

Foster Youth Subcommittee Report

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Subcommittee Chairperson:	Richard Courtney
Subcommittee Members:	Richard Courtney, Charlie Sparkle, Rosa Orozco (Kelly Beckford-Guest)
Subcommittee Notetaker:	Charlie Sparkle
Description from Bylaws (Article, Page): ARTICLE VIII: STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES Page 14	The purpose of the Foster Youth Standing Subcommittee is to increase proficiency and attendance of foster youth students by promoting meaningful engagement of parents and caregivers in navigating the educational system through being informed of their educational rights, and advocating for support services that will enhance the skills and knowledge of the caregivers to better serve this student population. This Subcommittee provides recommendations to the PAC.
Outcome:	Provide Recommendations to the PAC:
Meetings:	PAC members met from December through March

Subcommittee Recommendations:

***Overarching is that this program needs to have much less formality and a <u>much more</u> <u>personal</u> approach. In my experience, that special touch means the difference to partaking in a program and thinking it is just another LAUSD Bureaucracy that we will get lost in.

1. Welcome Package and letter to all Resource Families:

- An introductory meeting by the on-site administrator with the resource family at the school; explaining processes and available programs for their specific child.
- Responsibility of the Foster Care administrator in the actual LAUSD school; not a region social service rep.
- Available on the website.
- > Personal to each educational level (Elementary, Secondary)
- Make this available throughout the school year.

2. Partnership Coach for Foster and Resource Parents:

- Four members that serve as a foster care community representative in each of LAUSD Regions, North, South, East and West; a liaison to the resource parents.
- ➤ Member information is shared on the website, Welcome Packets and to all resource parents.
- This committee will be connecting the resource parents to all available programs.
- This would close the equity gap and make a familiar face available to resource parents.

3. More user-friendly Website:

- More personal, more connection, less like another set of programs buried deep in the bureaucracy of LAUSD.
- ➤ Breakdown services available: Elementary, Middle School and High School. Making it much more user friendly and accessible.
- Make all available services easier to attain and track.

4. Teacher Education:

- Encourage one on one meetings so the teacher communicates how they fit in to the foster care process and ensure that the teacher is part of *their* team.
- > Continue any necessary education to defy stereotypes.
- > Teacher follow up with resource parents and meetings encouraged.

Submitted by Richard Courtney, Chairperson