## **FAMILIES**

Regardless of economic, racial/ethnic, and educational backgrounds and students ages, families that are involved in their student's learning (in and out of school time) have a huge impact on their overall success. When families are engaged with their child's school and involved in their learning, students tend to:

- ✓ Receive higher grade point averages and scores on standardized tests or rating scales,
- ✓ Enrollment in more challenging academic programs,
- ✓ More classes passed and credits earned,
- ✓ Better attendance,
- ✓ Improved behavior at home and at school, and
- ✓ Better social skills and adaptation to school.

Below are tips and other ideas on how to stay engaged in your child(ren)'s education (in and out of school time).

- ✓ Building relationships with the school
  - Email your students' principals and teachers to introduce yourself, provide your contact information, and let them know you are here to work together to support your child
  - Attend Open House:
    - Elementary Schools- Tuesday, August 9<sup>th</sup>
    - Middle Schools- Tuesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>
    - High Schools- Thursday, August 18<sup>th</sup>
  - o All the ways the school and District will keep you informed:
    - Blackboard messaging system will send texts and phone calls
    - OKCPS website
    - Your child's school website
    - Social Media
    - Download the OKCPS mobile App by:
      - Going to your App store and search for "Oklahoma City Public Schools"
    - 587-STOP: TIPS report incident
      - TIPS (Threat, Assessment, Incident Management and Prevention Services) is a reporting system for students and parents to make appropriate OKCPS officials aware of potential threats to the safety of our students and staff
    - Infinite Campus- stay up to date with your student's grades, request records, enroll and update information, etc.

- ✓ Getting to know other parents and the school community will help you gain knowledge on other ways to support your student and their school:
  - o Find out if your school has a PTA, and other ways to volunteer
    - Find out if your school has an active PTA by:
      - asking your child's teacher or another school staff or
      - Check out the OKC PTA Council website

How to Start a PTA

Step 1  $\rightarrow$  Recruit interested parents, community members, and school staff and teachers

Step 2  $\rightarrow$  Officially start the process by contacting Oklahoma State PTA office. The Oklahoma State PTA office will set up an initial meeting and explain the process for chartering and the benefits of joining the PTA family. The state PTA and OKC PTA Council can assist with:

- Creating bylaws that meet state and federal requirements
- Identify and elect officers
- Recruitment ideas and campaigns
- Applying for EIN (Employer Identification Number)

Oklahoma PTA 2801 N Lincoln Blvd, Ste. 214 Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Phone: 405-681-0750

http://www.okpta.org/contact-us-2/

Step 3 → After initial meeting and Officers are selected, PTA Officers and members can access additional training on running an effective PTA through the National and State PTA website, and by contact OKC PTA Council Board Officers

- www.pta.org
- www.okpta.org
- OKCPS PTA website

Step 4 → Set goals and adopts Plans of Work