

## We Believe.....

The link between parents, community, and school is an essential component of school and student success. It is our goal to increase community involvement by developing the ability for school staff, families, and community to work together and link efforts, connecting families, whether based at school or in the community, in student learning. We plan to ensure parents or guardians, school staff, and community members understand that the responsibility for children's educational development belongs to all of us, which means *working together* to achieve the goals.

The PLA is one **KEY** to  
Meaningful Parent Involvement



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*“Education is too important to be left solely to educators.”*

Steve Constantino

## The Parent Leadership Academy



Training and Teaching Parents to  
become Ambassadors  
in their Community.

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## Parent Leadership

Meaningful Parent Leadership occurs when parents gain the knowledge and skills to function in meaningful leadership roles and represent the “parent voice” to help shape the direction of their families, programs, and communities. Parent leadership is successfully achieved when parents and professionals “Build Effective Partnerships” and share “Responsibility”, “Expertise”, and “Leadership” in decisions being made that affect families and communities. The parents involved in these collaborations are called Parent Leaders.

National Parent Leadership Month Tool Kit-  
[www.parentsanonymous.org](http://www.parentsanonymous.org) -Federation co-sponsor

### Program and Purpose

1. Define Meaningful and Effective Parent Leadership
2. Discuss the “Guiding Principals” of Meaningful and Effective Parent Leadership
3. Determine how to *Establish* and *Cultivate* Effective Parent Leadership
4. Discuss and list *possible* challenges when implementing Effective Parent Leadership
5. Share Ideas, Successes, and Accomplishments

The Parent Leadership Academy is designed to help parents gain the knowledge and skills needed to function in meaningful leadership roles, representing the “parent voice” and shaping the direction of education for their families and communities.

### Values and Structure

#### *Building Relationships*

A strong connection between parents, educators, and communities does not come automatically. The PLA is designed to assist and guide parents with understanding their new roles in their child’s education.

### Values and Structure

#### *Building Community*

In the Fall and Spring parents interested in attending the PLA submit an application and participate in a “Team Building” workshop. Parents are selected for the class with consideration for how their participation will enhance the diversity, strength and learning for the group as a whole.

#### *Building Curriculum*

The PLA Curriculum is designed to help parents support their children’s education more effectively. In addition, parents discover their own leadership strengths and learning style, while mastering leadership skills.

#### *Building Families*

The PLA offers leadership training to parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. because we recognize that multiple generations are presently raising children.

#### *Building Support*

The PLA is designed to help parents gain the knowledge and skills to function in meaningful leadership roles and represent the “parent voice” and shaping the direction of their families and communities.

*Bridging School, Family, & Community to Improve the Academic and Personal Achievement of ALL Children.*

