

# Males of Color Initiatives in America's Great City Schools: Engaging Parents and Community

Follow Through on the Pledge: As of January 15, 2016

COUNCIL OF THE GREAT CITY SCHOOLS

Males of Color Initiatives in America's Great City Schools  
By the  
Council of the Great City Schools

City School System	Started Parent Training and Engagement (10b)
Anchorage	<p style="text-align: center;">Provide parent engagement training and parent meetings with focus on under-served populations.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Conduct regular ELL parent meetings and classes for refugee parents.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Continue soliciting concerns from Alaska Native and American Indian community groups</p>
Austin	<p style="text-align: center;">Re-established programs that give books to families.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Held Vertical Team Parent Focus Groups with African American parents.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">African American Parent Engagement Conference in April 2015</p>
Clark County (Las Vegas)	<p style="text-align: center;">Parent Engagement Centers located geographically across the District.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Newly-Created Family Engagement Department.</p>
Cleveland	<p style="text-align: center;">Provide literacy and engagement initiatives with parents.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Expand use of parent/teacher conference days, Father's Walks, Parent University, and Student Advisory Councils.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Improve cultural proficiency of IEP teams.</p>
Columbus	<p style="text-align: center;">Implemented Parent Literacy Academies to help parents work on literacy with their children at home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Have parent consultants at 40 schools to improve parent engagement.</p>

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Denver	<p>Prepare materials and outreach strategies to help families understand trajectories to college and careers—and what students need to be ready.</p> <p>Conduct outreach to families on common core, and career readiness opportunities.</p> <p>Expand teacher home visits.</p> <p>Connect school performance framework with family practices.</p> <p>Expand birth to three initiative to more school clusters.</p> <p>Partner with community to increase family supports.</p>
Duval County	Are implementing Parent Academy Courses promoting literacy and parent engagement for families of color
Fort Worth	<p>Family Communication Liaisons identify needs on every campus. Parenting classes organized by pyramids. “Strong Fathers Strong Families” model used. Parents as Teachers Liaisons at every elementary campus. “Ready Rosie” early childhood modeling program used. Social media used to connect with families (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Vine, Pinterest, as well as a FWISD App). Parent Link and Parent Portal used to communicate with parents. Morningside Children’s Project and Historic Stop Six Projects. SMART goals written with data and assessments planned as well as connected to other programs.</p>
Hillsborough County	<p>Host and monitor Parent University, a districtwide initiative held four times a year to better engage parents, provide health information, and conduct workshops.</p> <p>Expand district parent nights for Hispanic families to inform parents about the educational and post-secondary process. Nine planned this year.</p>
Houston	Will facilitate parental participation by providing caregivers tools to support their children’s academic and developmental progress and identify resources to meeting psycho-social and development needs

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Minneapolis	Developing a Parent University starting with families of students taking the BLACK course. Focus for parents will be on understanding and navigating the school system, engaging in school culture and teacher success, collaboration with school, student success at home and school, social and emotional learning, college readiness, and advocacy.
Orange County	<p>Meet with sponsors of Minority Leadership Scholars and discuss roles they can play with parents.</p> <p>Meet with parents in high schools where graduation rates are not high to encourage student achievement.</p>
Portland	<p>Continue offering family learning events through the Office of School and Family Partnerships.</p> <p>Partner with Black Parent Initiative and 8 other community partners on third-grade reading initiative.</p> <p>Offer Parent University classes through the Black parent Initiative.</p>