



PASADENA EDUCATION NETWORK

PUSD Organizations – School Site & District Level

Parent Teacher (Student) Association (PTA or PTSA)

PTAs serve as a forum where parents, teachers, administrators, and other members of the school community discuss ways to promote quality education, build community, support enrichment programs and school site “extras”, and coordinate parent volunteer activities. Middle and high schools may form a PTSA which includes student members.

The **PTA Council** is a District-level organization that meets monthly, providing support for individual PTA units at the school sites and interacting with the California State PTA (www.capta.org), whose mission is “to positively impact the lives of all children and families by representing our members and empowering and supporting them with skills in advocacy, leadership, and communication.”

School Site Council (SSC)

Schools that receive categorical funding from the state or federal government are required to elect a School Site Council, a decision-making body responsible for developing and recommending to the School Board a “Single Plan for Student Achievement” for that school site. Composed of half staff (principal, classroom teachers, and other school personnel) and half non-staff, including parents or other community members selected by parents, the SSC monitors implementation of the Single Plan and evaluates results. The SSC is required to consider recommendations from other school advisory committees, such as the ELAC and the AAPC regarding the needs of students and how best to ensure their academic success.

Distict Advisory Council (DAC) advises the District on categorical programs and evaluates these programs for effectiveness in increasing student achievement. The DAC also provides support and mentoring to SSCs. Each school site has a DAC representative and alternate.

English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC)

Each school with 21 or more English learners is required to have an ELAC. The ELAC addresses issues specifically related to English learners, and advises the principal, school staff, and the SSC on programs and services for English learners to ensure their needs are being met.

The **District ELAC (DELAC)** advises the School Board and District staff on English learner programs and services. Each school’s ELAC elects two representatives to the DELAC.

African American Parent Council (AAPC)

The AAPC is a coalition of parents, students, schools, and community members formed to collaboratively address issues such as the achievement gap, suspensions and referrals, under-enrollment in rigorous courses and the drop-out rate among African-American students. Although not a compliance requirement for categorical funding, the PUSD School Board requires all school sites with 10% African-American enrollment to form an AAPC, and encourages all sites to do so.



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Community Advisory Committee (CAC)

CAC is a forum for informing parents and the community on issues related to special education, including the understanding of special education laws and available programs and services. Monthly meetings feature professionals in the field of special ed. speaking on topics such as behavior, social skills, curriculum, and laws and mandates under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) Leadership Team

The GATE District Leadership Team, consisting of parent representatives, educators, community and program administrators, reviews the GATE Plan and discusses issues and activities related to the program. Parent members serve as liaisons to their respective School Site Councils and bring site concerns to the Leadership Team. The Leadership Team meets 4-6 times/year to discuss possible improvements to the Plan and programs based on program assessment information.

PUSD-Related Organizations

Pasadena Educational Foundation (PEF)

Website: www.pasedfoundation.org

PEF is a nonprofit founded in 1971 to develop community partnerships, financial resources and educational opportunities that benefit all students and encourage greater community involvement in support of public education. PEF supports a PUSD programs ranging from Early Childhood through College & Career Pathways; provides teacher grants and student scholarships; supports science, technology, art and music, after-school and health programs. PEF runs a summer enrichment program, and also serves as the fiscal agent for school site annual funds.

Pasadena Education Network (PEN)

Website: www.penfamilies.org

PEN is a grassroots nonprofit parent organization that promotes family participation in public education for the benefit of all students. PEN provides information resources to help parents explore their public school options at the elementary and middle school level, facilitates parent networking across the District, and helps parents become more effectively involved at both the school and District level.

Invest in PUSD Kids (IIPK)

Website: www.investinpusdkids.org

Invest in PUSD Kids is a network of parents, teachers, and community members who share a belief in the value of public education. IIPK engages in community organizing through house and community meetings, and takes action via email alerts, meetings with public officials, and public forums. Action Teams have been established in the area of Accountability, Equity, Funding, and Partnerships.