



San Francisco Board of Education  
**Parent Advisory Council**

**UPDATE AND ACTION NOTES**

OCTOBER 30, 2009

(These are not meeting minutes!)

This a summary of the key action items addressed by the PAC at its meeting on October 20th, and a few updates related PAC projects since that meeting. The official Minutes will be reviewed at the PAC's meeting on November 17th.

➔ **The Next Meeting of the PAC is Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 – 8:30pm.**

We set a schedule of meetings for this fall based on when the most people were available. We'll confirm these dates and make adjustments as needed. The next two meetings are scheduled for Tuesday evenings: **November 17<sup>th</sup> and December 15<sup>th</sup>.**

➔ **Redesigning the Student Assignment System**

Ruth G. presented the six models for a new student assignment system that the Board is considering, as well as some the measures the Board will use to evaluate the models (to compare how they work towards achieving the Board's goals and priorities for a new system). She also described the plans for community engagement to give feedback on these models.

- SFUSD staff will host up to five larger-scale public forums; convene focus groups with students and educators; and post an online survey. They will also inform civic leaders about the process, and offer to lead focus group discussions as requested.
- The PAC is reaching out to engage parents in smaller, community-based conversations. **Our goal is to hear from 200 parents and community members, through 25 community conversations** convened through schools and community centers across the city.
- The PAC prioritizes reaching out to hear from families who don't come to speak at school board meetings, and whose children are the most impacted by the district's achievement gap.

**These community conversations will be held from November 9 through mid-January,** depending on the calendar and capacity of the school sites and community groups who will be hosting and pulling together their families for these discussions. The PAC and PPS will present a report of our findings from the community conversations on January 25, 2010.

This is a preliminary list of sites/groups PAC members will contact about hosting a conversation:

| School/Community Organization                          | PAC Contact             |
|--|-------------------------|
| Marshall ES  | Betty                   |
| Richmond District Neighborhood Center, John Muir ES    | Michelle                |
| David Campos' office/Mission community                 | Nancy                   |
| Yick Wo ES   | Natasha                 |
| MLK MS, Marshall HS, Willie Brown Academy, Sheridan ES | Quran                   |
| Carver ES, Drew ES & CDC, Malcolm X Academy            | Rochelle                |
| Mo'Magic, B'Magic, Vis Valley ES, Harvey Milk Academy  | Ruth B.                 |
| Bessie Carmichael K-8, Sanchez ES, El Dorado ES        | Ruth G.                 |
| Presidio CDC or Tule Elk CDC                           | Ruth G. > Mollie Matull |
| West Portal ES, Starr King ES, Argonne CDC             | Stelly                  |
| June Jordan HS   | Tiana                   |
| Wu Yee Children's Center/Gordon Lau ES                 | Un Un                   |

To help PAC members contact school sites and set up meetings, there is a one-page flyer explaining this initiative and our goals, as well as "talking points" that outline questions to ask when setting up the community conversations. These talking points are available on the PAC's website, at [pacsf.org](http://pacsf.org), on the "Student Assignment" page.

➡ **Community Engagement in Addressing Education Budget Cuts**

The SFUSD liaison to the PAC, Chris Armentrout, has been bringing increasingly bad news about budget cuts from the state. The district now anticipates cuts of at least \$81 million by 2012. We have been speaking with PPS, the PTA, and other parent leaders, about working together on community engagement around the budget cuts – to inform our community about the unprecedented severity of the cuts, connect with education advocacy at the state level, and also to bring our community voices to the SFUSD budget process.

There is a meeting on Thursday, November 19 to strategize on how to move this forward – let Ruth G. know if you're interested in being involved.

➡ **Community Task Force on A-G Graduation Requirements**

The PAC has been invited to be on the community task force to implement the new A-G high school graduation requirements. The first meeting was October 29<sup>th</sup> – future meetings will be set by the members of the Task Force. Ruth B. and Nancy are both interested in participating, but are concerned about being able to make the meeting times. Anyone else who's interested should let Ruth G. know, and she'll find out the schedule for upcoming meetings.