

Our Children, Our Families Council
Summary of Family Engagement Network

May 8, 2015

Goals of the Effort

The goals of the Family Engagement Network (FEN) are to:

- 1) build relationships and collaborative work to empower families for their children's success and
- 2) to engage families in two-way communications and information sharing.

Focal Population of the Effort

The FEN serves children and youth in the San Francisco Unified School District by working to engage families and stakeholders.

Impact

The FEN's impact is made through the advising role it plays in decisions effecting issues across the district. For example, at one meeting the network looked at a draft survey to send out to try to inventory what workshops and leadership development opportunities exist to support families supporting their children. At the meeting, people gave extensive feedback about the survey. Another time, the network formed a focus group around shaping the district's local control and accountability plan.

The FEN was very active in completing the Family Engagement Standards for the district. Voices from the network were heard throughout the process. Completing the standards with the help of a diversity of voices fulfills the network's goals and creates more trust around the district's efforts.

The network is also active in the planning and implementation of the Family Empowerment Conference.

One of the greatest strengths of the network is the number of people (80-90) that are on the list serve.

Challenges

One of the greatest challenges is dealing with people's lack of time and avoiding duplication of work.

Origins of the Effort

Ruth Grabowski convened the FEN when she joined SFUSD as a staff member in October, 2012. A similar effort had existed in the district previously, but with varying levels of efficacy. She wanted to convene any stakeholders that were serving families of the school district's children.

Leading the Effort

The effort is led by Ruth Grabowski in her capacity as Coordinator of Family & Community Partnerships at SFUSD.

Members of the Effort

There is no formal membership process for joining the Family Engagement Network. The network seeks to engage families. The following is a list of individuals that participated in the FEN in 2014-2015.

- 1) Sara Haj-Hassan, Arab Cultural and Community Center
- 2) Betty Cao, Chinese for Affirmative Action
- 3) Christina Canaveral, Coleman Advocates
- 4) Devi Zinzuvadia, Collective Impact/Magic Zone/MoMagic
- 5) Kate Perri, Experience Corps
- 6) Aisha Robinson, Hunters Point Family
- 7) Philip Bounds, Hunters Point Family/Peacekeepers and Safe Haven programs

- 8) Tyne Johnson, Hunters Point Family/Peacekeepers and Safe Haven programs
- 9) Nathaniel Brewer, JumpStart
- 10) Eric Cuentos, Mission Graduates
- 11) Rick Oculito, our Family Coalition
- 12) Georgia Williams-Bratt, PAC
- 13) Barbara Lee, PTA
- 14) Dave Martin, PTA
- 15) Stephanie LeBeau, PTA
- 16) Miranda Martin, Parents for Public Schools & PAC
- 17) Robert Sindelar, Playworks
- 18) Rebecca Mars, Real Options for City Kids Beacon (Vis Valley)
- 19) Sarah Huck, Richmond Village Beacon @ Washington HS
- 20) Andrew Russo, SF Family Support Network
- 21) Joe Goyos, Support for Families
- 22) Sonia Valenzuela, Support for Families/Inclusion Network
- 23) Beatrice Viramontes, Teach For America
- 24) Linda Park, SF Family Support Network
- 25) Stephanie Eldred, Community Schools, SFUSD
- 26) Margaret Harris, Early Education Dept., SFUSD
- 27) Raquel Wells, Early Education Dept., SFUSD
- 28) Maribel Sainez, Family & Community Engagement, SFUSD
- 29) Tiffany Delard, LEAD – ES, SFUSD
- 30) Gloria Molt, LEAD – ES, SFUSD
- 31) Ramona McGary, LEAD – MS, SFUSD
- 32) Lucia Perez Barrow, Multilingual Pathways/DELAC, SFUSD
- 33) Selina Tso, Multilingual Pathways/ DELAC, SFUSD
- 34) Angelina Romano, Newcomer Latino Support, SFUSD
- 35) Carla Vasquez, Office of Access & Equity, SFUSD
- 36) Nur Jehan Khalique, Office of Access & Equity, SFUSD
- 37) Corky Korn, Pupil Services, SFUSD
- 38) Morennike O’Neal, Pupil Services, SFUSD
- 39) Mele Lau-Smith, SFCSD, SFUSD
- 40) Laura Savage, Special Education, SFUSD
- 41) Mary Elisalde, State & Federal Programs, SFUSD
- 42) Roderick Castro, State & Federal Programs, SFUSD
- 43) Christina Wong, Superintendent’s office – Lau Plan, SFUSD
- 44) Landon Dickey, Superintendent’s office – AAALI, SFUSD
- 45) Emily Wade Thompson, Superintendent’s Zone – Bayview, SFUSD
- 46) Donna Smith, Family Liason – Carver ES, SFUSD
- 47) Lisa Collier, Family Liason – Cobb ES, SFUSD
- 48) Chris Sally, Family & Community Engagement, SFUSD
- 49) Shem Korngold, Superintendent’s Zone – Mission, SFUSD

Structure of the Effort

The group meets irregularly depending on what issues arise for the group to address. The network convenes at least 2-3 times per year.

The Role of Data

The network tracks attendance at its meetings.