



The *Parents as Equal Partners in the Education of their Children* Resolution, adopted by the Board of Education in December of 2010, led to a series of recommendations for implementation at school sites. The Task Force on *Parents as Equal Partners* stated that “meaningful parent engagement is when schools see parents as equal partners in promoting student achievement and recognize parents’ talents and skills as resources to promote children’s educational development.” A review of decades of research conducted in support of this resolution indicates that when parents are involved, students have

- ✓ **Higher grades, test scores, and graduation rates**
- ✓ **Better school attendance**
- ✓ **Increased motivation and positive self-esteem**
- ✓ **Lower rates of suspension, expulsion and drop out**
- ✓ **Decreased use of drugs and alcohol**
- ✓ **Fewer instances of violent behavior**

In addition, through authentic partnerships with parents, schools gain

- ✓ **Improved teacher morale**
- ✓ **Higher ratings of schools by parents**
- ✓ **More support from families**
- ✓ **Higher student achievement**
- ✓ **A better reputation in the community**

Based on the recommendations of the Task Force, and the compelling evidence regarding the impact of parent engagement, the Parent Community Services Branch and the ESC Parent and Community Engagement Team will support efforts to implement the following school goals for parent engagement:

- 1. Ensure a welcoming environment for families and invite them to participate as equal partners in the education of their children.**
 - a. All staff contribute to providing a welcoming environment
 - b. Timely and transparent communication is a key component
- 2. Provide parents opportunities to learn how best to support education at home and at school.**
 - a. A school Family Engagement Action Team develops and evaluates a plan of action
 - b. Parent centers have adequate staff, facilities, curriculum, and a variety of partnerships with community organizations
- 3. Implement a volunteer program to support school-wide, classroom, and parent activities.**
 - a. Volunteers are actively recruited, trained and monitored
 - b. Volunteer program is assessed for its impact on school climate and student support
- 4. Respond to parent concerns and/or complaints to ensure child’s educational needs are met.**
 - a. Rights of parents and children are respected and communicated to promote trust
 - b. Staff is respectful and informative in interactions with parents
- 5. Comply with all LAUSD, State, and Federal requirements regarding parent involvement.**
 - a. School staff and parents are familiar with requirements and mandates
 - b. Implementation is monitored to ensure fidelity