

PARENT LEADERSHIP & ADVOCACY TRAINING

Latonya Winters-Buford

District Family Engagement Liaison

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The Parent Leadership & Advocacy focus area provides DCSD parents and caregivers access to knowledge relating to student achievement, the workings of our school system, and skills in advocacy and educational support. We provide opportunities for parents with training and resources to **grow, achieve,** and **empower** greater levels of advocacy for children, schools, and community.

ACTIVE PARENTING

Raising children in today's uncertain world can be a daunting task. Children are susceptible to so many forces around them, and they can be lost in the chaos without strong, positive parenting guidance. Active Parenting is a national program created by acclaimed parenting expert Dr. Michael H. Popkin, that features state-of-the-art courses that will teach you proven parenting techniques that will make positive changes. The program also uses sound psychological principles that have been research-tested and proven effective in all of the programs, with an emphasis on mutual respect, cognitive-behavioral approaches to change, personal choice, and responsibility.



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THE FIRST 5 YEARS /ACTIVE PARENTING

This series is offered for 4 weeks, and is an interactive learning experience that introduces the stages of child development during the first five years and offers parenting skills necessary for understanding brain development; communication, mindfulness and growing together!

AP First Five Years	Date/Time	Description	Location
You and Your Child: building up our babies	8/24/2020 9:30 -11:00 a.m.	Parents will discover their styles of parenting, ages and stages of development, bonding with baby and parents as teachers.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Preventing Problems: the "A-C-T" method of teaching discipline	8/31/2020 9:30 -11:00 a.m.	Infant safe at home playing safe checklist and brain building activities.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Encouraging Positive Behavior: mindful practice and meditation	09/01/2020 9:30 -11:00 a.m.	The power of encouragement, choices and consequences, caring for the caregiver and creating mindfulness jars.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Preparing for School Success: 6 great things parents can do to help young children get ready for school	09/08/2020 9:30 -11:00 a.m.	Memory work activity, limiting screen time, stimulate independence, emotional intelligence.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Preparing parent success plans due	9/15/2020 9:30 -11:00 a.m.	Parents outline their short-term and long-term parenting goals based on the information they learned in the previous sessions.	Virtual Click Here To Register



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KNOWING AND GROWING/ACTIVE PARENTING AGES 5-12:

This series is offered for 6 weeks, for parents and caregivers of elementary age students; where we support one another in being “active” parents raising courageous, competent and cooperative scholars. Each session is infused with interactive activities, parent fieldtrips, and a graduation certificate ceremony.

AP 5- 12 years Knowing and Growing	Date/Time	Description	Location
The Active Parent	8/26/2020 4:30-6:00 p.m.	Parents will discuss how we navigate the “New Normal”. Styles of parenting - dictator, or doormat? Cognitive brain development in children. The method of choice-having your say but not your way.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Cooperation & Communication	09/02/2020 4:30-6:00 p.m.	Who owns the problem? Active communication, feelings, empathy and problem-solving.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Responsibility & Discipline	09/09/2020 4:30-6:00 p.m.	Effective non-violent discipline, learning to use “I” messages. Logical consequences.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Building Courage & Self-Esteem	09/16/2020 4:30-6:00 p.m.	The think-feel-do cycle, the power of encouragement. Recognizing behavioral changes.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Positive Behavior and Understanding (SEL) Social and Emotional Learning	9/23/2020 4:30-6:00 p.m.	Eliminating power struggles. Handling anger. Problem-solving with FLAC.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Active Parenting for School Success	9/30/2020 4:30-6:00 p.m.	7 smart things for school success. Structuring homework time. Tobacco, alcohol, and other drugs. Family talks.	Virtual Click Here To Register



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DECODING YOUR TEEN/ACTIVE PARENTING TEEN EDITION

This series is offered for 6 weeks, and provides vital information and support for parents of tweens and teens; breaking down communication barriers, building self-esteem, learning calming techniques, avoiding the pitfalls of alcohol and drugs, and recognizing behavioral changes that can lead to suicide thoughts, anxiety and depression.

AP 12-19 Decoding Your Teen	Date/Time	Description	Location
Parenting Teens Today	9/03/2020 5:00-6:30 p.m.	Parenting through a pandemic, control vs. influence. Mutual respect.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Winning Cooperation	9/10/2020 5:00-6:30 p.m.	Sending mixed messages, communication blocks. The keys to encouragement, learn the “palms up” technique.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Responsibility and Discipline	9/17/2020 5:00-6:30 p.m.	Parenting and anger. The family meeting. Choices-conflict resolution. Avoiding power struggles.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Building Courage, Redirecting Misbehavior	9/24/2020 5:00-6:30 p.m.	Empowering through encouragement. Positive and negative approaches. Family enrichment activities.	Virtual Click Here To Register
Filtering Out Social Media and Negative Influences	10/1/2020 5:00-6:30 p.m.	Positive values and choices, avoiding risky behavior, strategies to help deter high risk behavior.	Virtual Click Here To Register



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PARENTS AS LEADERS (PALs) PARENT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

PARENTS are at the center of our work and we believe that parents are the child's first teacher!

The Parents as Leaders (PALs) Parent Leadership Program is a tiered leadership development program for DCSD parents and caregivers. The purpose of PALs is to build parental capacity in the family, school, community, and themselves in order to support the academic success of their children. During the Parent Leadership Academy, parents will concentrate on the four categories of capacity building: **Family, School, District and Community Leadership.**

Introduction to Family Engagement

- The impact family engagement has on education
- What family engagement looks like
- Importance of human capital (relationships)
- Importance of parent leaders
- What does parent leadership look like in your school and district?
- Local stories of parent leaders
- Discussion about parent organizations that currently exist
- Your experiences as a parent and parent leader

Navigating the Complexities of the Local School and the District

- Function of different departments – structure of state, country, district
- Chain of command – school structure and culture
- School financing and management
- Roles and responsibilities at the local school level
- Keys to developing positive relationships with all of the adults who interact with your child
- Asking meaningful questions
- Parents' rights, responsibilities and resolutions



Leadership Skills

- Types and styles of leadership
- Communication styles and etiquette
- Leadership development
- Avoiding team pitfalls such as cliques, disengagement, and power struggles
- Conflict resolution
- Managing change
- Diversity and inclusion

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AVAILABLE WORKSHOPS

Parents as Leaders (PALs) Parent Leadership Academy Tier I: Developing Leader	Date/Time	Description	Location	Facilitator
Orientation and Pre-assesment Survey	9/08/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Welcome to the leadership cohort, an open and honest discussion to determine how parents are doing during COVID. Workshop overview and expectations.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Tonya Winters-Buford District Family Engagement Liaison
The Leader in You	9/15/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Prepare parents to assume leadership roles in their schools and communities. Build self-esteem and self-confidence in order to improve leadership skills.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Tonya Winters-Buford District Family Engagement Liaison
Effective Communication	9/22/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Communication styles and etiquette, interpersonal skills. Professional writing and reading. Public speaking.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Dr. Michelle Hinton Technology Instructor John Lewis E S
Conflict Resolution	9/29/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Culturally responsive leadership, Working through problems and developing strategy and conflict resolution skills.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Dr. Char-Shenda Covington Principal of Stone Mountain Elementary School
Navigating the Systems of School	10/6/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Navigating the complexities of the local school and the district. Function of different departments – structure of state, country, district, chain of command – school structure and culture.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Marcia Coward Parent and Family Engagement Manager
Gearing up for Governance	10/13/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Taking on a role at your local school or district, Choosing the right position based on talent, time, interest.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Rajnish Singh School Governance Coordinator

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Parents as Leaders (PALS) parent Leadership Academy Tier II: Emerging Leaders	Date/Time	Description	Location	Facilitator
Leadership Development	10/20/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Leadership and personality assessments, (Myers Briggs). Local stories of parent leaders. Unique team dynamics with parent groups, generating ideas, making decisions, and having results-oriented practices.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Dr. Michelle Hinton Technology Instructor
Change Management	10/27/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	How to succeed in changing systems. Key to organizing parent groups, determining sustainability, planning, implementing, and evaluating our policies.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Shakina Champion Director of School Innovation
Leadership Through an Equity Lens *Project Assignment	11/4/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Empowerment through equity. An examination of the policies we have in place. Do they prevent or promote family engagement? How do we examine policy? How do we affect change?	Virtual Click Here To Register	Attorney Janet Kisbaugh Public Education Matters Kayla Kudratt Assistant District Attorney
Team Management	1/11/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Your voice/Your choice. The importance of parent partnerships.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Marcia Coward Parent and Family Engagement Manager
School Improvement Planning	11/17/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Learn what goes in to local school CSIPs and your impact as a Parent.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Dr. Rasheen Booker, Principal, Stephenson Middle School

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Parents as Leaders (PALs) Parent Leadership Academy Tier III Action Leader	Date/Time	Description	Location	Facilitator
Learning How to Advocate	12/1/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Resilience and supportive relations. Positive and constructive parent practices- powerful. Small tips for big academic impacts at home through encouragement, structure, and modeling.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Tonya Winters-Buford District Family Engagement Liaison
Data Analysis	12/8/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	Interpreting academic information (MAP, report cards, etc.), Understanding CCRPI, knowing what to do with the information.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Assesment and Accountability Coordinator
Education Funding	12/15/2020 6:00-7:30 p.m.	SPLOST and other allotments that affect your child's education, school choice. Designing initiatives: how to clarify goal, purpose of these initiatives.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Masana Mailliard Interim Chief Financial Officer
Community Asset Mapping	1/5/2021 6:00-7:30 p.m.	How to ignite informed action, The process for organizing a "winnable" action around a given issue, organizing and mapping out strategies.	Virtual Click Here To Register	Kim Ault & Sumaya Karimi Community Connectors
Parent Retreat and Presentation of Final Project. Virtual Graduation Ceremony	TBA	Graduation	Virtual Click Here To Register	TBD



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I.M.P.A.C.T. HUDDLES

The I.M.P.A.C.T. Huddles are part of the initiative for building the capacity of families and school staff to partner in ways that support student achievement and school involvement. They will feature authentic dialogue on topics such as school safety, curriculum, vocational training, special education, cultural competence and other timely discussion topics recommended by the participants. This is a collaborative effort between multiple stakeholders; families, community members, and DCSD district and School Staff. We gather virtually or in person in a relaxed setting to have purposeful and impactful conversations, discussing how our unique differences can be pooled together to positively affect student achievement. These are not just conversations, each session will end with actionable steps, and solutions to the issues raised.

All Huddles will be virtual until further notice and will take place in Microsoft Teams.

- September 16: 6:30 p.m.
- November 12: 6:30 p.m.
- February 11: 6:30 p.m.
- May 13: 6:30 p.m.

ENGAGEMENT NOW

Engagement Now is a television program produced by the DeKalb County School District DSTV television station, in collaboration with the Department of Parent and Family Engagement. Each episode provides useful and timely information on topics designed to aid parents in becoming more engaged in their children's academic achievement. Due to Covid-19 we will begin taping at a later date. Stay tuned with us on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and on our website www.dcsdfamilyengagement.com for scheduled dates and topics.

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