

From: [Watkins-Foote, Kimberly](#)
Subject: 6/14 Launch of the National Parents and Families Engagement Council
Date: Monday, June 13, 2022 4:16:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[National Parents and Families Engagement Council Organization Member Intake Form.docx](#)
[National Parents and Families Engagement Council Standards.pdf](#)
[image002.png](#)

US Department of Education



Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for joining the U.S. Department of Education's National Parents and Families Engagement Council. I am pleased to inform you that the Department will announce the launch of the National Parents and Families Engagement Council tomorrow, June 14, at 9:00 a.m. We hope that you will share a supportive statement with press and on social media. We appreciate the support you have provided the Department in getting to this point and are looking forward to the partnership that the Department will form with all of you.

As we move forward, I'd like to reiterate a few points that are outlined in the Council's Standards document (attached). Member organizations are expected to:

- Assign 1-2 parents (family members or caregivers), who are not on the national board or members of the executive committee, to represent the organization on the Council. The goal of the Council is to be reflective of the diversity of the country and our nation's schools. **Parent/Caregiver names should be submitted to the Department no later than June 30, 2022.**
 - Your organization's representatives must be actively engaged in their community and have at least one school-age student.
 - Please take the following into consideration when selecting a representative: parent/caregiver's ability to reflect the concerns and issues of their particular community; ability to bring a local perspective but also be able to speak to national issues; ability to communicate messaging effectively; ability to develop comradery amongst peers; and ability to participate in national meetings, bringing topics gathered from local meetings to the table.
 - **Attached is an intake form to submit your parent/family/caregiver representatives.**

To afford the Department the utmost opportunity to listen, learn and engage with families and caregivers, member organizations will be *limited to one staff* person in attendance for Council meetings. We are working to secure a date for the first member organization meeting (virtual) during the month of July. I will provide you with the date and time for that meeting as soon as it is available. At the July meeting, we will review parent/family/caregiver submissions and discuss next steps for the Council.

As a reminder, the National Parents and Families Engagement Council *is not a Federal Advisory Committee* and therefore, does not have access to information and advice on a broad range of issues affecting federal policies and programs.

National Parents and Families Engagement Council Member Organization Intake Form

Member Organization Name:

Member organization primary contact (name and email address):

(Reminder: representatives should be reflective of diversity and must be actively engaged in their community and have at least one school-aged student. Also, please take the following into consideration when selecting a representative: parent/Caregiver’s ability to reflect the concerns and issues of their particular community; ability to bring a local perspective but also be able to speak to national issues; ability to communicate messaging effectively; ability to develop comradery amongst peers; and ability to participate in national meetings, bringing topics gathered from local meetings to the table.)

Parent Representative #1:

Name:

Location (city and state):

School(s) children attend and school district (if applicable):

Email address:

Phone number: What role does this person serve in your organization?:

What unique perspective would this person bring to the Council?:

Parent Representative #2:

Name:

Location (city and state):

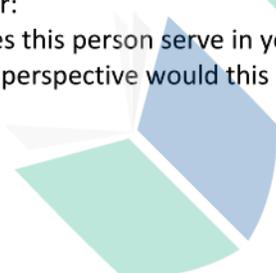
School(s) children attend and school district (if applicable):

Email address:

Phone number:

What role does this person serve in your organization?:

What unique perspective would this person bring to the Council ?



DEFENDING EDUCATION

National Parents and Families Engagement Council Standards

The National Parents and Families Engagement Council (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers. The Council seeks to ensure parents' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially, and emotionally. The Council will help identify constructive ways for parents, families and caregivers to engage in their children's education. The goal of the Council is to be reflective of the diversity of the country and our public schools.

Each participating organization should:

- Have a national chapter that sets policy agendas and priorities;
- Oversee local and/or regional chapters that meet regularly with local stakeholders;
- Have a direct relationship to parents, families, caregivers and the school community(s);
- Be focused on helping foster productive conversations between parents, families, caregivers and schools related to recovering from the pandemic;
- Be committed to helping create strategic engagements between parents, families, caregivers and schools that will help students thrive.

As a Council participant, organizations are encouraged to:

- Assign 1-2 parents (family members or caregivers), who are not on the national board or members of the executive committee, to represent the organization on the Council
- Host quarterly local meetings or virtual roundtables/listening sessions
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- Parent/Caregiver's ability to communicate messaging effectively
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to develop comradery amongst peers
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to participate in national meetings, bringing topics gathered from local meetings to the table

The U.S. Department of Education reserves the rights to evaluate organizations and their parent/caregiver selections for the Council to ensure they align with the goals of the Council and allow the Council to maintain geographic, ethnic and gender diversity.

Please feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns you may have. Thank you again and I look forward to seeing you at the meeting next month.

Best,
Kim

Kimberly Watkins-Foote

Director, National Engagement Division
Office of Communications and Outreach



National Parents and Families Engagement Council Member Organization Intake Form

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Location (city and state):

School(s) children attend and school district (if applicable):

Email address:

Phone number: What role does this person serve in your organization?:

What unique perspective would this person bring to the Council?:

Parent Representative #2:

Name:

Location (city and state):

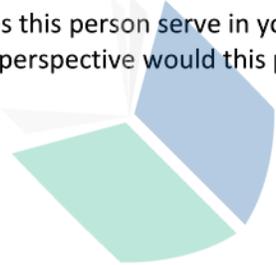
School(s) children attend and school district (if applicable):

Email address:

Phone number:

What role does this person serve in your organization?:

What unique perspective would this person bring to the Council ?



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U.S. Department of Education Creates National Parents and Families Engagement Council to Help Ensure Recovery Efforts Meet Students' Needs

JUNE 14, 2022

Contact: Press Office, (202) 401-1576, press@ed.gov

Today, the U.S. Department of Education launched the National Parents and Families Engagement Council (the Council) to facilitate strong and effective relationships between schools and parents, families and caregivers. Families' voices play a critical role in how the nation's children are recovering from the pandemic.

"Parents are a child's first teachers, and there's no one better equipped to work with schools and educators to identify what students need to recover," said U.S. Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona. "The National Parents and Families Engagement Council will serve as an important link between families and caregivers, education advocates and their school communities. The Council will help foster a collaborative environment where we can work together to serve the best interest of students and ensure they have the academic and mental health support they need to recover from the pandemic and thrive in the future."

The Council consists of parent, family, or caregiver representatives from national organizations that will work with the Department to identify constructive ways to help families engage at the local level. Organization representatives will reflect the diversity of the education system, including, but not limited to, families of students in public schools, charters, private schools, and homeschool. The Council will be a channel for parents and families to constructively participate in their children's education by helping them understand the rights they have, create a feedback loop with schools to shape how American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are deployed to meet students' needs, and identify summer learning and enrichment opportunities for children in their communities.

"Parents provide critical perspective, and they should always have a seat at the table whenever decisions are made that impact their children. And this is more important than ever in the effort to help students recover from the COVID-19 pandemic," said Anna King, president of National Parent Teacher Association (PTA). "National PTA applauds the Department of Education for launching the National Parents and Families Engagement Council and providing a channel for parents' voices to be heard and considered. This is essential to help make sure the needs of students are met coming out of the pandemic and ensure every child has everything they need to make their potential a reality."

"NAFSCE congratulates the Department of Education for establishing a National Parents and Families Engagement Council," said Vito Borrello, executive director of the National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE). "This Council provides the opportunity to bring diverse parent voices together to inform the Department's policies and programs, while also serving as a dissemination vehicle for engaging families across the country in equitable education policy."

At launch, Council members include:

- The Council of Parent Attorneys and Advocates (COPAA)
- Fathers Incorporated
- Generations United
- Girls Inc.
- League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
- Mocha Moms
- National Association for Family, School, and Community Engagement (NAFSCE)

AR064

- National Action Network
- National Military Family Association (NMFA)
- National Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
- National Parents Union (NPU)
- The National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment (PLACE)
- United Parent Leaders Action Network (UPLAN)
- UnidosUS

In the coming weeks, the Council will meet to discuss how their children are recovering; the different ways schools are providing academic, mental health and social and emotional support; and how they can best constructively engage with schools. In the coming months, the Department and the Council will hold local listening sessions with parents, families, principals, educators, and school community members to better understand the needs of students as they start the 2022-23 school year.

Tags: [Parents and Families Engagement Council](#) [Press Releases](#)

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DEFENDING EDUCATION

From: [Watkins-Foote, Kimberly](#)
To: [REDACTED]@searac.org"
Subject: U.S. Department of Education National Parents and Families Council at the U.S. Department of Education
Date: Friday, June 17, 2022 3:25:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[National Parent and Family Engagement Council Standards 5-18-22.pdf](#)
[National Parents and Families Engagement Council 5-18-22.pdf](#)
[image002.png](#)

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

My name is Kimberly Watkins-Foote and I work in the Office of Communications and Outreach at the U.S. Department of Education. The Department launched the [National Parents and Families Engagement Council](#) last week to facilitate strong and effective relationships between schools and parents, families and caregivers, helping their voices play a critical role in how the nation's children are recovering from the pandemic.

We would appreciate participation/representation from a constituency that often is left out of these discussions. The hope would be that National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (through the education committee) would be willing to be a member organization. We understand that NCAPA does not fully meet the criteria of local chapters outlined in the attached documents, but are doing the direct service work.

I have attached a few of pieces of collateral we have on the council and would appreciate your review and welcome the opportunity to discuss this further.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Kimberly Watkins-Foote

Director, National Engagement Division
Office of Communications and Outreach



National Parents and Families Engagement Council Standards

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Each participating organization should:

- Have a national chapter that sets policy agendas and priorities;
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As a Council participant, organizations are encouraged to:

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Organization's parent/family member/caregiver representative must be actively engaged in their community and have at least one K-12 public and/or home school student. Please take the following into consideration when selecting a representative:

- Parent/Caregiver's ability to reflect the concerns and issues of their particular community
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to bring a local perspective but also be able to speak to national issues
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National Parents and Families Engagement Council

The **National Parents and Families Engagement Council** (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers. The Council seeks to ensure parents' and caregivers' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

The Council will consist of parent, family and caregiver representatives from national parent and family organizations that will work with the U.S. Department of Education to identify constructive ways to help families engage at the local level. From understanding the rights they have as parents and caregivers, to creating a feedback loop with schools to shape how American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are deployed to meet students' needs, to identifying summer learning and enrichment opportunities for children in their communities, the Council will be a channel for parents, families and caregivers to constructively participate in their children's education.

National Meeting:

Each group will identify 1-3 parent, family or caregivers to represent them at the national level, holding the first meeting by the end of June and using it as an opportunity to discuss how the 2021-22 school year went, the state of recovery for students and what they'd like to see at school next fall.

The national meeting will create a call to action that brings parents, families, caregivers and school stakeholders together for local conversations about how to meet the needs of students coming out of the pandemic.

Local Level:

The Council members will convene local meetings around the country for productive conversations about how to help students recover from the pandemic. Families and caregivers can learn about how ARP funds can and are being used – and could suggest additional uses – in their school to help support students' academic and mental health needs.

How You Can Get Involved:

Have your organization join the National Parents and Families Engagement Council and help schools and families work together to help students recover from the pandemic and thrive! Note: participants and organizations will be vetted prior to joining the Council.

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How You Can Get Involved:

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From: [Watkins-Foote, Kimberly](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: National Parent and Family Council Invitation
Date: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 11:10:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for letting me know and for considering the request.

From: [REDACTED]@hsllda.org>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 10:49 AM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Kimberly,

My apologies for not getting back to you! We have actually decided not to move forward with this - we don't think that HSLDA is a good fit for what you are looking for. But I appreciate you reaching out to us!

Best,

[REDACTED]
Federal Relations Liaison

[ParentalRights.org](#)
[REDACTED] Mobile
[www.hsllda.org](#)

Defense Association / P.O. Box 3000, Purcellville, VA 20134

Home School Legal

From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly [REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 21, 2022 10:08 AM
To: [REDACTED]@hsllda.org>
Subject: RE: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

Hi [REDACTED]

We were holding today at 2 but I realized I didn't receive a confirmation from you. Are we good for today?

From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2022 4:15 PM
To: [REDACTED]@hsllda.org>
Subject: RE: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

Hi [REDACTED],

We can do 2pm on the 21st. Are you guys ok with using Microsoft Teams?

From: [REDACTED]@hsllda.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 5:09 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Kimberly,

Thank you again for your time today! [REDACTED] is available after 2PM on 6/21, 6/22, and 6/23. Let me know if any of those

times work for [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 3:48 PM
To: [REDACTED]@hslsda.org>
Subject: RE: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

[REDACTED]

I sent you a Microsoft Teams invite for tomorrow at 4:15. Let me know if that doesn't work or if Teams doesn't work for you. I look forward to talking with you then.

From: [REDACTED]@hslsda.org>
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 1:08 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

No worries! Yes, I could do tomorrow after 4.



3000, Purcellville, VA 20134

From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 11:27 AM
To: [REDACTED]@hslsda.org>
Subject: RE: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

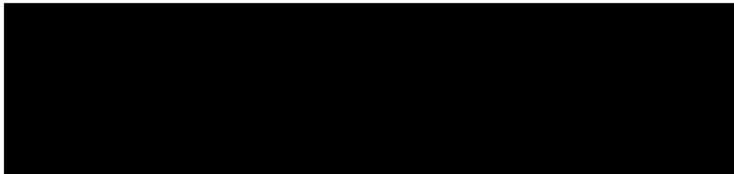
Hi [REDACTED]

So sorry I didn't get back to you sooner. I'm participating in two full days of interviews for our school ambassador fellows program. Are you available tomorrow after 2 by any chance or Friday after 11?

From: [REDACTED]@hslsda.org>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 4:18 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Yes I am! I could do tomorrow afternoon if that works?



From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 6, 2022 2:50 PM
To: [REDACTED]@hslsda.org>
Subject: RE: National Parent and Family Council Invitation



Are you available this week for a follow-up call?

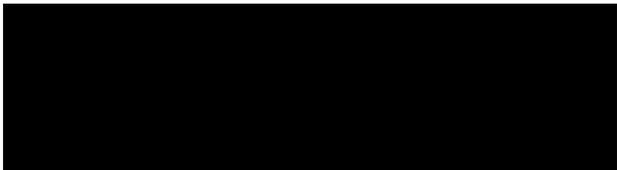
From: Maggie McKneely <[redacted]@hsllda.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 4:20 PM
To: Rhodes, Christian <[redacted]@ed.gov>
Cc: Dowling, Maureen <[redacted]@ed.gov>; Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[redacted]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Christian,

Thank you so much for this! I didn't get the original email so I am so glad I received this one. The Home School Legal Defense Association would like to participate in some capacity, or connect parents we believe would be a good fit to you. Could you provide more details on how organizations and participants can apply for participation?

Best,



A 20134

From: Rhodes, Christian <[redacted]@ed.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 2, 2022 12:36 PM
To: [redacted]@hsllda.org>
Cc: Dowling, Maureen <[redacted]@ed.gov>; Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[redacted]@ed.gov>
Subject: National Parent and Family Council Invitation

Good day,

My name is Christian Rhodes and a few weeks back I sent an email around this topic. I am not sure if it was received or if I had the wrong email but I wanted to follow up. The Department of Education is launching a National Parents and Families Engagement Council and would appreciate participation/representation from a constituency that often is left out of these discussions. I have attached a few of pieces of collateral we have on the council and would appreciate your organizations participation.

I have also copied my Kim who can provide a little more detail if necessary.

Thanks again for your consideration.



Christian Rhodes
Senior Advisor
Office of the Secretary | United States Department of Education



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- Be focused on helping foster productive conversations between parents, families, caregivers and schools related to recovering from the pandemic;
- Be committed to helping create strategic engagements between parents, families, caregivers and schools that will help students thrive.

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- Host quarterly local meetings or virtual roundtables/listening sessions
- Share content on the importance of family engagement on social media, including ways to engage productively
- Share Council-related content on their website, social channels, and/or newsletters Share Council-related content on their website, social channels, and/or newsletters

Organization's parent/family member/caregiver representative must be actively engaged in their community and have at least one K-12 public and/or home school student. Please take the following into consideration when selecting a representative:

- Parent/Caregiver's ability to reflect the concerns and issues of their particular community
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to bring a local perspective but also be able to speak to national issues
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to communicate messaging effectively
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to develop comradery amongst peers
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to participate in national meetings, bringing topics gathered from local meetings to the table

The U.S. Department of Education reserves the rights to evaluate organizations and their parent/caregiver selections for the Council to ensure they align with the goals of the Council and allow the Council to maintain geographic, ethnic and gender diversity.

National Parents and Families Engagement Council

The **National Parents and Families Engagement Council** (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers. The Council seeks to ensure parents' and caregivers' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

The Council will consist of parent, family and caregiver representatives from national parent and family organizations that will work with the U.S. Department of Education to identify constructive ways to help families engage at the local level. From understanding the rights they have as parents and caregivers, to creating a feedback loop with schools to shape how American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are deployed to meet students' needs, to identifying summer learning and enrichment opportunities for children in their communities, the Council will be a channel for parents, families and caregivers to constructively participate in their children's education.

National Meeting:

Each group will identify 1-3 parent, family or caregivers to represent them at the national level, holding the first meeting by the end of June and using it as an opportunity to discuss how the 2021-22 school year went, the state of recovery for students and what they'd like to see at school next fall.

The national meeting will create a call to action that brings parents, families, caregivers and school stakeholders together for local conversations about how to meet the needs of students coming out of the pandemic.

Local Level:

The Council members will convene local meetings around the country for productive conversations about how to help students recover from the pandemic. Families and caregivers can learn about how ARP funds can and are being used – and could suggest additional uses – in their school to help support students' academic and mental health needs.

How You Can Get Involved:

Have your organization join the National Parents and Families Engagement Council and help schools and families work together to help students recover from the pandemic and thrive! Note: participants and organizations will be vetted prior to joining the Council.

From:
To:
Cc:
Subject:
Date:

Tuesday, June 21, 2022 5:02:14 PM

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi [REDACTED],

Apologies about the delay here! I provided some times below that the team is available. Let me know if anything works on your end!

Thursday June 23rd: 1pm - 1:30pm EST
 Friday June 24th: 1pm - 2pm EST
 Monday June 27th: 11am - 12pm or 1pm - 1:30pm EST

Many thanks,
 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Executive Assistant and Special Projects Coordinator | PFLAG National
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers ([Why is this here?](#))

202-683-6830 or ext 279

pflag.org | straightforequality.org

Support PFLAG with a purchase from our shop: [Clothes for Humans Who Love Other Humans \(CFH\)](#).

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Support PFLAG National's life-saving work with a tax-deductible gift: pflag.org/donate

On Wed, Jun 15, 2022 at 7:27 AM Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:
 We're looking forward to chatting and hope PFLAG can join the Parents Council. Let us know when works best. Talk soon!

Hayley

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: Diego Sanchez <dsanchez@pflag.org>

Sent: Tuesday, June 14, 2022 4:24:10 PM

To: [REDACTED]@pflag.org>

[REDACTED]

<[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Toney, LaWanda <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>

Subject: Re: Connecting you

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Looking forward to this exciting new initiative and thrilled about the perfect fit!

[REDACTED]

On Tue, Jun 14, 2022 at 1:49 PM [REDACTED]@pflag.org> wrote:

Hi Hayley and Team

This is exciting. Adding in a few more of the PFLAG team and [REDACTED] to help schedule a time to talk. Would it be possible to look for something mid to late next week? apologies but this being pride month, this week is a bit challenging.

On Mon, Jun 13, 2022 at 4:09 PM Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

[REDACTED], Thank you so much for the connection. Moving you to bcc

[REDACTED] Great to meet both of you.

The Department of Education is launching a Parents and Families Engagement Council, which is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers and ensure parents' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially, and emotionally.

We'd love to see if PFLAG is interested in joining the Council. Looping a few more of my colleagues -- we'd be happy to jump on the phone and share more about the Council and answer any questions.

Thanks for the consideration,

[REDACTED]

From: Goldberg, Suzanne <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2022 3:26 PM
To: [REDACTED]@pflag.org>; [REDACTED]@pflag.org>
Cc: Meadvin, Hayley [REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Connecting you

Hi [REDACTED] and [REDACTED],

I'm writing to introduce you to my colleague [REDACTED] who is working on a parent-related project that we think PFLAG might want to be involved with. I'll leave it to Hayley to share more information.

All best,
Suzanne

Suzanne B. Goldberg
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Strategic Operations and Outreach
Office for Civil Rights

[REDACTED]

--
[REDACTED]

--

Be well, feel safe and stay strong.



(Pronouns: he/him/his) ([why is this here?](#))

Director of Advocacy, Policy & Partnerships



[Like PFLAG on Facebook](#) | [Follow PFLAG on Twitter](#) | [Follow PFLAG on Instagram](#) | [Watch PFLAG on YouTube](#)

Support LGBTQ+ people and their families with a tax-deductible gift to PFLAG National anytime: pflag.org/donate



[Support PFLAG with a purchase from Clothes for Humans Who Love Other Humans \(CFH\).](#)

[Search with Truheart to support PFLAG; change the world with every search.](#)

#StartWithaSmile at smile.amazon.com/ch/95-3750694 for your gifts and Amazon donates to PFLAG National.

Please remember PFLAG National when making your United Way contributions: Donor Choice #36839. Thank you!



DEFENDING EDUCATION

From: [Watkins-Foote, Kimberly](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council
Date: Monday, June 27, 2022 11:25:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.jpg](#)

Good Morning [REDACTED]!

Thank you so much for submitting NAACP's names in such a timely fashion, we truly appreciate it. I will be in touch shortly to keep you updated on our plans for a first meeting of the Council.

From: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 23, 2022 12:09 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Toney, LaWanda <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Cc: Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Subject: Re: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Kimberly and LaWanda:

It was such a pleasure speaking with you last week. Below, are the names of two persons that we think would be a great fit for the Council. If, by chance, you have any trouble contacting them or need anything else from our end, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Name: [REDACTED]
Email Address: (b)(6)@gmail.com
NAACP Unit: University of South Florida Chapter Unit
Context: (b)(6)

Name: [REDACTED]
Email Address: (b)(6)@yahoo.com
NAACP Unit: Marion County Branch
Context: (b)(6)

We look forward to hearing from you soon,

ALW

From: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2022 1:13 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Toney, LaWanda <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Subject: Re: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council

Hi Hayley:

I cannot. I can accommodate Friday between 10 and 11 and between 12 and 2.

I look forward to hearing back from you,

ALW

From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2022 12:22 PM
To: Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>; Toney, LaWanda <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Subject: RE: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council

Hi Hayley,

Are you able to do 4pm today?

From: Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 4:30 PM
To: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>; Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Toney, LaWanda <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Subject: RE: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council

Hi Hayley,

Thanks for following up. We're working on a date in July for the first meeting, though we're planning to announce the Council on Tuesday.

I'm looping my colleagues LaWanda and Kim so we can coordinate a call on Monday – we'd be happy to chat with you about the details.

Hope you have a wonderful weekend!

Hayley

From: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Sent: Friday, June 10, 2022 4:20 PM
To: Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Subject: Re: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello Hayley:

I am emailing you on behalf of Dr. Toldson. Thank you so much for the invitation. Do you have a date for the first meeting? To get more information for Dr. Toldson, I would be happy to jump on a call with you. I have got some time on Monday before 10 and between 11 and 2. Can you accommodate anything in this time space on Monday?

Thank you again,

[REDACTED]
 NAACP Educational Fellow - Equity Access and Opportunity

On Jun 8, 2022, at 8:18 PM, [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org> wrote:

From: Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 8:15:29 PM
To: [REDACTED]@naacpnet.org>
Cc: Harris-Aikens, Donna <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council

Hi [REDACTED],

I'm a senior advisor to US Education Secretary Cardona, Donna Harris-Aikens shared your contact info.

My colleagues and I are working to create a Parents and Families Engagement Council at the Department of Education. The Council is an opportunity for ED to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers, and will seek to ensure parents' and caregivers' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

The Council will consist of parent, family and caregiver representatives from organizations that will work with the U.S. Department of Education to identify constructive ways to help families engage at the local level. From understanding the rights they have as parents and caregivers, to creating a feedback loop with schools to shape how American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are deployed to meet students' needs, to identifying summer learning and enrichment opportunities for children in their communities, the Council will be a channel for parents, families and caregivers to constructively participate in their children's education.

Given the NAACP's commitment to equity in education, I wanted to see if the NAACP would be interested in joining the Parents and Families Engagement Council. I'm happy to share more info or answer any questions you have – may be easier to jump on the phone if there's a time that works well for you.

Thanks for the consideration,

Hayley

Hayley Matz Meadvin
Senior Advisor
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Education
[REDACTED]

This e-mail has been scanned by Verizon Managed Email Content Service, using Skeptic(tm) technology powered by MessageLabs. For more information on Verizon's Managed Email Content Service, visit <http://www.verizonbusiness.com>.



[REDACTED] on

Director of Education Innovation and Research

Strategy



From: [Watkins-Foote, Kimberly](#)
To: [REDACTED]@jack-and-jill.org"
Subject: U.S. Department of Education National Parents and Families Council at the U.S. Department of Education
Date: Monday, July 11, 2022 9:56:00 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[National Parent and Family Engagement Council Standards 5-18-22.pdf](#)
[National Parents and Families Engagement Council 5-18-22.pdf](#)
[image003.png](#)

Good morning [REDACTED]

I sent an email a few weeks ago and wanted to follow up with you. The Department launched the [National Parents and Families Engagement Council](#) in mid June to facilitate strong and effective relationships between schools and parents, families and caregivers, helping their voices play a critical role in how the nation's children are recovering from the pandemic.

We would like to invite Jack and Jill of America to be a member organization. Please take a few moments to review the attached pieces of collateral we have on the Council and let me know if you would like to discuss further and/or if Jack and Jill would be interested in becoming a member organization.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Kimberly Watkins-Foote

Director, National Engagement Division
Office of Communications and Outreach
U.S. Department of Education

[REDACTED]



National Parents and Families Engagement Council Standards

The National Parents and Families Engagement Council (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers. The Council seeks to ensure parents' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially, and emotionally. The Council will help identify constructive ways for parents, families and caregivers to engage in their children's education. The goal of the Council is to be reflective of the diversity of the country and our public schools.

Each participating organization should:

- Have a national chapter that sets policy agendas and priorities;
- Oversee local and/or regional chapters that meet regularly with local stakeholders;
- Have a direct relationship to parents, families, caregivers and the school community(s);
- Be focused on helping foster productive conversations between parents, families, caregivers and schools related to recovering from the pandemic;
- Be committed to helping create strategic engagements between parents, families, caregivers and schools that will help students thrive.

As a Council participant, organizations are encouraged to:

- Assign 1-3 parents (family members or caregivers), who are not on the national board or members of the executive committee, to represent the organization on the Council
- Host quarterly local meetings or virtual roundtables/listening sessions
- Share content on the importance of family engagement on social media, including ways to engage productively
- Share Council-related content on their website, social channels, and/or newsletters Share Council-related content on their website, social channels, and/or newsletters

Organization's parent/family member/caregiver representative must be actively engaged in their community and have at least one K-12 public and/or home school student. Please take the following into consideration when selecting a representative:

- Parent/Caregiver's ability to reflect the concerns and issues of their particular community
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to bring a local perspective but also be able to speak to national issues
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to communicate messaging effectively
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to develop comradery amongst peers
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to participate in national meetings, bringing topics gathered from local meetings to the table

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National Meeting:

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The national meeting will create a call to action that brings parents, families, caregivers and school stakeholders together for local conversations about how to meet the needs of students coming out of the pandemic.

Local Level:

The Council members will convene local meetings around the country for productive conversations about how to help students recover from the pandemic. Families and caregivers can learn about how ARP funds can and are being used – and could suggest additional uses – in their school to help support students' academic and mental health needs.

How You Can Get Involved:

Have your organization join the National Parents and Families Engagement Council and help schools and families work together to help students recover from the pandemic and thrive! Note: participants and organizations will be vetted prior to joining the Council.

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How You Can Get Involved:

Have your organization join the National Parents and Families Engagement Council and help schools and families work together to help students recover from the pandemic and thrive! Note: participants and organizations will be vetted prior to joining the Council.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED
Date: Monday, May 9, 2022 2:57:08 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thanks, [REDACTED]. Here are the states/areas where we have strong representation from our GRAND Voices for this type of opportunity : AZ, CO, GA, KY, MA, MI, NV, NH, OK, OR, RI, TX, SC UT, VT, VA, WA, DC. We are happy to connect you directly with individuals as needed.

From: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 2:36 PM
To: A [REDACTED]@gu.org>; J [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: RE: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

Hi – the changes will be made to the documents, and I will continue to make others aware that this is the preferred inclusive language. Looking forward to hearing from you later today.

Dawn

From: [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 2:19 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: RE: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

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Thanks for your patience, Dawn. [REDACTED] and I have talked and the plan looks solid. We have one comment re: the attachment. It mentions parents several times with no mention of broader caregivers. Could you expand the language to say parent or other adult responsible for the child – or parent or caregiver – or just keep it broad and talk about families? Grandparents, other relatives, and close family friends raising children simply don't see themselves in the word "parent."

[REDACTED] is gathering localities with strong GRAND Voice representation and will be in touch later today.

Thanks for asking for our feedback,

[REDACTED]



XXXXXXXXXX
Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network: A National Technical Assistance
Center
Generations United | www.gu.org | www.grandfamilies.org
XXXXXXXXXX@gu.org | (XXXXXXXXXX)

[About the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network](#)
[Sign up for the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network](#)

From: Ellis, Dawn <XXXXXXXXXX@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 11:24 AM
To: XXXXXXXXXXXX@gu.org; XXXXXXXXXXXX@gu.org
Subject: RE: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

Thank you. I look forward to hearing from you.

Dawn

From: XXXXXXXXXXXX@gu.org
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 11:22 AM
To: Ellis, Dawn XXXXXXXXXXXX@ed.gov; XXXXXXXXXXXX@gu.org
Subject: RE: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you Dawn. XX and I will discuss and get back to you today.



XXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXX
Director
Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network: A National Technical Assistance
Center
Generations United | www.gu.org | www.grandfamilies.org
XXXXXXXXXX

[About the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network](#)
[Sign up for the Grandfamilies & Kinship Support Network](#)

From: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 11:14 AM
To: [REDACTED]@gu.org>; [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: RE: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

Good morning – following up on this request. Please let me know your intentions or if you have questions. Thanks.

Dawn

From: Ellis, Dawn
Sent: Wednesday, May 4, 2022 12:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]@gu.org>; [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

Hi – see below. This is different from the partners group. I saw that you were not on this list and asked that you be added. Please send feedback as soon as possible so I can get you vetted. Let me know if you have questions.

Dawn

Friends,

I hope this message finds you well.

As you know, the Secretary strongly believes that parents are core partners in the education of our children and has often said that parents are their children’s first – and most important – teachers. As a parent and educator himself, the Secretary has seen the incredible value in the partnership between parents and families, educators, district leaders, and entire school communities to support student success.

Now more than ever, schools and districts must work closely with parents and families if we want to be successful in our efforts to keep our schools open safely and address the impacts COVID-19 has had on our Nation’s students. To this end, the Secretary and staff at the Department have been working to build strong relationships at the national and locals levels and your organization is key to the success of these efforts. The pandemic has put a spotlight on the deep relationships and connections needed between parents, families, schools and the school community.

To further these relationships, the Department hopes to facilitate key engagements with parents, families, teachers, and school staff critical for tackling learning loss and reimagining education. I am sharing with you today a draft outline for the development of a National Parents and Families Engagement Council as an opportunity for the Department to listen, learn and engage families. The Council would help to ensure parents’ voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

We would appreciate your written or verbal feedback or questions on any of the following (but

not limited to) by **Monday, May 9th**:

- Timing for the launch
- Membership and structure of the Council
- Mission and purpose of the Council
- The role of national and local Council members
- Issues the Council should consider

We would also like to know if your organization is interested in providing a member to the Council (all organizations interested will be vetted prior to joining the Council). If interested in participating in the Council, please provide us with 5-10 cities/regions/locales where you have strong membership that could be engaged initially as we launch the Council.

Please keep this document as **close hold** and **do not share** it or its contents outside of your organization. I am happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you,
Dawn

Dawn Ellis
Liaison to Parents and Families
National Engagement Team
Office of Communication and Outreach
U.S. Department of Education



[Sign Up](#) to Receive The Family, School, & Community Engagement Newsletter



[Family, School, & Community Engagement Newsletter \(April\)](#)

National Parents and Families Engagement Council

The **National Parents and Families Engagement Council** (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families. The Council seeks to ensure parents' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

The Council will consist of parent representatives from national parent and family organizations that will work with the Department of Education to identify constructive ways to help families engage at the local level. From understanding the rights they have as parents, to creating a feedback loop with schools to shape how American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are deployed to meet students' needs, to identifying summer learning and enrichment opportunities for children in their communities, the Council will be a channel for parents and families to constructively participate in their children's education.

The Launch:

The Department of Education will announce the Council in mid- to late-April. The announcement may include:

- Names of an initial list of national groups affiliated with the Council
- Mission of the Council
- Website to house toolkits and other resources
- Date of first National Council meeting
- First round of local Council meetings with senior Department officials joining the conversations
- Social media amplification from each group

National Meeting:

Each group will identify a parent to represent them at the national level, holding the first meeting by the end of April and using it as an opportunity to share the concerns of the families each group represents.

The national meeting will create a call to action that brings parents, families and school stakeholders together for local conversations about how to meet the needs of students coming out of the pandemic.

Resources shared at national meeting:

- Toolkit for local chapters to host conversations
- Toolkit for how families can best engage with their school

Local Level:

The Council members will convene local meetings around the country for productive conversations about how to help students recover from the pandemic. Families can learn about how ARP funds can and are being used – and could suggest additional uses – in their school to help support students' academic and mental health needs.

How You Can Get Involved:

Have your organization join the National Parents and Families Engagement Council and help schools and families work together to help students recover from the pandemic and thrive! Note: participants and organizations will be vetted prior to joining the Council.

From:
To: Meadvin, Hayley; Thomas, Rachel; Rhodes, Christian
Cc: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly
Subject: FW: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

From: [REDACTED]@spanadvocacy.org>
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 5:48 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

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Hi Dawn

Thank you for circling back on this. I would like to recommend [REDACTED], Executive Director of National PLACE (Parent Leadership Advocacy Community Empowerment) as a member of the new Council. As a Board Member of National PLACE, I have participated with Diana in Secretary Cardona's National Family Partners group and she would be the appropriate person to contact regarding Council membership. [REDACTED] is SPAN's Executive Director, but my suggestion would be for her to represent PLACE, a national organization representing Parent Centers across the network. You can reach [REDACTED] at [REDACTED]@parentsatthetable.org and she can answer your questions related to Council membership/structure and can provide you with 5-10 locations with strong membership as you launch the Council.

I have not shared the document attached to your original email per your request. Looking forward to the launch of the Council in the near future.

Warm regards,



On Mon, May 9, 2022 at 4:11 PM Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED] – I hope you had a great Mother's Day weekend. Just checking back on the status of your response to joining the Council and any comments on the document. Thanks.

Dawn

From: [REDACTED]@spanadvocacy.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 5, 2022 5:29 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

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Good Afternoon Dawn,

What an exciting opportunity! Thank you for including me in this conversation. I will have comments to you by Monday.

Best,



On Thu, May 5, 2022 at 9:53 AM Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED] - I hope this message finds you well. As you know, the Secretary strongly believes that parents are core partners in the education of our children and has often said that parents are their children's first – and most important – teachers. As a parent and educator himself, the Secretary has seen the incredible value in the partnership between parents and families, educators, district leaders, and entire school communities to support student success.

Now more than ever, schools and districts must work closely with parents and families if we want to be successful in our efforts to keep our schools open safely and address the impacts COVID-19 has had on our Nation's students. To this end, the Secretary and staff at the Department have been working to build strong relationships at the national and local levels and your organization is key to the success of these efforts. The pandemic has put a spotlight on the deep relationships and connections needed between parents, families, schools and the school community.

To further these relationships, the Department hopes to facilitate key engagements with parents, families, teachers, and school staff critical for tackling learning loss and reimagining education. I am sharing with you today a draft outline for the development of a National Parents and Families Engagement Council as an opportunity for the Department to listen, learn and engage families. The Council would help to ensure parents' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

We would appreciate your written or verbal feedback or questions on any of the following (but not limited to) by **Monday, May 9th**:

- Timing for the launch

- Membership and structure of the Council
- Mission and purpose of the Council
- The role of national and local Council members
- Issues the Council should consider

We would also like to know if your organization is interested in providing a member to the Council (all organizations interested will be vetted prior to joining the Council). If interested in participating in the Council, please provide us with 5-10 cities/regions/locales where you have strong membership that could be engaged initially as we launch the Council.

Please keep this document as **close hold** and **do not share** it or its contents outside of your organization. I am happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you,
Dawn

Dawn Ellis
Liaison to Parents and Families
National Engagement Team
Office of Communication and Outreach



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[Family, School, & Community Engagement Newsletter \(April\)](#)

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National Parents and Families Engagement Council

The **National Parents and Families Engagement Council** (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers. The Council seeks to ensure parents' and caregivers' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

The Council will consist of parent, family and caregiver representatives from national parent and family organizations that will work with the U.S. Department of Education to identify constructive ways to help families engage at the local level. From understanding the rights they have as parents and caregivers, to creating a feedback loop with schools to shape how American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are deployed to meet students' needs, to identifying summer learning and enrichment opportunities for children in their communities, the Council will be a channel for parents, families and caregivers to constructively participate in their children's education.

National Meeting:

Each group will identify 1-3 parent, family or caregivers to represent them at the national level, holding the first meeting by the end of June and using it as an opportunity to discuss how the 2021-22 school year went, the state of recovery for students and what they'd like to see at school next fall.

The national meeting will create a call to action that brings parents, families, caregivers and school stakeholders together for local conversations about how to meet the needs of students coming out of the pandemic.

Local Level:

The Council members will convene local meetings around the country for productive conversations about how to help students recover from the pandemic. Families and caregivers can learn about how ARP funds can and are being used – and could suggest additional uses – in their school to help support students' academic and mental health needs.

How You Can Get Involved:

Have your organization join the National Parents and Families Engagement Council and help schools and families work together to help students recover from the pandemic and thrive! Note: participants and organizations will be vetted prior to joining the Council.

Ebonie Riley

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 8:59 PM
To: Meadvin, Hayley
Cc: Harris-Aikens, Donna; Erika Owens
Subject: Re: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council

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Good Evening Hayley,

It's a pleasure to meet you. We would be honored to join the council. Please let me know if a call on Friday works for you.

Together We Rise,

[REDACTED]
 Senior Vice President of Policy & Strategic Partnerships
 National Action Network Washington Bureau

[REDACTED] (o)

[REDACTED] nationalactionnetwork.net
www.nationalactionnetwork.net

If you need to speak to someone regarding a crisis or chapter issue, please call [REDACTED].

Are you a member of the National Action Network?

Click here <http://nationalactionnetwork.net/membership/>
 to become a member of the movement today!

From: Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 8, 2022 8:13 PM
To: [REDACTED]@nationalactionnetwork.net>
Cc: Harris-Aikens, Donna <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: US Dept of ED Parents and Families Engagement Council

Hi [REDACTED],

I'm a senior advisor to US Education Secretary Cardona, Donna Harris-Aikens shared your contact info.

My colleagues and I are working to create a Parents and Families Engagement Council at the Department of Education. The Council is an opportunity for ED to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers, and will seek to ensure parents' and caregivers' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

The Council will consist of parent, family and caregiver representatives from organizations that will work with the U.S. Department of Education to identify constructive ways to help families engage at the local level. From understanding the rights they have as parents and caregivers, to creating a feedback loop with schools to shape how American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are deployed to meet students' needs, to identifying summer learning and enrichment opportunities for children in their communities, the Council will be a channel for parents, families and caregivers to constructively participate in their children's education.

Given the National Action Network's commitment to equity in education, I wanted to see if NAN would be interested in joining the Parents and Families Engagement Council. I'm happy to share more info or answer any questions you have – may be easier to jump on the phone if there's a time that works well for you.

Thanks for the consideration,

Hayley

Hayley Matz Meadvin
Senior Advisor
Office of the Secretary
U.S. Department of Education

(b)(6)



Kenneth Braswell

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 3:02 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly; Lawrence Wilbon
Subject: Re: National Parents and Families Council at the U.S. Department of Education

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Looks promising...FI would be honored to be a member.

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From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 9, 2022 2:54:26 PM
To: [REDACTED]@fathersincorporated.com>
Subject: National Parents and Families Council at the U.S. Department of Education

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

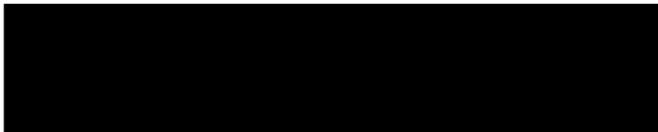
My name is Kimberly Watkins-Foote and I work in the Office of Communications and Outreach at the U.S. Department of Education. The Department is launching a National Parents and Families Engagement Council to facilitate strong and effective relationships between schools and parents, families and caregivers, helping their voices play a critical role in how the nation's children are recovering from the pandemic.

We would like to include Fathers Inc. to join as a member organization. I have attached a few of pieces of collateral we have on the council and would appreciate your review and welcome the opportunity to discuss this further.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.



Kimberly Watkins-Foote
 Director, National Engagement Division
 Office of Communications and Outreach



National Parents and Families Engagement Council Standards

The National Parents and Families Engagement Council (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers. The Council seeks to ensure parents' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially, and emotionally. The Council will help identify constructive ways for parents, families and caregivers to engage in their children's education. The goal of the Council is to be reflective of the diversity of the country and our public schools.

Each participating organization should:

- Have a national chapter that sets policy agendas and priorities;
- Oversee local and/or regional chapters that meet regularly with local stakeholders;
- Have a direct relationship to parents, families, caregivers and the school community(s);
- Be focused on helping foster productive conversations between parents, families, caregivers and schools related to recovering from the pandemic;
- Be committed to helping create strategic engagements between parents, families, caregivers and schools that will help students thrive.

As a Council participant, organizations are encouraged to:

- Assign 1-3 parents (family members or caregivers), who are not on the national board or members of the executive committee, to represent the organization on the Council
- Host quarterly local meetings or virtual roundtables/listening sessions
- Share content on the importance of family engagement on social media, including ways to engage productively
- Share Council-related content on their website, social channels, and/or newsletters Share Council-related content on their website, social channels, and/or newsletters

Organization's parent/family member/caregiver representative must be actively engaged in their community and have at least one K-12 public and/or home school student. Please take the following into consideration when selecting a representative:

- Parent/Caregiver's ability to reflect the concerns and issues of their particular community
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to bring a local perspective but also be able to speak to national issues
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to communicate messaging effectively
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to develop comradery amongst peers
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to participate in national meetings, bringing topics gathered from local meetings to the table

The U.S. Department of Education reserves the rights to evaluate organizations and their parent/caregiver selections for the Council to ensure they align with the goals of the Council and allow the Council to maintain geographic, ethnic and gender diversity.

National Parents and Families Engagement Council

The **National Parents and Families Engagement Council** (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers. The Council seeks to ensure parents' and caregivers' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

The Council will consist of parent, family and caregiver representatives from national parent and family organizations that will work with the U.S. Department of Education to identify constructive ways to help families engage at the local level. From understanding the rights they have as parents and caregivers, to creating a feedback loop with schools to shape how American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds are deployed to meet students' needs, to identifying summer learning and enrichment opportunities for children in their communities, the Council will be a channel for parents, families and caregivers to constructively participate in their children's education.

National Meeting:

Each group will identify 1-3 parent, family or caregivers to represent them at the national level, holding the first meeting by the end of June and using it as an opportunity to discuss how the 2021-22 school year went, the state of recovery for students and what they'd like to see at school next fall.

The national meeting will create a call to action that brings parents, families, caregivers and school stakeholders together for local conversations about how to meet the needs of students coming out of the pandemic.

Local Level:

The Council members will convene local meetings around the country for productive conversations about how to help students recover from the pandemic. Families and caregivers can learn about how ARP funds can and are being used – and could suggest additional uses – in their school to help support students' academic and mental health needs.

How You Can Get Involved:

Have your organization join the National Parents and Families Engagement Council and help schools and families work together to help students recover from the pandemic and thrive! Note: participants and organizations will be vetted prior to joining the Council.

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Watkins-Foote, Kimberly](#)
Subject: RE: U.S. Department of Education National Parents and Families Council at the U.S. Department of Education
Date: Wednesday, July 13, 2022 1:35:13 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

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Kimberly,

Yes, we are interested. Please let me know next steps.

Joi Grady

From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 11, 2022 9:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]@jack-and-jill.org>
Subject: U.S. Department of Education National Parents and Families Council at the U.S. Department of Education

Good morning [REDACTED]

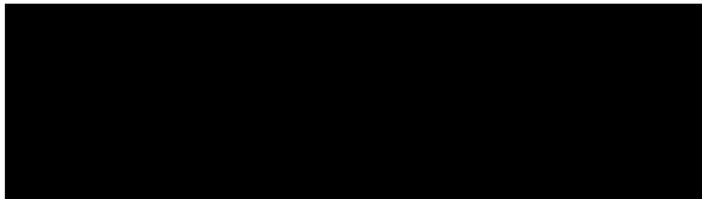
I sent an email a few weeks ago and wanted to follow up with you. The Department launched the [National Parents and Families Engagement Council](#) in mid June to facilitate strong and effective relationships between schools and parents, families and caregivers, helping their voices play a critical role in how the nation's children are recovering from the pandemic.

We would like to invite Jack and Jill of America to be a member organization. Please take a few moments to review the attached pieces of collateral we have on the Council and let me know if you would like to discuss further and/or if Jack and Jill would be interested in becoming a member organization.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you.

Kimberly Watkins-Foote

Director, National Engagement Division
Office of Communications and Outreach



Vito Borrello

From: [REDACTED]lo
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 9:46 AM
To: Ellis, Dawn
Subject: Re: Parents Council

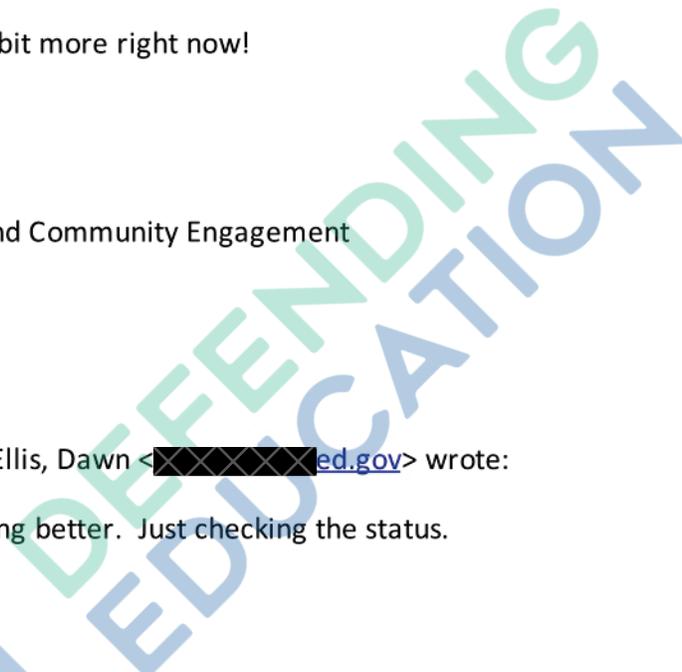
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I have a draft! I'm just reviewing a bit more right now!



Executive Director
National Assn. for Family, School and Community Engagement

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@nafsce.org
website: www.nafsce.org



On Tue, May 10, 2022 at 9:38 AM Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

Good morning – hope you’re feeling better. Just checking the status.

Dawn

From: Ellis, Dawn
Sent: Monday, May 9, 2022 11:21 AM
To: [REDACTED]@nafsce.org
Cc: Rhodes, Christian <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: RE: Parents Council

Hi [REDACTED]

I hope all is well. Just checking on the status of the quote for the press release and if you need additional information from ED (written statement was sent in a separate email). If we could receive the quote today that would be great. Thanks.

Dawn

From: Ellis, Dawn

Sent: Friday, May 6, 2022 11:35 AM

To: [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@nafsce.org](mailto:[REDACTED]@nafsce.org)>

Cc: Rhodes, Christian [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@ed.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@ed.gov)>; Meadvin, Hayley [REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@ed.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@ed.gov)>

Subject: RE: Parents Council

Happy FriYAY [REDACTED] – ED is preparing to launch the Council with a (tentative) target date of May 17. We would love a quote to include in the press release in support of the Council highlighting the important role that families and parents play in their children’s education and acknowledging that the Administration is working with them to help students recover. If you can send something no later than Monday at noon that would be great. Let me know if you have any questions. Take care.

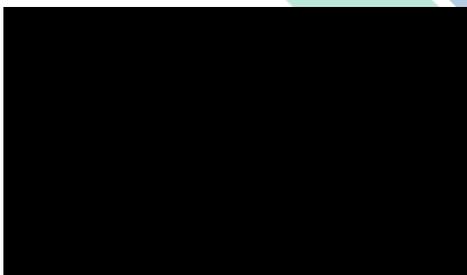
Dawn

Dawn Ellis

Liaison to Parents and Families

National Engagement Team

Office of Communication and Outreach



[REDACTED] [\[REDACTED\]@ed.gov](mailto:[REDACTED]@ed.gov)

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Jaia Lent

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2022 3:18 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn; [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

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Thanks for the clarification. Sounds great.

From: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2022 12:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]@gu.org; [REDACTED]@gu.org
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

Happy FriYAY – I did not directly respond to this question (below). It would be the latter but may be opportunities for orgs to be involved. Please refer to the attached document.

Dawn

One point of clarification, would you be looking for a Generations United staff person to serve on the council or is our role more behind the scenes and connecting caregivers to the work?

From: [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 4:28 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn [REDACTED]@ed.gov>; A [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

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Dawn, we don't typically post other organization's press releases to our website but we could include in in our social media and/or electronic alerts.

From: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, May 18, 2022 10:45 AM
To: [REDACTED]@gu.org; [REDACTED]@gu.org
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

Good morning –Oops! Thanks for catching that. I was moving too fast and should have swapped *National PLACE* with *Generations United*. Just asking if GU will post the press release on your website. Thanks.

Dawn

Also, please confirm **National PLACE Generations United** will post the press release on their website. Thanks.

From: [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 5:13 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

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Thanks, Dawn. We can get you a quote by then. Can you clarify the last sentence in your previous email? Did you intend to ask GU if we would post something about the council to our website?

From: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:09 PM
To: [REDACTED]@gu.org>; [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

Hi again – Please send the quote no later than Thursday noon but let me know if you need more time. Thanks.

Dawn

From: Ellis, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:36 PM
To: [REDACTED]@gu.org>; [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

Hi - I forgot to ask if you would send a quote to include in the press release in support of the Council highlighting the important role that families and parents play in their children's education and acknowledging that the Administration is working with them to help students recover. Also, please confirm National PLACE will post the press release on their website. Thanks.

Dawn

From: Ellis, Dawn
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:29 PM
To: [REDACTED]@gu.org>; A [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

Hi [REDACTED] - thank you for the feedback. As you know ED was hoping to announce the Council on today, but it's been postponed. I will keep you posted on the launch date. Thanks again for your interest in joining the Council. In the interim, feel free to reach out to me with questions. Take care.

Dawn

From: [REDACTED]@gu.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 5:01 PM

To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; [REDACTED]@gu.org>

Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

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Dawn,

Thanks for the addition of the caregiver language in these materials. We would love to have our name and logo included as part of the launch. I have attached our logo. One point of clarification, would you be looking for a Generations United staff person to serve on the council or is our role more behind the scenes and connecting caregivers to the work?

Thanks, [REDACTED]

From: Ellis, Dawn <Dawn.Ellis@ed.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 1:56 PM

To: [REDACTED]@gu.org>; [REDACTED]@gu.org>

Subject: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

[REDACTED],

Thank you for your interest in joining the U.S. Department of Education's National Parents and Families Engagement Council. We're excited to get this important working group off the ground and attached for your review are two documents that will provide a bit more context for the Council.

Close hold -- We're hoping to announce the Council next week on Tuesday, May 17. As part of the announcement, we'll launch a website with background information and distribute a press release. Please let me know if we can include your organization's name in the press release and on the website.

I'll be in touch soon with a date for the first Council meeting.

Thank you for all your help this past school year in making sure parent, family and caregiver voices were heard so that students can recover and thrive.

Looking forward to working together,

Dawn

Dawn Ellis

Liaison to Parents and Families

National Engagement Team

Office of Communication and Outreach

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Diana Autin

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, May 20, 2022 3:41 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn
Subject: Re: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

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Sorry Dawn I have been swamped [REDACTED] sent you a quote about an hour ago.

On Fri, May 20, 2022 at 12:11 PM Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

Happy FriYAY [REDACTED] – circling back on the quote. Thanks.

Dawn

From: [REDACTED]@parentsatthetable.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 4:08 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

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That works!

On Tue, May 17, 2022 at 4:05 PM Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

No later than Thursday noon but let me know if you need more time. Thanks.

Dawn

From: [REDACTED]@parentsatthetable.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:39 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

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We will definitely post the press release on our website and share it with our members throughout the country.

By when would you like the quote?

On Tue, May 17, 2022 at 3:35 PM Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

[REDACTED] – I forgot to ask if you would send a quote in support of the Council highlighting the important role that families and parents play in their children’s education and acknowledging that the Administration is working with them to help students recover. Also, please confirm National PLACE will post the press release on their website. Thanks.

Dawn

From: [REDACTED]@parentsatthetable.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2022 3:29 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Thank you for letting me know. I look forward to hearing back from you, I hope in the near future!

On Tue, May 17, 2022 at 3:27 PM Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED] – thank you for the feedback. As you know ED was hoping to announce the Council on today, but it' been postponed. I will keep you posted on the launch date. Thanks again for your interest in joining the Council. In the interim, feel free to reach out to me with questions. Take care.

Dawn

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@parentsatthetable.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 2:26 PM
To: Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: National Parents and Families Engagement Council

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National PLACE would be happy to have our name in the press release and on the website.

On Tue, May 10, 2022 at 1:59 PM Ellis, Dawn <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

[REDACTED]

Thank you for your interest in joining the U.S. Department of Education's National Parents and Families Engagement Council. We're excited to get this important working group off the ground and attached for your review are two documents that will provide a bit more context for the Council.

Close hold -- We're hoping to announce the Council next week on Tuesday, May 17. As part of the announcement, we'll launch a website with background information and distribute a press release. Please let me know if we can include your organization's name in the press release and on the website.

I'll be in touch soon with a date for the first Council meeting.

Thank you for all your help this past school year in making sure parent, family and caregiver

voices were heard so that students can recover and thrive.

Looking forward to working together,

Dawn

Dawn Ellis

Liaison to Parents and Families

National Engagement Team

Office of Communication and Outreach



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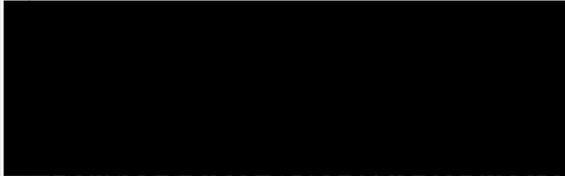
--

██████████, Director

National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, & Community Empowerment

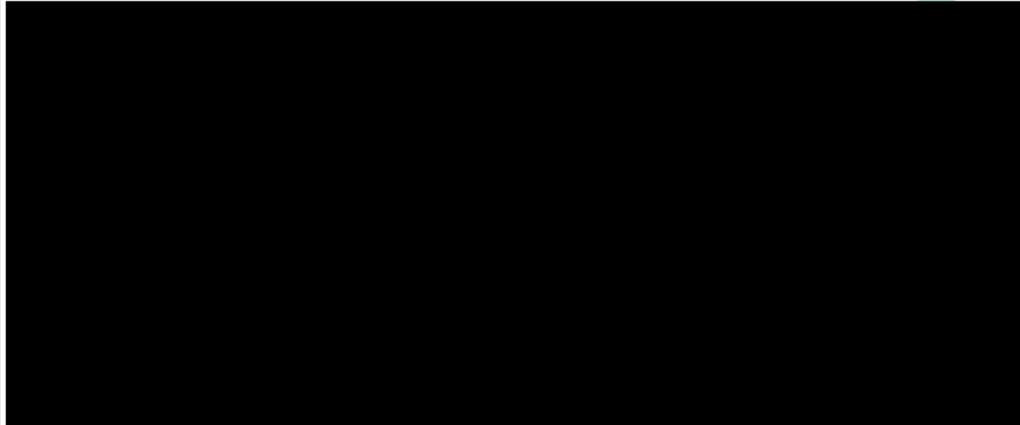
[35 Halsey Street](#)

[Newark, NJ 07102](#)



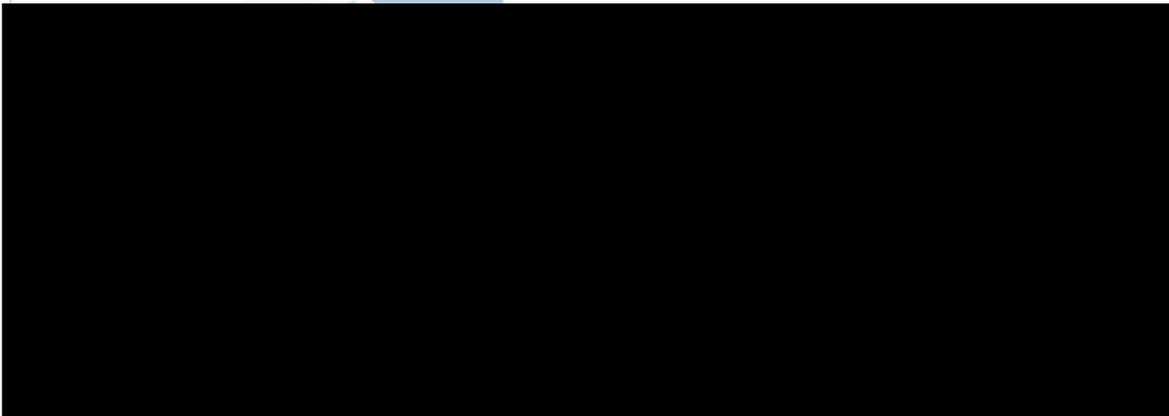
Ensuring a place at the table for every family!

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Ensuring a place at the table for every family!

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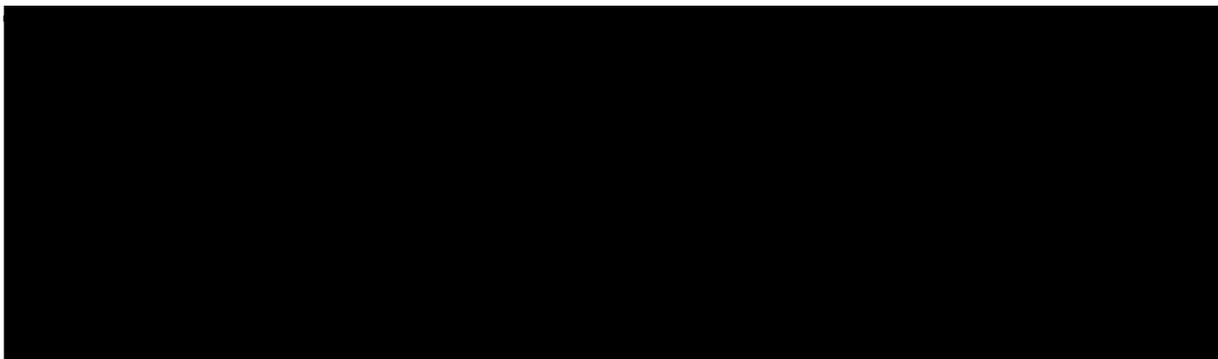
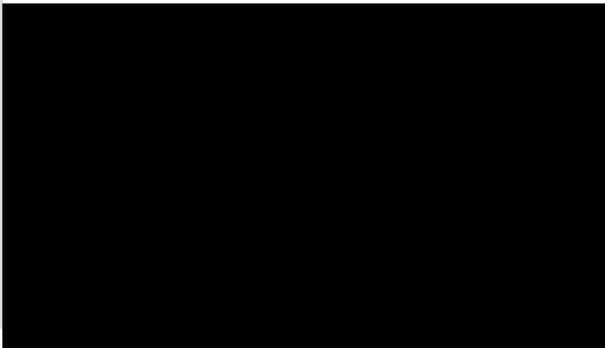


Ensuring a place at the table for every family!

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National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, & Community Empowerment



From:
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Confidential Recommendations for Family Partners Council and National Parent Council

✘,

Thank you so much for this. I will take a look today

From: [REDACTED]@nafsce.org>
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2022 6:13 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED]@nafsce.org>
Subject: Confidential Recommendations for Family Partners Council and National Parent Council

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Good afternoon ✘!

Attached are initial recommendations for organizations who could provide representation on the Department's Family Partners Council. Additionally, I recommended organizations for representation on the to-be-established Parent Council. Each of these organizations are either parent-led and/or train parents as leaders. They would be well positioned to recommend specific parents for consideration in serving that meet the Department's criteria.

We are pleased to assist with criteria if you wish. I would suggest that you consider both national and regional organizations for parent representation on the parent council. I'd also suggest that the representation be extremely diverse (race, geographic, socio-economic, urban, suburban and rural communities). I believe the organizations recommended can offer this diversity.

Pertaining to the organizations recommended for the Family Partners Council, I focused on organizations with a primary mission advancing family engagement in education. I also did not include organizations who advance their own specific program, but rather organizations who serve the broader field, therefore not providing one program with a strategic advantage over others. Let me know if this thinking makes sense to you or not.

Please let me know if you would like to schedule a call on Monday to discuss this list. Based on our conversation I can revise it accordingly.

Enjoy the weekend.

Best,

[REDACTED]
National Assn. for Family, School and Community Engagement

cell: (b)(6)



From:
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] on
Subject: RE: Family Parent Meeting

Hi [REDACTED],

Sorry for the delay in responding, it's been a busy few weeks. Thank you for sharing the locations where UPLAN members

From: A [REDACTED] (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, April 14, 2022 11:53 AM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Cc: E [REDACTED] unitedparentleaders.org>; [REDACTED]@choiceforall.org>
Subject: Family Parent Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi [REDACTED]y,

First, thank you for working alongside us and partners to ensure parents/families voices and opinions are elevated at the federal level. This opportunity is indeed priceless!

[REDACTED] and I appreciated the time you spent chatting with us post-meeting. We were thrilled to share highlights with [REDACTED], especially about your kind words on UPLAN's parent-led model and our organization's response to the National Parents and Family Engagement Council.

Attached is the document I shared on our member organizations committed to hosting a parent town hall and also those and the organizations that are interested but have questions. It's important for us to provide our membership with a response, especially because they took the time to respond and were excited about the possibility.

Lastly, please include UPLAN in the Title 1 briefing communications.

Thank you for your kind and gracious assistance!

Warmly,

[REDACTED]

From:
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Ellis, Dawn
Subject: RE: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

Hi [REDACTED]

So sorry for the delay in responding. Last week was insane and with Teacher Appreciation Week this week it's still quite crazy around here. I am copying Dawn on this so that she can get back to you in a more timely fashion than I have.

From: [REDACTED]@unitedparentleaders.org>
Sent: Monday, April 25, 2022 6:25 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

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Dear Kim,

I hope you are well! [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] reported back about their excitement about the Secretary's Family Partners' meeting. Thank you for all you (and your colleagues) did to welcome them in that space and facilitate their participation.

I'm checking in about the emerging plans for the Parents and Families Engagement Council. Do you have any updates on the timeline? This Thurs. 4/28, UPLAN has a meeting of the parent committee that I engaged to give feedback on the draft plans last month. Let me know if there are any updates I can share with them. I also think if we are getting closer to the timeline when UPLAN would be formally asked to nominate a parent or parents to the Council, I could start talking with the committee about an internal process for UPLAN to do so at this upcoming meeting. Let me know if you think that would be appropriate.

UPLAN also has our first in-person membership-wide convening since the pandemic coming up May 14-16 in Washington, D.C. We are expecting about 100 parent leaders and staff from their organizations to gather. Do you anticipate that the Parents and Families Engagement Council will have been made public by then? We would love to highlight this exciting example of the Administration's commitment to equity and community engagement during the program of our convening. We would also be happy to welcome a representative from ED to share about this news directly with UPLAN affiliates on a panel. There is time on our agenda on Sunday May 15 for this. Let me know if this is of interest.

I may be getting ahead of where we are in the process, so please let me know if so. I would be happy to talk by phone. I should be pretty available tomorrow between 1:30 and 5:00 ET at (b)(6) Thanks!

On Mon, Mar 28, 2022 at 11:28 AM [REDACTED]@unitedparentleaders.org> wrote:

Great! Thanks, Kim!

On Mon, Mar 28, 2022 at 9:37 AM Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

Good Morning [REDACTED]

Thank you to you and the UPLAN team for your very thoughtful questions and feedback. We will share this information with the senior leaders and be back in touch soon.

From: [REDACTED]@unitedparentleaders.org>

Sent: Friday, March 25, 2022 5:48 PM

To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>

Cc: McKesson, Precious <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Walker, Serena <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>

Subject: Re: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Kim,

Thank you for your flexibility on the timeline of submitting these comments and questions. I have attached:

- A memo from the UPLAN parent Governing Council with questions and comments on the Department's plan for a National Parents and Families Engagement Council.
- UPLAN's 2021 proposal for a Parent and Family Advisory Council to the Department. The Governing Council thought this document, submitted to Dr. Aaliyah Samuel in July 2021, could be helpful context for some of our comments in the memo.
- A list of UPLAN's member organizations, including their locations. This is in response to your request to list 5-10 cities/locales where UPLAN has significant representation. The Governing Council did not feel we could go through a process to determine which locations have significant representation in the timeline requested. We would be happy to talk more about how UPLAN can best partner with the Department in determining which UPLAN member organizations would be the best fit to connect a parent to the Council.

Once again, in response to your question about whether UPLAN would like to connect a parent to the Council, our answer is a resounding yes!

Thank you again for your invitation to submit these comments! We look forward to hearing more about next steps.

On Wed, Mar 23, 2022 at 3:28 PM Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

Certainly, and thank you so much for taking the time. We truly value the relationship and parent voice we receive from UPLAN.

From: [REDACTED]@unitedparentleaders.org>

Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2022 3:58 PM

To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>

Cc: McKesson, Precious <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>

Subject: Re: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

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Hi Kim,

I discussed the document with some parents from UPLAN's leadership team. First and foremost, UPLAN is interested in connecting a parent (or parents) to the Council!

We also have some reflections and questions to share about the document describing the Council, and we will share them in writing rather than requesting a meeting with Precious. Can we have until Friday EOD to submit

this?

Thanks, and more to come soon!

On Mon, Mar 21, 2022 at 8:01 AM Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

Hi [REDACTED],

Thanks for responding so quickly. Your folks should send Precious an email to set up a time to have a conversation. Hopefully we'll be able to accommodate a couple conversations.

On Mar 20, 2022, at 3:00 PM, [REDACTED]@unitedparentleaders.org> wrote:

?

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Hi Kim,

Thank you for this information and invitation to engage with the Department in developing the mission and structure of the Council. I will share this with some parents from UPLAN's leadership so we can provide feedback and questions on the design. If the parents would like to engage verbally, what is the best way to coordinate that?

Thanks again!

[REDACTED]

Sorry, I forgot the attachment.

From: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly

Sent: Friday, March 18, 2022 3:52 PM

Subject: Embargoed Document Around Parent and Family Engagement at ED

Friends,

I hope this message finds you well.

As you know, the Secretary strongly believes that parents are core partners in the education of our children and has often said that parents are their children's first – and most important – teachers. As a parent and educator himself, the Secretary has seen the incredible value in the partnership between parents and families, educators, district leaders, and entire school communities to support student success.

Now more than ever, schools and districts must work closely with parents and families if we want to be successful in our efforts to keep our schools open safely and address the impacts COVID-19 has had on our Nation's students. To this end, the Secretary and staff at the Department have been working to build strong

relationships at the national and locals levels and your organization is key to the success of these efforts. The pandemic has put a spotlight on the deep relationships and connections needed between parents, families, schools and the school community.

To further these relationships, the Department hopes to facilitate key engagements with parents, families, teachers, and school staff critical for tackling learning loss and reimagining education. I am sharing with you today a draft outline for the development of a National Parents and Families Engagement Council as an opportunity for the Department to listen, learn and engage families. The Council would help to ensure parents' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially and emotionally.

We would appreciate your written or verbal feedback or questions on any of the following (but not limited to) by **Thursday, March 24th**:

- Timing for the launch
- Membership and structure of the Council
- Mission and purpose of the Council
- The role of national and local Council members
- Issues the Council should consider

We would also like to know if your organization is interested in providing a member to the Council (all organizations interested will be vetted prior to joining the Council). If interested in participating in the Council, please provide us with 5-10 cities/regions/locales where you have strong membership that could be engaged initially as we launch the Council.

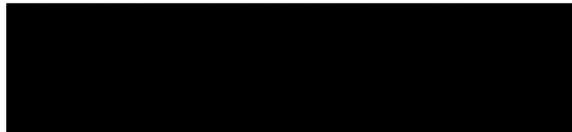
Please keep this document as **close hold** and **do not share** it or its contents outside of your organization. I am happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have.

Thank you,
Kim



Kimberly Watkins-Foote

Director, National Engagement Division
Office of Communications and Outreach



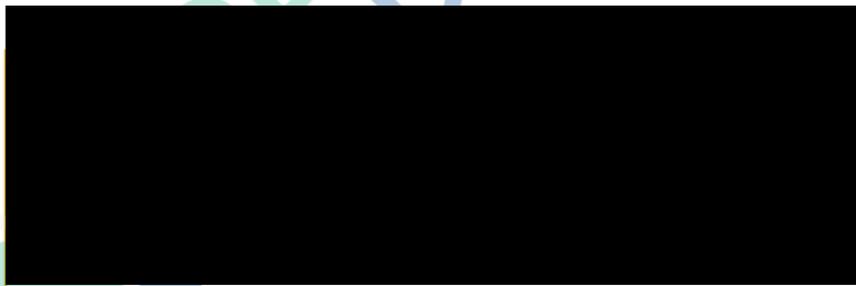
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From:
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: National Parents and Families Engagement Council Member Form
Attachments: National Parents and Families Engagement Council Standards.pdf

Good morning [REDACTED]

- In reviewing your submissions for the Parents Council, it appears that both names submitted are UnidosUS staff, including yourself. As outlined in the attached standards document, member organization submissions should:
 - Be family members or caregivers who are not on the national board or members of the executive committee, to represent the organization on the Council

Can you please

From: J[REDACTED]@unidosus.org>
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2022 1:41 PM
To: Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: National Parents and Families Engagement Council Member Form

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Good afternoon Kimberly, attached is the form with the two UnidosUS council members.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Director, Parent and Community Engagement | Education

UNIDOSUS
t [REDACTED] (b)(6) [REDACTED]@unidosus.org

NCLR is now UnidosUS. Find out more at unidosus.org | Facebook | Twitter

National Parents and Families Engagement Council Standards

The National Parents and Families Engagement Council (the Council) is an opportunity to listen, learn and engage families and caregivers. The Council seeks to ensure parents' voices play a critical role in how their children are recovering from the pandemic academically, socially, and emotionally. The Council will help identify constructive ways for parents, families and caregivers to engage in their children's education. The goal of the Council is to be reflective of the diversity of the country and our public schools.

Each participating organization should:

- Have a national chapter that sets policy agendas and priorities;
- Oversee local and/or regional chapters that meet regularly with local stakeholders;
- Have a direct relationship to parents, families, caregivers and the school community(s);
- Be focused on helping foster productive conversations between parents, families, caregivers and schools related to recovering from the pandemic;
- Be committed to helping create strategic engagements between parents, families, caregivers and schools that will help students thrive.

As a Council participant, organizations are encouraged to:

- Assign 1-2 parents (family members or caregivers), who are not on the national board or members of the executive committee, to represent the organization on the Council
- Host quarterly local meetings or virtual roundtables/listening sessions
- Share content on the importance of family engagement on social media, including ways to engage productively
- Share Council-related content on their website, social channels, and/or newsletters

Organization's parent/family member/caregiver representative must be actively engaged in their community and have at least one school-aged student. Please take the following into consideration when selecting a representative:

- Parent/Caregiver's ability to reflect the concerns and issues of their particular community
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to bring a local perspective, but also be able to speak to national issues
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to communicate messaging effectively
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to develop comradery amongst peers
- Parent/Caregiver's ability to participate in national meetings, bringing topics gathered from local meetings to the table

The U.S. Department of Education reserves the rights to evaluate organizations and their parent/caregiver selections for the Council to ensure they align with the goals of the Council and allow the Council to maintain geographic, ethnic and gender diversity.

Meadvin, Hayley

From: Meadvin, Hayley
Sent: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 6:01 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]ristian; Thomas, Rachel; Watkins-Foote, Kimberly; Walker, Serena
Subject: RE: US Ed Briefing on National Parents Union Poll - April 2022

Looking forward to it!

From: [REDACTED]<[REDACTED]@npunion.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 4:29 PM
To: Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Cc: [REDACTED]@npunion.org>; Rhodes, Christian <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Thomas, Rachel <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; McKesson, Precious <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Walker, Serena <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: US Ed Briefing on National Parents Union Poll - April 2022

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Friday at 1pm ET is perfect! I will set up the calendar invite and zoom :)

Sent from my iPhone

On May 3, 2022, at 10:52 AM, Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

?
 Hi [REDACTED] pl,

We'd love to do a briefing. Would tomorrow or Thursday at 12 pm work or Friday at 1 pm?

Hayley

From: M [REDACTED]@npunion.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 3, 2022 1:49 PM
To: [REDACTED]@npunion.org>
Cc: Rhodes, Christian <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Thomas, Rachel <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; McKesson, Precious <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Walker, Serena <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>
Subject: Re: US Ed Briefing on National Parents Union Poll - April 2022

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Hello Everybody,

Hope that this email finds you and your loved ones well.

The National Parents Union will be releasing our March poll soon. We did not hear back from your team with a date to review the April poll.

We want to maintain our commitment to keeping your team updated and connected to parents.

Please send us dates and times that work for your team.

Wishing you a great day,


Chief of Strategy and Partnerships
National Parents Union



On Tue, 12 Apr 2022 at 17:23,  <[@npunion.org](mailto: @npunion.org)> wrote:

Hello Everybody,

We are following up and would like to get a time set to debrief the March poll. Here are some dates and times (ET) that I see that Keri and I are available:

- Thursday 4/14/22 10-11am
- Monday, 4/18/22 1-2pm
- Friday 4/22/22 11-5pm

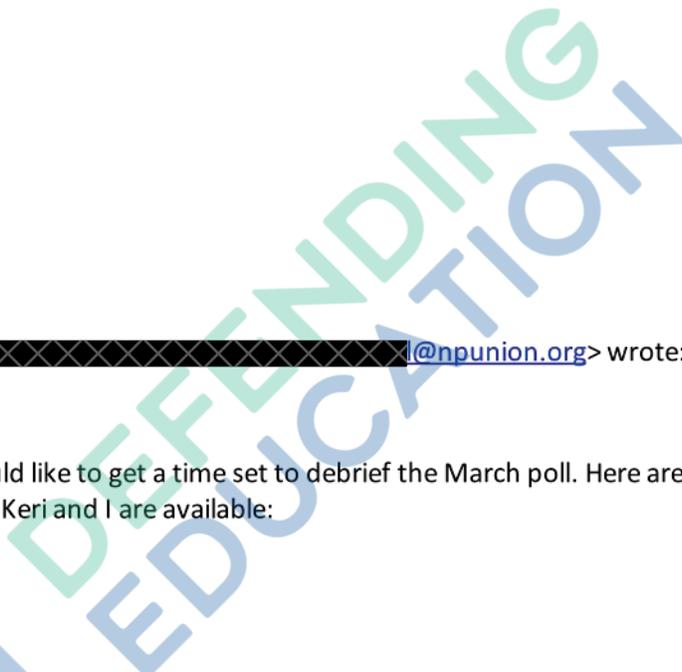
If any of these work, feel free to send us an invite or let me know and I can set up the call.

Also, I sent a follow up email regarding the invitation to our National Convening to the Secretary's scheduling team following up from an email on 4/1/22. We appreciate any support in confirming his engagement with our parents.

Thank you all.

Chief of Strategy and Partnerships
National Parents Union





On Fri, 8 Apr 2022 at 08:04, [REDACTED]@npunion.org> wrote:

Thank you. We appreciate the consideration.

Here is information about the summit:

The proposed dates are September 1-6 at the Lone Rock Education Retreat Center in Bailey, Colorado. We can be flexible with any time within that window.

The purpose of the National Parents Union annual summit is convene the country's top parent advocates, activists and organizations representing all 50 states, Washington DC and Puerto Rico to build nationwide solidarity, united behind a common Parent Power Agenda and refocus the policy and political conversations around our North Star, the children of the United States.

The National Parents Union is an intersectional movement of more than 600 parent-led advocate, activist and community groups representing economically disadvantaged, Black, Brown, Indigenous, parents impacted by incarceration, rural, LGBTQIA, grandparent, foster parent and parents of children with special needs that unite behind a common agenda to advocate for economic, social and education justice for our children and families reaching more than 18,000,000 families nationwide.

We will send over some dates later this morning to see if they work for you.

[REDACTED]
President
National Parents Union

On Apr 7, 2022, at 1:53 PM, Rhodes, Christian <[REDACTED]@ed.gov> wrote:

?

Hi [REDACTED],

Apologies on my end. I've been on travel the past few weeks. Do you mind sending us a few dates and I'll work with the team to see if we can coordinate schedules.

I concur with Hayley's request on the convening. Can you please send a few sentences?

Christian Rhodes

From: Meadvin, Hayley <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>

Sent: Thursday, April 7, 2022 1:49 PM

To: [REDACTED]@npunion.org>; Rhodes, Christian

<[REDACTED]@ed.gov>

Cc: [REDACTED]@npunion.org>; Thomas, Rachel

<[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; McKesson, Precious <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>;

Watkins-Foote, Kimberly <[REDACTED]@ed.gov>; Maher, Sophie

<[REDACTED]@ed.gov>

Subject: RE: US Ed Briefing on National Parents Union Poll - April 2022

