

State Parent Advisory Council Info

The State Superintendent Parent Advisory Council launched in 2009 as a way to utilize the expertise of parents and caregivers across the state of Wisconsin. The Parent Advisory Council (PAC) advises the state superintendent on family engagement in student learning. The group is composed of caregivers from communities throughout the state that represent a geographic and cultural diversity within public schools. The PAC provides members an opportunity to learn and give feedback on issues that are important to them while learning and sharing information with others. The impetus was reframing what “family engagement” means.

Reframing Family Engagement		
Individual Responsibility	➡	Shared Responsibility in Partnership
Deficit-Based/Adversarial	➡	Strength-Based and Collaborative
Random Acts	➡	Systemic
Add-On	➡	Integrated
Events Driven	➡	Learning and Outcomes Driven
Compliance	➡	Ownership and Continuous Improvement
One-Time Project	➡	Sustained

Source: Baldwin and Johnson 2015

PAC Belief Statement

“We believe all parents want their children to learn and to succeed in school. Families are a source of strength and knowledge. They are best able to help their children do well in school when schools accept families as they are and make frequent efforts to know, listen to, and learn from parents. Schools enlist families as partners and decision-makers in closing student achievement gaps when they do the following:

- Recognize and build upon students’ unique cultural and family strengths
- Communicate regularly with families in their languages and invite families to share their knowledge and needs
- Create multiple ways for all families to gain skills and knowledge that support children’s learning and achieve school goals
- Help families become aware of and use community resources that prepare every child to be career and college ready.”

To learn more about the formation and rationale of the PAC check out the [PAC Report](#) from DPI. Interested in seeing who are the current members, agenda minutes, or sign up yourself? Check out the [PAC Website](#) from DPI.