

Who Should PEN Serve and What Programming Best Serves PEN's Mission

“My Family”

A world in which good information is available to all parents to facilitate them making good choices for their family. Although individual interests are paramount, more families are aware of the positive impact that public schools have on the common good.

**Individual Interests:
My child**

“Our PUSD”

A world in which parents see themselves as advocates for educational justice, so all students at all schools have equitable opportunities to reach their full potential. Families at PUSD schools see themselves as one community, joining together to benefit all families in Pasadena, Altadena, and Sierra Madre.

**Common Good Interests:
All Children**

“Our Classroom”

A world in which parents participate in their child's academic success. PEN helps build parents' capacity to support their students to the best of their ability, and helps parents navigate their school to build a better functioning classroom for their child and all children.

“Our School”

A world in which parents see themselves as part of a school community and seek equity for students. Where diverse groups of families learn and work together to benefit all students in the school, and where parents are partners with staff in creating a better school for all children.

**Skill &
Community
Building**

Engagement
 Advocacy
 Family Participation

Recommend Serving/Programming:

Family may come first, but the Common Good should also be acknowledged.

It is recognized that there is potential flow in the shape of a pyramid from many parents beginning from My Family, then fewer moving to Our Classroom and Our School, and ultimately fewer moving to Our PUSD, as families enter the PEN world and their interests and needs change. Parents will initially be attracted to PEN programming that meets their family's needs; subsequent programs will encourage them to move from My Family to Our Classroom/Our School. Developing Our PUSD advocates will be a smaller number of families, and although useful, it may not be the ultimate goal for most families.

- Focus on the greater population of “all” children/families for educational and racial equity
- Acknowledge that there are many different ways that parents engage, and work with parents where they are
- Ensure that the entry level is addressing *Individual Interest* needs, as it is the pyramid through which all other groups emerge, but recognize that support for the common good is growing
- Offer activities in and across schools to build strong parent communities that see themselves as part of one PUSD community
- Create specific activities that promote the migration of parents from one stage to another, specifically to facilitate them moving from My Family to Our School
- Develop key partnerships within the community that help meet the needs of PEN and PUSD families
- Train Parent Ambassadors to be point of delivery for information & represent their families' broader concerns
- Build parent networks within the school and between schools
- Provide training in parent advocacy and Parents as Leaders