

Welcome to 2025 Leadership Convention

This session will begin soon



6C - Partnering with your School to
Improve Academic Results

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Eric Woodhouse, Alpine School District



BACKGROUND

- Northridge Elementary, principal
- 1st school in Utah to receive the National PTA School of Excellence Award
- K-6 principal supervisor
- Executive Director of Operations
 - District liaison for Council PTA



ENGAGEMENT

Why Parent Engagement Matters

Impact of Parent Engagement on Student Success

■ Graduation Rate (%) ■ Positive Behavior (%) ■ Attendance Rate (%) ■ Average GPA



Key Insights and Benefits

- Higher parent involvement correlates with improved student academic performance.
- Engagement benefits families across diverse backgrounds and communities.
- Active parental participation leads to better attendance and behavior among students.
- Schools with strong parent engagement see higher graduation rates and overall success.



KEY BENEFITS OF ENGAGEMENT

Academic and Attendance Benefits

- Higher test scores and improved grades across subjects
- Increased attendance and reduced absenteeism
- Greater homework completion and classroom participation

Behavioral and Emotional Benefits

- Fewer discipline issues and improved student conduct
- Stronger social and emotional health supports
- Enhanced student confidence and school connection

RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS



Henderson & Mapp (2002) – SEDL Report

Found strong evidence linking parent involvement with higher student achievement and improved school outcomes. This research is foundational in family engagement studies.



Epstein (1995) – School Climate Improvement

Identified six types of involvement that promote positive school climate, highlighting the critical role of family partnerships in educational success.



Mapp & Bergman (2019) – Equity via Engagement

Introduced the Dual Capacity-Building Framework focusing on equity and capacity building for effective family-school partnerships, emphasizing tailored strategies.



National PTA – Strong Correlation to Success

National PTA research shows consistent links between active PTA engagement and improvements in student behavior, academic performance, and school community climate.



DUAL CAPACITY-BUILDING FRAMEWORK



Purpose

Designed to support family engagement strategies that are linked to student achievement and school improvement, acting as a compass rather than a strict blueprint.



Key Components

Focuses on building capacities of both families and educators in trust, communication, and collaboration to foster effective partnerships.



Version 2 Updates

The latest iteration includes substantive changes and expanded resources to better support diverse school contexts and community needs.



Research Foundation

Based on extensive research by Dr. Karen Mapp and colleagues, integrating best practices and evidence from family-school partnership studies.



Community Website

Offers practical tools, peer learning networks, and opportunities for sharing best practices to implement the framework nationwide.



Impact

Helps build trusting partnerships that improve family engagement, contributing to stronger student outcomes and equitable school climates.



RESEARCH ON PTA/PARENT ENGAGEMENT

[PTA National School of Excellence Standards](#)

- Goal 1: Welcome all families
- Goal 2: Communicate effectively
- Goal 3: Support Student Success
- Goal 4: Speak Up For Every Child
- Goal 5: Share Power
- Goal 6: Collaborate With The Community

[Dual Capacity Framework](#)

- The Challenge
- Essential Conditions
- Policy and Program Goals



PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

AllthingsPLC: We argue that it is an *ongoing process in which educators work collaboratively in recurring cycles of collective inquiry and action research to achieve better results for the students they serve*. PLCs operate under the assumption that the key to improved learning for students is continuous job-embedded learning for educators. The following section examines the elements of the PLC process more closely.

- A focus on learning
- A collaborative culture with a focus on learning for all
- Collective inquiry into best practice and current reality
- Action Orientation: learning by doing
- A commitment to continuous learning
- Results orientation



STRUCTURES

School Structures

- Principal →
- School Leadership Team →
- Teacher Teams →
- Teachers →
- Students →

PTA Structures

- PTA President
- Executive Committee
- PTA Board
- General membership
- Students



Connect with us on social media

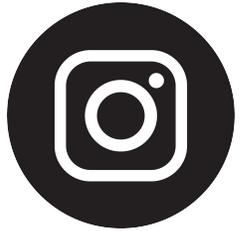


FACEBOOK

- Utah PTA
- Utah PTA Advocacy
- Utah PTA Super Secondary
- Utah PTA Excellent Elementary
- Utah PTA Treasurers
- Utah PTA Reflections
- Utah School Community Councils
- Utah PTA Teachers
- Utah PTA Battle of the Bands



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