

LAUSD Parent Advisory Committee

Chairperson's Report

December 15, 2022

Hello, colleagues:

I hope you're learning a lot and appreciating the tremendous amount of work that our PAC is responsible for completing each year. If you haven't noticed yet, you will definitely get a better sense of what we do over the next few months. You may even begin to wonder how we can get so much done in one year! Creating a set of LCAP Comments isn't as easy as you might think.

Our seven subcommittees met this past Monday the 12th, in a series of three, one-hour sessions. I heard some rich conversations among those of you who were there. Attendance was a bit low considering how many of us signed up to serve on these groups, probably because the meetings were held on a different day of the week than our full PAC meetings. The next subcommittee sessions will be held on Monday, January 30th. I urge you to join one or two that interest you.

Our PAC is one of only three District-level parent committees, the other two being our *Community Advisory Committee* or CAC, and the *District English Learner Advisory Committee* or DELAC. While each of these committees has a different purpose — CAC monitors and provides feedback on the District's Special Education program, while DELAC keeps an eye on the progress of English Learner (EL) students — I believe these groups must collaborate in order to highlight the many common concerns shared by members of all three committees. I have been in contact with John Perron, CAC Chair, and Diana Guillen, DELAC Chair, to advocate for this collaboration.

Finally, each of you has at least one child at an LAUSD school site. How is everything going there? Are volunteers visible on campus? Do the SSC, LSLC, and ELAC function properly? Are meetings posted so that everyone is aware of when and where these groups meet? Is the principal friendly, welcoming, and accessible to parents and families? Do they know students by name? Is the Parent Center holding helpful workshops and other events? Do you even *have* a Parent Center? *If your answer to any of these questions is "no," then I suggest that you investigate the situation and help to resolve it.* As PAC members, you are all *parent leaders*, so please go out of your way to support parents and families at your children's school sites. ***This is how we roll on the PAC.***

Here's a favorite quote: "One definition of 'insanity' is doing the same things you've always done but expecting different results." This is as true in our personal lives as it is in public education.

At your service,

Paul Robak

Chairperson, 2022-2023
LAUSD Parent Advisory Committee
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