

**D97 Diversity Council Presentation**  
**D97 Board Meeting**  
**July 18, 2017**

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*My vision for family engagement is ambitious...*

I want to have too many parents demanding excellence in their schools. I want all parents to be real partners in education with their children's teachers, from cradle to career. In this partnership, students and parents should feel connected—and teachers should feel supported. When parents demand change and better options for their children, they become the real accountability backstop for the educational system.


—ARNE DUNCAN, U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION, MAY 3, 2010

# D97 PTO Diversity Council

## Today's Objectives

- Provide background about and introduce the D97 Diversity Council (DivCo)
  - Discuss the parent engagement survey
    - Survey intent
    - Alignment with District Vision
    - Utilization of findings
  - Questions
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# DivCo and PTO Intent

- Help families feel welcome and more connected to community, including those who may not have always felt welcome
  - Honor families and their involvement in their child's education
  - Build stronger parent, teacher and school partnerships
  - Understand and address unique family challenges and needs
  - Leverage & build parental capacity to support learning
  - Bolster families' knowledge and confidence to navigate systems
  - Educate and support all families in working towards a more equitable future for all students
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# Why is parent engagement important?

- All children do better, when...
- Students earn better grades, enroll in higher level programs, have higher graduation rates and go on to higher education when...
- Students display more positive attitudes toward schools and behave better both in and out of school, when...
- School challenges can be overcome, when...
- Family members increase their self confidence which fuels motivation to learn and earn more, when...

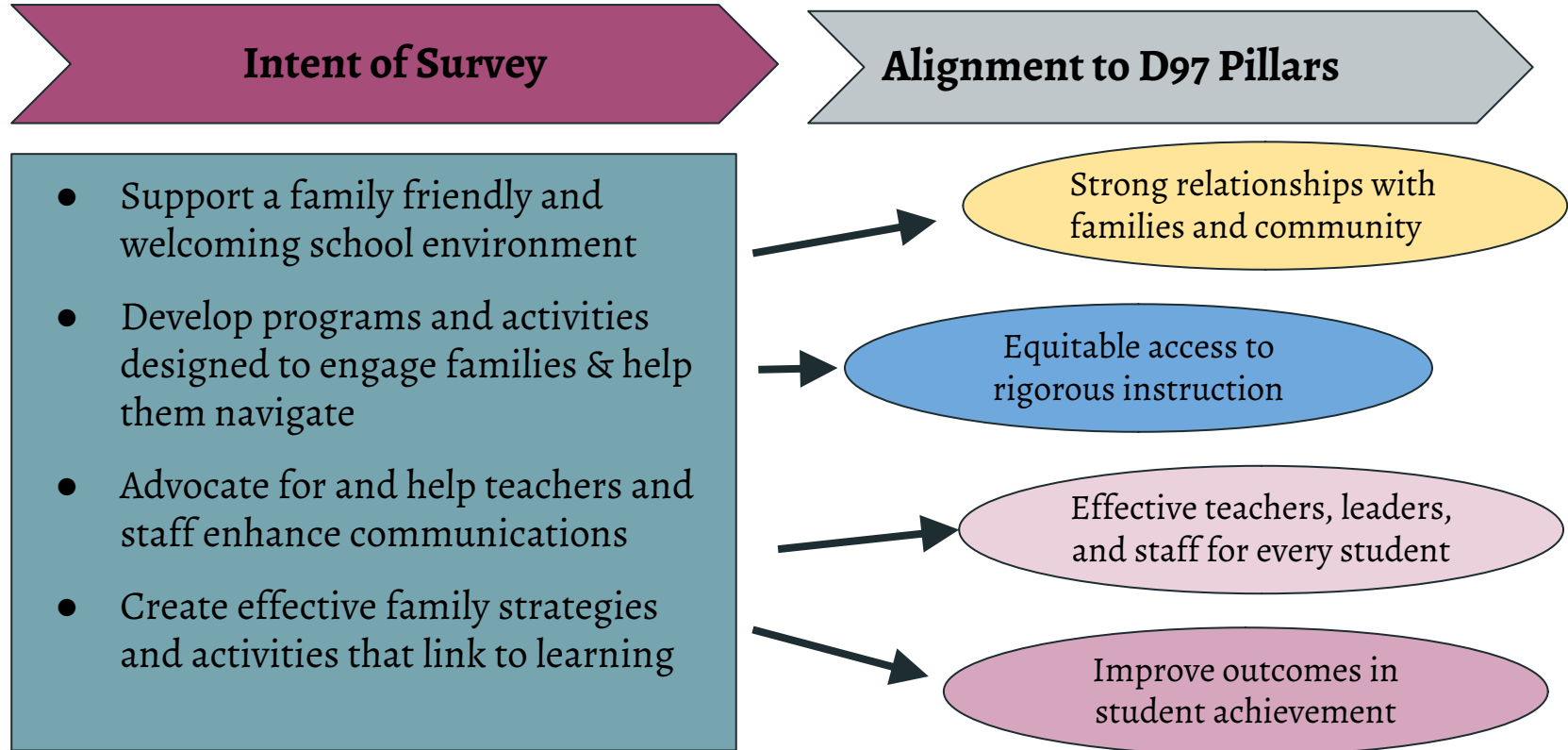


**Parents and  
communities are  
engaged and  
partners in  
education**

# DivCo Activities

- PTO-C created a collaborative council (DivCo) focused on supporting our schools and their aim to improve the academic achievement gap, foster a more welcoming school district, and to work to create intentional programming for families with kids with differences
- Major Pillars (outreach, partnership, excellence with equity)
- DivCo Activities:
  - Parent Engagement Survey → <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/D97familysurvey17>
    - e-Survey / use of district communications channels
    - Canvassing
    - Door to door / phone outreach to non-responders
  - Create opportunities and events to raise awareness/consciousness
  - Create 2017-2018 District Diversity Calendar
  - District / School Support (partnership with Carrie Kamm / E-Team)
  - Partners with E-Team, OPPL, OP Regional Housing, Collaboration for Early Childhood

# Parent Engagement Survey



# DivCo Family Engagement Examples

Outreach	Partnership	Excellence with Equity
<p><b>Welcoming Environment</b> - go to where parents are. Be intentional about outreach, create opportunities for all to be involved.</p> <p><b>Parent Feedback</b> - be a primary source for parental feedback through formal surveys and anecdotal forums. Constructively share with district / school and help bridge partnerships in education.</p>	<p><b>Resource Support</b> - use data to inform what resources are needed. Ensure that PTO programming projects a “need” and not an arbitrary “want”.</p> <p><b>Connect</b> families; couple families that understand the system and can offer advice and counsel for others when needed. Provide affinity networks for parents.</p>	<p><b>Education</b> - Highlight and emphasize programming that informs and enlightens. Clarify what “equity” is.</p> <p><b>Communication</b> - be intentional and clear around changes in education that may create confusion. District and school can use PTOs to get info out and bring feedback in.</p> <p><b>Healthy Tension</b> - advocate for kids, champion those that have less access and force the system to work for all families. Have a “for the little guy” mentality.</p>



## DivCo Leadership

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