerships, to get an update on the district's design process for supporting family engagement and the implementation the SFUSD Family Engagement Standards.
- Jesch Reyes, Supervisor of Formative Assessments, regarding the TK-5th Grade Report Card Revision Project.
- Lehmann Sio, Supervisor of Translation and Interpretation Unit, to discuss language services provided to support family engagement across the district.

In addition, PAC responded to district requests for input and provided leadership in stakeholder groups working to address specific issues impacting student outcomes.

Participation and Invitations for Stakeholder Groups:

- The PAC continued to participate in the **Coordinated Early Intervening Service (CEIS) Plan stakeholders group**, which addresses the over identification of African American students identified as emotionally disturbed in SFUSD.
- PAC members, staff from the Office of Special Education Services and other community partners met to work on the **development of a post IEP (Individualized Education Plan) family survey to evaluate what is working well with this process and identify areas to continue to improve.**
- PAC was invited to be part of the **Arbitration Dispute Resolution (ADR) Design Team**, which is developing the content for training, a flow chart of the process and information on how to access the ADR process for parent advocacy groups.
- Likewise, PAC was invited to join the **Arts Education Master Plan Advisory Committee** to review the SFUSD's Arts Education Master Plan.

Supporting Networks, Task Forces and Collaborative Actions

- The PAC was one of the core organizations of the district's **Family Engagement Network** to support the planning, coordination and outreach for the **3rd Annual SFUSD Family Empowerment Conference** held in October at Martin Luther King Jr. Middle School.
- **Likewise, PAC** staff participated in **planning sessions to support** the Balanced Scorecard process and **Annual School Planning Retreat.**
- **PAC helped to lead the LCAP Task Force** and was charged with co-developing the agendas and facilitating the monthly meetings. Additionally, the PAC was part of the committee that developed the objectives, content and strategic outreach plan for LCAP community engagement campaign.
- **As LCAP Task Force advisory group member, PAC** helped to organize the **mid-year "Data Review" event *Telling the Story Behind the Numbers: Making Sense of District Data.***
- In November, PAC staff was invited to co-present with Ruth Grabowski from the Office of Family and Community Engagement on SFUSD's LCAP Community Engagement process at the **California Collaborative on District Reform.**

Sustainability of the Parent Advisory Council

The PAC is made up of volunteer members appointed by the Board of Education and supported by part time staff at .75 FTE to coordinate the PAC's work; secure interpretation and translation services; and provide childcare and refreshments for community meetings. The PAC's organizational achievements during this school year include:

- **Securing new funding** from the **San Francisco Foundation.** PAC was funded by the SF Foundation over seven years ago, and this year reestablished our partnership with them.
- **Renewing funding** with the Walter & Elise Haas Sr. Fund for 2015-2016 and an invitation to submit a two-year proposal for 2016-2018.

- **Renewing funding** with the Evelyn & Walter Haas Jr. Fund, which included a fund increase.
- **Continuing fiscal sponsorship** by Community Initiatives. This relationship is instrumental to the PAC's sustainability and allows staff to focus on program efforts rather than administrative issues, while ensuring financial accountability.
- **Recruiting seven new members** to the PAC, and **retaining nine current** PAC members whose terms have not expired.

Challenges

The PAC is pleased with the accomplishments we have made in securing funding. However, we also recognize that we need to continue to expand our funding portfolio in 2016-2017 to ensure our financial sustainability.

This fall PAC members identified supporting and advocating for the development of a **district-wide Family Engagement Plan as one of our top priorities**. Despite making concrete recommendations over the past couple of years, resources (staff time and/or financial) have not been committed to **developing a district-wide strategic plan** or **indicators to support** and guide family engagement. PAC members continue to be concerned about the perceived lack of cohesion, common vision across departments and concrete indicators to support the implementation of the family engagement standards.

As mentioned in our May report, the presentation of an incomplete LCAP draft impacts the level of meaningful feedback the PAC is able to provide, and is compounded by the fact that the first reading happens after the school year has ended and as a result, families are less engaged in the process.

Looking Ahead

The PAC is committed to working with district staff, our labor and community partners as well as board commissioners to continue to improve family engagement in our district. Based on our existing project teams, next year the PAC plans to continue to:

- Engage families in the LCAP development process and support efforts to move to a more systemic approach to gather input from school sites.
- Advocate and support efforts for the presentation of more complete LCAP draft to ensure meaningful, timely feedback.
- Work with district staff, labor and community partners as well board commissioners to explore existing systems and structures to improve home-school communication, specifically advocating for the development of an A-G report card.
- Advocate, support and monitor the **implementation of the district's family engagement standards**, to ensure district leaders establish clear expectations, timelines and indicators to measure meeting specific standards for engaging parents at school sites and the district level.

We look forward to working with the Board of Education, SFUSD staff, and our community partners to engage families in all of these efforts, and to support the success of all our students.

If you have any questions about this report, or the PAC's work in general, please contact the PAC at (415) 355-2201, or at pac@sfusd.edu.

The PAC's Goals & Achievements for School Year 2015-2016

Priority Projects / Issues	Goals/Objectives We Set	Achievements
Conduct community conversations on the Our Children, Our Families Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct 10-15 focus groups • Engage 150-200 people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted 20 conversations • Engaged over 250 participants • Presented report of Findings and Recommendations to Board of Education • Provided report of Findings to OCOF Council
Conduct community conversations about SFUSD's Local Control and Accountability Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct 10-15 community conversations • Engage 100-150 people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conducted 26 conversations collectively • Engaged over 360 participants collectively • Presented report of Findings and Recommendations to Board of Education
Convene meetings with SFUSD leaders to focus, support and strengthen PAC priorities and SFUSD strategic initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene three meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convened four meetings with Linda Wells, Mele Lau-Smith, Lehmann Sio; and Jesch Reyes
Work with district staff & community partners to convene the LCAP Task Force , including help to develop the agendas, facilitate the monthly meetings and support the community engagement campaign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft LCAP agendas and facilitate meetings • Attend LCAP Task Force meetings • Participate on the community engagement committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helped set agendas & lead LCAP Task Force meetings • Attended LCAP Task Force meetings & worked with on community engagement committee
Present reports at regular Board of Education meetings , and meet with individual Board commissioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Present PAC reports at 10 BOE meetings • Hold meetings with four Board members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented 11 PAC reports at Board meetings • Met with four Commissioners, including Fewer, Mendoza, Norton, Haney and Walton
Advocate for the development of district's Family Engagement Plan and monitor and support implementation of the Family Engagement standards .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Family Engagement Plan will be in place for staff and families to understand the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Board members • Met staff from Office of Family Engagement • Advocated for a COW to discuss Family Engagement as a pillar to support student outcomes
Participate in SFUSD stakeholder groups, networks and collaborative actions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend monthly meetings and planning sessions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in CEIS Plan group, AEMP Advisory Committee, and other collaborations with the Office of Family and Community Engagement, such as 3rd Annual Family Engagement Conference and Annual Budget Retreat • PAC co-presented during at the California Collaborative on District Reform regarding SFUSD's community engagement process
Maintain/sustain/grow the PAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruit new PAC members for 2016-2017 • Identify new funding source • Renew grants with Haas Jr. and Haas Sr. Funds 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filled 6 regular seats & 1 alternate (pending BOE approval on June 14, 2016) • New grant with SF Foundation \$20,000 • Renewed grants with Haas Jr., including a \$10,000 increase and Haas Sr. invited proposal for two-year renewal (approval is pending)