

Professional Development and Coaching

for Implementing Academic-Parent Teacher Teams

WestEd teams offer APTT training and coaching services for PreK-12 schools and districts that build capacity for effectively engaging families. We tailor our APTT services to meet your school or district's unique requirements. Though the specifics of implementation vary, we always work with your school or district staff to:

- » Develop a new vision for family engagement based on the APTT system.
- » Align school and district goals of student achievement to family engagement goals.
- » Share data with families to drive student performance.
- » Set data-driven academic goals with families.
- » Coach families on learning activities to meet student academic goals.
- » Establish successful strategies for high family attendance and engagement.
- » Measure and evaluate the effectiveness of implementation.

"The old parent-teacher conferences were more like a data dump. Parents came twice a year, stayed for 15 or 20 minutes, and then left without knowing what to do with all the information. The biggest difference with APTT is that it helps teachers mentor parents to clearly understand their role in the learning process."

- Lara Eklund, Biltmore Preparatory Academy, AZ



Contact Information

Contact us to discuss how you can implement **WestEd Academic Parent-Teacher Teams** in your school or district.

Maria C. Paredes * 480.823.9425 * mparede@WestEd.org



WestEd – a national nonpartisan, nonprofit research, development, and service agency – works with education and other communities to promote excellence, achieve equity, and improve learning for children, youth, and adults.

ACADEMIC Parent-Teacher TEAMS

Improving student achievement through family engagement

Struggling to find meaningful ways to involve parents in student learning?

Putting energy into a wide variety of family activities only to have a few families show up?

What if you could host fewer events overall AND make a bigger impact on where it matters most — student achievement?



Academic Parent-Teacher Teams

A research-based approach to family engagement

WestEd teams are working with schools and districts across the nation to implement Academic Parent-Teacher Teams (APTT). Together, we are transforming the way families and teachers collaborate by:

- » Improving teachers' capacity to effectively engage families.
- » Creating true, purposeful home-school collaborations.
- » Supporting student learning outside the classroom.
- » Sharing responsibility for student learning.
- » Using data to drive student performance.



"This is my first year using the APTT system, and I now have parents coming in before and after school, asking questions about homework, the projects we're doing, and the vocabulary. The difference in their level of engagement is amazing."

- Carrie Pitts,
Creighton Elementary
School, AZ



Learning shouldn't stop outside the classroom.

the school experience

Effective family engagement doesn't happen by chance. Schools and districts have to be thoughtful and proactive about creating and supporting collaboration between home and school. WestEd APTT offers a proven system for doing exactly that.

fewer events, bigger impact

Parents have been desensitized by countless invitations to meetings and events that aren't focused on academics. WestEd offers APTT to help schools cut the number of events they offer overall by prioritizing what matters most to parents and teachers alike: student learning.

not your typical parent-teacher conference

APTT replaces the traditional parent-teacher conference, enhancing the quality of parent-teacher collaboration. WestEd teams work with schools to implement three classroom APTT meetings and one in-depth individual conference, where teachers share tools and strategies and coach parents to become engaged, knowledgeable members of the academic team. These meetings provide parents with a clear, explicit window into their child's learning, with the teacher demonstrating what they need to do at home to support success in the classroom.

explicit focus on student achievement data

A collaborative review of whole class and individual student data serves as the foundation for each APTT meeting, helping foster a culture of high expectations. Explicit, concrete, and easy to understand, the data offer a powerful context for parent-teacher communication, interaction, and academic goal setting.



Example of student achievement data shared with parents