Operating a District or Shared Service Arrangement (SSA) Migrant Parent Advisory Council (PAC)

Texas Education Agency
Division of NCLB Program Coordination
Migrant Education Program
Parental Involvement

- Parental Involvement is an integral part of all Title I programs, including the Migrant Education Program (MEP). The MEP supports parental involvement to more effectively help migrant children experience academic success. Parent Advisory Councils (PACs) empower parents to be advocates and supporters of the program because they have a personal stake in the program's success.
Establishment of Migrant PACs

- The State MEP and its subgrantees must establish and consult with PACs in the planning and operation of a MEP regular year program.
  - Independent projects must establish a PAC.
  - The fiscal agent must establish an SSA-wide PAC from the respective districts in the Shared Services Arrangement.
Goal of a Migrant PAC

- To provide parents with knowledge and skills for problem solving and decision making; and
- To provide opportunities for parents to function in a variety of roles such as advisors, tutors, audience, school program supporters and advocates.
Requirements for Parental Involvement
Title I, Part C

Section 1304 of the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 requires that LEAs:

- Of one school year in duration to establish a migrant PAC; Section 1304(c)(3)
- Conduct parental involvement activities in a format and language understandable to parents; Section 1304(c)(3)(B)
- Provide the same parental involvement as outlined in Section 1118 of NCLB, unless extraordinary circumstances make such provision impractical. Section 1304(c)(3)(A)
Section 1118 of NCLB requires that LEAs:

- Plan and implement their MEP with meaningful consultation with parents; Section 1118(a)(1)
- Develop with parents and distribute to parents a written parent involvement policy; Section 1118(a)(2)
- Involve parents in the implementation of the MEP in an organized, ongoing and timely way; Section 1118(c)
Requirements for Parental Involvement
Title I, Part C  (Section 1118 continued)

- Develop a school-parent compact in order to share the responsibility for high student academic achievement; Section 1118(d)

- Build the capacity of parents and school staff for strong parental involvement; Section 1118(e) and

- Provide effective access to parental involvement activities. Section 1118(f)
Function of a Migrant PAC

- To advise the LEA on concerns of migrant parents that relate to the planning, operation, and evaluation of the MEP and projects in which their children participate;
- To assist in establishing effective programs to improve student academic achievement and school performance; and
- To provide suggestions regarding the effectiveness and improvement of the MEP.
Involving the PAC in the **Planning** of the MEP

- Help identify goals;
- Discuss steps involved in meeting goals;
- Discuss use of MEP funds and other resources;
- Discuss timelines;
- Discuss logistics *(who, what, when, where, how)*; and
- Discuss strategies.
Involving the PAC in the Operation of the MEP

- Help establish, implement or support programs aimed at meeting identified needs or goals;
- Support ongoing efforts to improve academic achievement of migrant students; and
- Help conduct parent events and activities.
Involving the PAC in the **Evaluation** of the MEP

- Provide input to help evaluate the effectiveness of the program;
- Provide suggestions regarding improving the program; and
- Help identify barriers impacting student academic success or parental involvement.
Migrant PAC Membership

- Majority are migrant parents or guardians of eligible migrant children;
- May include district personnel who represent the interests of migrant parents; and
- Methods of selection may include election, volunteering, nomination, and/or appointments.
Migrant PACs

District and SSA PACs
- Develops their own by-laws;
- Consist of no less than 5 members, if possible;
- Members may serve for one or two years;
PAC Meetings

PAC meetings should:

- Provide an agenda in languages parents can understand;
- Take place at least three times per year (recommended);
- Be convenient for parents and accommodate parents’ work schedules;
- Have a quorum present;
PAC Meetings (continued)

- Elect officers, if possible;
- Be conducted in languages parents can understand;
- Develop the minutes in languages parents can understand (i.e., English and Spanish).
PAC Meeting Documentation

PACs should:
- Maintain documentation of meeting times and places;
- Keep record of participant sign-in sheets;
- Keep record of PAC meeting agendas; and
- Keep record of PAC meeting minutes.
PAC Strategies

- Assure that meetings are convenient, efficient and easy to follow;
- Maintain focus on meaningful consultation;
- Maintain focus on Migrant-specific issues; and
- Provide adequate leadership training, such as:
Using MEP Funds for PAC

MEP funds may:

- Be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses that PAC members incur to attend PAC meetings (i.e., transportation, child care, etc.).

- Be used to reimburse PAC members who are not migrant parents (i.e. mileage).
Using MEP Funds for PAC (continued)

- Be used to support migrant parents’ attendance at state and national workshops and conferences that enable them to participate more fully in the local MEP and/or in their children’s education.

- Be spent for reasonable expenditures for light refreshments for migrant parents during PAC meetings to encourage participation.
Resources for Migrant PACs

- NCLB website – Texas Migrant Education Program
  - View State Migrant PAC By-Laws, agenda, meeting minutes and presentations
    http://www.tea.state.tx.us/nclb/migrant/parentAdvisory.html

- USDE Migrant Education Monitoring Report and TEA’s Response to the Monitoring Report
The Weekly Recruiter – Texas MEP Listserv for MEP recruiters, NGS data specialists and other practitioners.

- To subscribe go to [http://list.tetn.net/](http://list.tetn.net/), choose “Texas Migrant ID&R and NGS List” from the dropdown and click on the “Join or Leave” button. At the second screen, enter your e-mail address and name and click on the “Join the List” button.
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