

# Parent Leadership

# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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- Leadership – The act of leading an organization or a group of people
- Parent Leadership – The act of leading a family or a group of people



# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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# SERVANT LEADERSHIP

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- "The servant-leader is servant first... It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first. Then conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead. That person is sharply different from one who is leader first, perhaps because of the need to assuage an unusual power drive or to acquire material possessions... The leader-first and the servant-first are two extreme types. Between them there are shadings and blends that are part of the infinite variety of human nature."

# SERVANT LEADERSHIP

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"The difference manifests itself in the care taken by the servant-first to make sure that other people's highest priority needs are being served. The best test, and difficult to administer, is: **Do those served grow as persons? Do they, while being served, become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servants? And, what is the effect on the least privileged in society? Will they benefit or at least not be further deprived?"**

- Robert K. Greenleaf 1970

# PARENT LEADERSHIP... HAPPENS

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## No Limitations

- At Home
- At School
- In the community – civic leadership
- In after-school programs
- Wherever and whatever influences kids



# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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- Does every parent have the right and responsibility to lead?
- Where does a parent's leadership come from?

# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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## • Leaders Possess Power

- ✓ Have power
- ✓ Access power
- ✓ For the benefit of others
- ✓ Measure and hold ALL accountable
- ✓ Make adjustments - Flexible

What are some of the things leaders are responsible for doing?



# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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- Vision
- Mission statement
- Planning
- Evaluating
- Training
- Support
- Discipline
- Etc...

# VISION

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- What is your vision for your family?
- Does your family have a mission?
- Do you, your family, and your kids, set goals?
- Do your kids have a sense of purpose?



**CONNER FAMILY RULES** Love your family

**DREAM BIG** *Laugh together* **Have fun** **SHARE**

**Listen to each other** Say please and thank you

Always tell the truth **Be kind** *Help each other*

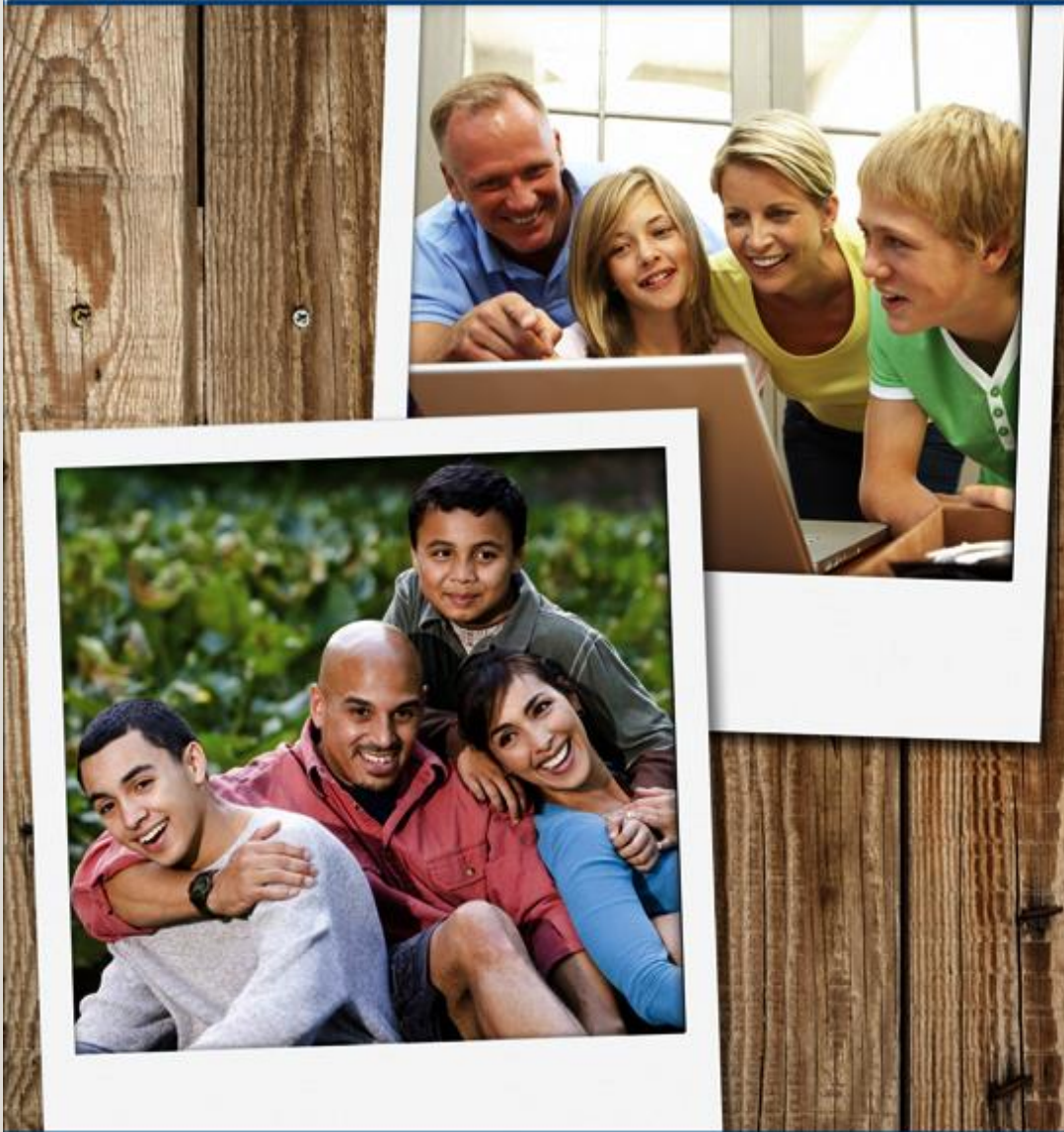
**Try new things** *do your best* **Respect each other**

**FORGIVE & FORGET** Give lots of hugs and kisses



# THE PARENT AS COACH

## DEVELOPING A FAMILY DREAM TEAM



DARRELL “COACH D” ANDREWS  
FATHER OF FOUR

# VISION

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- Develop a family mission statement

- ◆ What do we value?
- ◆ What do we want to represent as a family?
- ◆ What do we want our lives to mean to others?
- ◆ What role does education play in our future?
- ◆ What can we do to be a positive influence on our community?
- ◆ How important is faith to us?
- ◆ How can we encourage and support one another daily?

# MISSION STATEMENT

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*“The Thomas family will always act with integrity, honesty, and grace. We believe in God and seek to treat others and each other with love and respect. We believe that education is important so we will seek educational excellence for all members of the family. We will support our church and our local community as well as those less fortunate than us. Finally we will find ways to encourage and support each other daily.”*



# VISION

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- Work at your tables to start a table mission statement about parent involvement– Have fun with it and feel free to make up any questions you want.



(5 minutes)

- When you get home or tonight in your rooms talk about this with your children

# GOALS

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Those who fail to plan...plan to fail

- **S** – specific, significant, stretching
- **M** – measurable, meaningful, motivational
- **A** – attainable, agreed upon, achievable, acceptable, action-oriented
- **R** – realistic, relevant, reasonable rewarding
- **T** – time-based, time-bound, timely, tangible, trackable

# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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**Be prepared to excel in college or trade school or life in-general**

- Academically prepared (parents facilitate)
- Have dreams and ambitions (parents nurture)
- Develop good habits and behaviors (parents help)

# ACADEMICALLY PREPARED

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## Parents Facilitate

- Make it a priority
- Know the teachers
- Make homework important
- Understand how your school district works (hierarchy, departments, communications, etc.)
- Know your kids grades
- Access to tutors if necessary
- Etc..



# DREAMS AND AMBITIONS

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## Parents Nurture

- Find out what they have a passion for or show an interest in then make the link to academics.
- How can a parent nurture dreams and ambitions?
  - Brainstorm at your tables
    - (3 minutes)

# HABITS AND BEHAVIORS

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## Parents Help

- Delayed gratification
- Independent study skills
- Time management
- High quality work
- Routine
- Etc..

It is our job as the parent and leader to model and nurture these habits and behaviors



# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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- At School – we are our children's example, how we react to school and teachers will greatly influence how they act.
- How can parents lead at school?

# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

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- Decades of research make it clear that when families are involved in their child's education in school as partners with teachers and administrators, students do better and schools get better. Students earn higher grades, graduate from high school at higher rates, and attend college at a greater rate.
- How do you define family engagement?

# **National PTA's definition of effective family engagement**

## **A Shared Responsibility in which:**

- Schools and other community agencies and organizations are committed to engaging families in meaningful and culturally respectful ways, and
- Families are committed to actively supporting their children's learning and development.

## **Cradle to Career:**

- Continuous across a child's life, spanning from Early Head Start programs to college and career.

## **Across Contexts:**

- Carried out everywhere that children learn –
  - o Home
  - o Pre-kindergarten programs
  - o School
  - o After-school programs
  - o Faith-based organizations
  - o Community programs

# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

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- Engage -How do we get our audience, who are they?
  - How do we keep the actively involved and excited?
- Equip – what tools are they going to have that they can use to benefit their kid or family?
- Empower – parents can use the tools given and evaluate their effectiveness

# FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

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## Let's all get involved:

- Fathers
- Grandparents
- Extended family (cousins, aunts, uncles, etc.)
- Find a way for:
  - Working parents
  - Single parents
  - Busy parents

# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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It is never too late to lead, as a parent you have the power because of your position. Use it for the benefit of your kids and family.

- Chinese proverb: *The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the second best time is now*”





# PARENT LEADERSHIP

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**Do it Now!**

- Vision
  - Design
  - Clarify
  - Define
- Engage the talent
- Execute the strategy

# SOURCES AND RESOURCES

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National PTA

[www.pta.org](http://www.pta.org)

Darrel “Coach D” Andrews

[www.coachdspeaks.com](http://www.coachdspeaks.com)

# URBAN PARENT LEADERSHIP PROJECT

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