

PAC Two Way Communication Subcommittee

Interim Chairperson's Report

April 22, 2021

The following PAC members attended this Zoom meeting on Thursday, April 15th, at 12:00 noon:

Maria Barboza
Laura Baz
Marta Lopez
Maria Daisy Ortiz
Paul Robak
Ana Rodriguez de Jesus
Andrea Canty (PCS staff)
Claire Lubrin (PCS Staff)
Luz Roldan (PCS interpreter)

We continued the previous conversation from our meeting of March 11th. Members were asked to discuss the concerns they have about the lack of two-way communication between our PAC and parents at school sites. Most of us focused instead on how poorly informed parents overall tend to be with even basic information on what is happening at their children's school sites rather than on information reaching schools about the PAC. This topic was also the main discussion at our last meeting, and unfortunately a theme I have heard time and time again, over many years of being involved in the work of parent and family engagement and seven years on the PAC.

This is a longstanding problem and, despite repeated assurances from District leadership and staff, continues to be perhaps the primary barrier to real parent engagement. ***When you don't know that you don't know something, becoming informed on it is nearly impossible.*** For example, if a parent is not aware that their child's school site has an SSC, an ELAC, or an LSLC (Local School Leadership Council), this parent cannot possibly know to ask about these groups.

Members seem to feel that before we can address two-way communication between our Committee and parents at all schools, we should lift up our shared concerns about what we view as, in general (with a few notable exceptions among outstanding principals) extremely poor and ineffective communication to parents about their children's own schools. This topic is clearly of utmost importance to our members, and we will be brainstorming on how best to address it.

Our next meeting is set for Thursday, May 13th, at 12:00. All PAC members are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Robak

Interim Chairperson, 2020-2021
LAUSD PAC Two Way Communication Subcommittee