

D.C. Parent Leadership Opportunities

- **Local School Level – Parent Organizations Student Representatives – SBOE**
 - Being involved with your child’s school is an important way for you to create a welcoming, positive environment for your child as well as to help them succeed. A good way to do this is to join the parent organization at your child’s school. Parent organizations are groups of parents, and sometimes school staff and community members, who meet regularly to support school goals and the interests of students, teachers, and parents. Parent organizations can exist in many different forms including as Parent-Teacher Associations (PTA’s), Parent-Teacher Organizations (PTO’s), Parent-Teacher-Student Associations (PTSA’s), and Home-School Associations (HSA’s).
 - To find out more information about parent organizations, resources, and opportunities to get involved, please contact your child’s school. If a parent organization doesn’t exist at your child’s school, contact our office and we can help coach you and other parents through the process of getting one up and running.
- **DCPS – Chancellor’s Cabinet**
 - The Chancellor’s Parent Cabinet is a group of parent leaders who directly inform the Chancellor around system-wide policies affecting schools. Members are parents who have at least one child in DCPS and reflect the diversity of the DCPS community. DCPS does consider prospective parents who apply. The Cabinet meets monthly with the Chancellor and key DCPS staff.
 - To learn more and apply for this opportunity, please visit <http://dcps.dc.gov/page/chancellors-parent-cabinet-become-member>.
- **DC Public Charter School Board – Parent and Alumni Leadership Council**
 - The DC Public Charter School Board’s Parent and Alumni Leadership Council (PALC) is a group of parents and community members who regularly meet with DC PCSB Board Members and Leadership to offer insights, personal experiences, and comments on the impact of the Board’s policies and public charter schools. The PALC members serve as a sounding board for DC PCSB’s outreach and transparency efforts, and are DC PCSB’s eyes and ears in DC’s many diverse communities.
 - Interested in joining the PALC? The ideal candidate displays leadership, is passionate about school choice, is active in their community, and wants an opportunity to be involved with the District’s educational system. For more information or to apply, submit a resume to communications@dcpcsb.org.
- **Private, Parochial, and Independent Schools – Parent’s Council of Washington**
 - The Parents Council of Washington (PCW) is a non-profit organization established to foster communication within the greater Washington, D.C. independent school



Office of the Student Advocate

State Board of Education of the District of Columbia

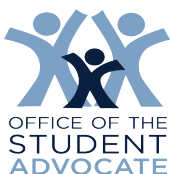
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community. Our goal is to promote excellence in education by building a network among independent schools and their parent communities through cutting-edge programs that provide opportunities to share ideas, practices and information. Our unique relationship with our member schools and our outstanding programs place us at the forefront of issues facing the local independent school community. We offer parent lectures on timely issues, best practices on current topics, identifying and sharing student issues, school information, networking and parent resources, and so much more. Please visit our website for more information and resources at <http://www.parentscouncil.org/>.

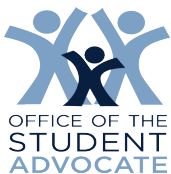
- The Collaboratives: vision is to develop and sustain a seamless network of community partners throughout the District of Columbia that work to build strong families and supportive communities in which children, ailment youth, and adults can safely productively reside and thrive. The Collaboratives base their work with children and families on the shared principles: commitment to children; respect for families; community partnership; high quality, flexible and responsive services; and accountability.
 - Collaborative Solutions for Communities (CSC): provides direct services to families and help build the capacity of the target communities of Columbia Heights and Shaw, as well as, other neighborhoods across Washington, D.C. Our direct services are bilingual (Spanish/English) and include: technical assistance, training, and collaborations and partnerships. To contact us, please call 202-518-6737.
 - East River Family Strengthening Collaborative (ERFSC): empowers families, youth, seniors, and communities to become more self-sufficient through integrated and collaborative community based services. We do this by collaborating with community residents and organizations to: reduce the number of children from entering the child welfare system of care, increase supports to families, provide services to prevent homelessness, increase financial self sufficiency, and decrease youth violence. We also collaborate with community residents and organizations to improve the quality of life for Ward 7's residents. To contact us, please call 202-397-7300.
 - Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative (E/BFSC): serves families with children residing in our target area (Wards 5 and 6) who are in need of services and supports. E/BFSC provides services that either directly or indirectly support or preserve families. These services include but are not limited to: case management, crisis intervention, parenting education, housing assistance, employment services, fatherhood support, youth activities, community engagement, capacity building, and technical assistance. For more information and/or to obtain services from E/BFSC, please call our intake office at (202) 832-9400.
 - Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative: acts as a catalyst to develop, nurture, and sustain partnerships of residents, agencies, and institutions in the Southeast community and to create a healthy socioeconomic environment through which every child and family has an opportunity to achieve their maximum potential



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- and to lead a productive life. For more information, please call 202-889-1425.
- Georgia Avenue Family Support Collaborative: was formed to respond to the needs of at-risk families and children in Wards 1 and 4. GAFSC provides outreach to residents and community groups, and assesses and responds to needs in the target communities of Wards 1 and 4. For more information, please call 202-722-1815.
 - Ward Education Councils: organizations comprised of students, parents, teachers, and community members, who meet on a regular basis to discuss public education issues and advocate on behalf of the schools and communities in the ward. Please click the links below to access information on each of the ward education councils.
 - [Ward 1 Education Collaborative](#)
 - [Ward 2 Education Network](#)
 - [Ward 3/Wilson Feeder Education Network](#)
 - [Ward 4 Education Alliance](#)
 - [Ward Five Council on Education](#)
 - [Capitol Hill Public Schools Parent Organization \(CHPSPO\)](#)
 - [Ward 7 Education Council](#)
 - Ward 8 Education Council
 - DC Council – Committee on Education
 - The Committee on Education is responsible for all matters related to public education, including authorizing public charter schools, but not including matters exclusively within the University of the District of Columbia or the Community College of the District of Columbia; truancy (jointly with the Committee of the Whole); and public libraries.
 - For more information or to sign-up to testify at a Committee on Education hearing, please call 202-724-8061 or visit <http://dccouncil.us/committees/committee-on-education>.



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