Family Engagement Advisory Team
Application

More than 40 years of evidence shows that when parents/guardians are engaged with their children's education - regardless of income or background – student attendance, grades, social skills, behavior, graduation rates improve. Montgomery County Public Schools seek to model Transformative Family Engagement by providing a new opportunity for families to learn about and provide input and feedback on school programs and initiatives.

Vision
To improve students' school experience and academic success and ensure equitable learning opportunities by engaging families in decision-making and program review. Specifically, the Team will allow MCPS to solicit input and feedback from parents and guardians; implement the National PTA "Four Is" framework for Transformative Family Engagement ensuring that family connections are Inclusive, Individualized, Integrated and Impactful; and create uniform expectations and best practices for individual schools and districtwide decision making.

Mission
To promote the research-based National PTA Standards for Family-School Partnerships in Board of Education Policy ABC, *Parent and Family Involvement:* 1) Welcoming All Families into the School Community, 2) Communicating Effectively, 3) Supporting Student Success, 4) Speaking Up for Every Child, 5) Sharing Power, and 6) Collaborating with Community.

Responsibilities
- Provide input and feedback to MCPS Central Office staff, school staff and work groups on programs, activities, services resources, and materials, including communication to families, and Parent Academy.
- Solicit feedback from other parents in the community.
- Participate in efforts to promote a welcoming environment in all schools.
- Assist staff with trainings to strengthen family advocacy skills.
- Develop a plan for collaborative learning opportunities for school administrators and teachers to better engage with all students and families equitably.

Structure
The Family Engagement Advisory Team is composed of no more than 15 parent/guardians, including individuals and community stakeholders, a school administrator, a teacher, a Parent-Community Coordinator and a member of the Office of Student and Family Support and Engagement. Note: the term "parent" refers to the parent or legal guardian of a child enrolled in a Montgomery County Public School.

Application

Submit a completed application by **December 13, 2019**. Applications are available at each schools, by calling the Division of Student, Family, and School Services at 240-740-4620, or online at https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/studentservices/.

Selection

To ensure broad representation, applications will be evaluated on a variety of factors, including location of residence, child's grade level, and areas of interest and experience related to MCPS programs and services including, but not limited to, curriculum, extra-curricular activities, special education, gifted and talented, and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). The membership of the Family Engagement Advisory Team will reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the student population. Members selected to serve will be notified by **January 10, 2020.**

Meetings

The Family Engagement Advisory Team will meet at least 7 times during a full school year. Interpretation services will be provided as needed. Meeting dates and times will be determined once the group is established.

Expectations for Members

Each member serves a two-year term. Terms will be staggered based on selection date to ensure continuity of the Team's work. Members will be expected to attend scheduled meetings; review meeting materials provided in advance; work collaboratively with each other and school system staff; express views and opinions openly, constructively, and respectfully; and promote family engagement in their communities. Names and email contact will be posted on the MCPS website so members can be accessible to the community.

Expectations for MCPS

Office of Student and Family Support and Engagement (OSFSE) staff will collaborate with co-chairs to develop an agenda and send materials in advance of each meeting (in multiple languages as needed). Updates on the Team's work will be made available to MCPS students, families and staff. MCPS staff will report back to the Family Engagement Advisory Team within 60 days on the status of any recommendations from the team.

MCPS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT ADVISORY TEAM
2019-20 APPLICATION

Submit by 5:00 p.m. on **December 13, 2019**, to the Division of Student, Family and School Services, via U.S. mail at Rocking Horse Road Center, 4910 Macon Road, Room 115, Rockville, Maryland 20852; via e-mail to Patricia_A_East@mcpsmd.org or via fax at 301-230-0661. Appointees will be notified by **January 10, 2020**. For more information, call the Division of Student, Family, and School Services at 240-740-4620.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name_____

Mailing Address _____

City_____**State**_____ **Zip** _____

Home Phone _____ **Work Phone** _____

Cell Phone _____ **E-mail** _____

Applicant is a parent of child(ren) in the following school(s):

_____   _____

_____   _____

Optional information (requested to ensure representation of all families and students)

Race/Ethnicity:_____

Gender:_____

Languages spoken at home: _____

Accomodations:_____

FOR COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS

Organization_____

Title/position_____

Please answer the following questions in the space provided.

1. **Explain why you believe you would be a valuable member of the MCPS Family Engagement Advisory Team. Include information about your interests and experiences related to MCPS programs and services, including but not limited to curriculum, extra-curricular activities, community involvement, special education, gifted and talented, and ESOL.**

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2. **Describe what you would like to learn about MCPS and parent advocacy?**

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Thank you for your application. A staff member of MCPS may contact you for further information.