

# FCDS Parents as Partners

## Frequently Asked Questions

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Shannon Adams is our Parents as Partners Coordinator for the 2014-2015 school year. Please contact Shannon at 214-399-0579 or [fcdspap@gmail.com](mailto:fcdspap@gmail.com) if you have further questions or would like to discuss your role in partnering with FCDS teachers and employees to create the best environment for student growth.

### 1. What is Parents as Partners?

Parents as Partners (commonly referred to as PAP) is a cooperative effort between parents, teachers and staff to use volunteer work to build relationships and promote a sense of unity. At the same time, these services provide for many of the school's needs.

### 2. Why does FCDS have a Parents as Partners Program?

We believe that a healthy, thriving school grows healthy, thriving kids – and we know how important it is to nurture the connections that are made between school and home. When teachers work alongside parents, relationships are strengthened. When parents participate in the daily workings of the school, they appreciate the efforts and dedication of the staff, and when students see parents and teachers working together, they gain an understanding that both their homes and their school are part of a greater community. Parents working side-by-side also encourages friendships that can last long after students have grown.

### 3. How does the PAP Program work?

The school provides a Parents as Partners Coordinator, whose role is to assign jobs, keep track of hours and credit all completed work for each family. He or she will contact you on a regular basis to assign hours and to get your input on what type of work you would like to do. Each enrolled family will put in a volunteer total of at least 30 hours, spread throughout the school year. Most of the time, families will volunteer three to four hours each month, beginning in September and continuing through May. We will also have two all-school work days, one in the fall and one in the spring. Each family will attend the work day of their choice.

### 4. What kind of volunteer work will be expected of me?

The tasks available will vary greatly throughout the year. There will be opportunity for every parent to express interest and preference for certain types of work, as well as to let the Coordinator know when they are most often available for service. The Coordinator will do his or her best to communicate with parents and assign jobs that they will find both manageable and enjoyable. Jobs will be available in classroom work, office work, fundraising, IT and media, maintenance and custodial tasks, and committee organization.

### 5. Who can complete our family's volunteer work?

Any adult family member can provide volunteer service which will count toward the 30 hour requirement. Our goal is to promote family involvement, so parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles, and even adult siblings are welcome and encouraged to participate.