



San Francisco Board of Education
Parent Advisory Council

Report to the Board of Education

June 8, 2010

The PAC is pleased to be part of the collaborative presentation to the Board on June 8th about the district's proposed Parent Engagement Plan. Since last summer the PAC has worked with district staff, community organizations and other parent and family advocates to help shape this Plan. PAC members helped organize and lead the community summit last September where participants discussed core values, challenges, and strategies to include in the Plan, and over the course of the school year gave feedback to written drafts of the Plan.

As the Plan comes closer to being finalized as a document, we want to point out a few areas that need ongoing work to reach the standards we want to achieve as a district:

- A clear timeline - and deadline - for implementing the strategies and standards included in the Plan.
- Identifying the people, teams or departments who will be responsible for implementing different parts of the plan across the district, including the roles of community organizations and other partners.
- The timeline to expect that all schools move from having "emerging" or "promising" parent engagement practices to having "exemplary" ones - and clarity on what happens if they don't meet these expectations.
- Clarity - and transparency - on how school site and district level staff will be held accountable for improving parent engagement across our district.

We realize central departments are being reorganized to better support school sites, and there are still budget issues to be worked out. For these reasons, we know some key questions can't be answered at tonight's meeting - but we think it's crucial to finalize them as soon as possible.

Unless implementation and accountability measures are well defined, there is no guarantee this Plan will be acted on. For example, it's already required by law that schools with English Learner students must have an English Learner Advisory Committee - yet we know in practice that many schools do not have a functioning ELAC at all, let alone one that is thriving.

We look forward to seeing the **action plans** to implement this Parent Engagement Plan across the district - and to working together with all our district and community partners to support its success.

If you have any questions or comments about this report, or the PAC's work in general, please contact the PAC at (415) 355-2201, or at pac@sfusd.edu. You can visit us at www.pacsf.org