

## Ensuringa Place at the Table for Every Family

## NATIONAL CENTER FOR PARENT LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY, AND COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT (NATIONAL PLACE) PARENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS

National PLACE and its 70+ parent-led, family serving members strongly believe that parents of children and youth attending public school in the US are entitled to the following rights to support their effective participation in the education of their children and facilitate their influence on policies and practices at the family, program, and system levels.

- 1. The right to be treated with respect by all school staff including but not limited to educators, administrators, related service providers, clerical staff, transportation and school security personnel.
- 2. The right to be involved as an equal partner in making decisions about their child's education.
- 3. The right for them and their child to be treated equitably and to not face discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity, language, immigrant status, disability, special health/mental health need, gender or gender identity, religion, LGBTQ+ status, or other characteristics.
- 4. The right to access their child's educational records in a timely manner and to protect the confidentiality of those records unless they give prior written consent.
- 5. The right to be involved in decision-making at the school and district level, including PTA/PTSO, bilingual parent advisory council, special education parent advisory council, Title I Parent Council, etc.
- 6. The right to be informed about their child's progress (academic, social-emotional, behavioral, functional life skill, etc.) on a regular basis in an easy-to-understand format and in language that they can understand.
- 7. The right to accurate, up-to-date information about their child, the school, the district, the state, etc. that is easy-to-understand (plain language, sign language, Braille, non-English language for a parent with limited English proficiency).
- 8. The right for their child and family to "see themselves" and their history in the curriculum, school activities, etc.
- 9. The right to visit their child's school and classroom with reasonable advance notice.
- 10. The right to information about the curriculum, educator qualifications, etc. and opportunities to learn how to help their child progress and achieve.

The National Center for Parent Leadership, Advocacy, and Community Empowerment (National PLACE) is a national membership organization of 70+ parent-led, family-serving organizations committed to enhancing the voice and impact of families and family-led organizations at all levels – individual, program, and system. Our primary commitment is to ensuring that families and family-led organizations are at the table when decisions regarding children and families are being made, across systems, and that our voices meaningfully influence those decisions. Our national, state, and local members – Parent Centers, Family to Family Health Information Centers, National Federation of Families (for Children's Mental Health) chapters, Parent to Parent USA affiliates, and others - provide information, training and support to, and advocate on behalf of, families with children, especially those who face the greatest challenges due to disability, mental health challenges, poverty, discrimination based on race/ethnicity, and language barriers.

Visit our website at www.parentsatthetable.org. Email us at nationalplace@parentsatthetable.org.