



**PENNSYLVANIA<sup>SM</sup>**  
VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL

# Implementing Chapter 12 & Family Support Services at Pennsylvania Virtual Charter School (PAVCS)

*The earlier in a child's educational process parental  
involvement begins, the more robust the benefits will be.*  
J. Epstein



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## **Our Mission**

The Department of Family and Student Support Services believes that every child has the potential to reach excellence in their academic and social development.

Our goal is to ensure continuous support to each student and family, while providing important resources that will guide families through each level of their child's academic year.



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## Our “Family Centered” Partnership Model

### Traditional Approach

1. Focuses on child and family; Family is isolated from the community.
2. Focuses on deficits.
3. Views the professional as an expert and decision-maker.
4. Categorizes problems and fragments services.

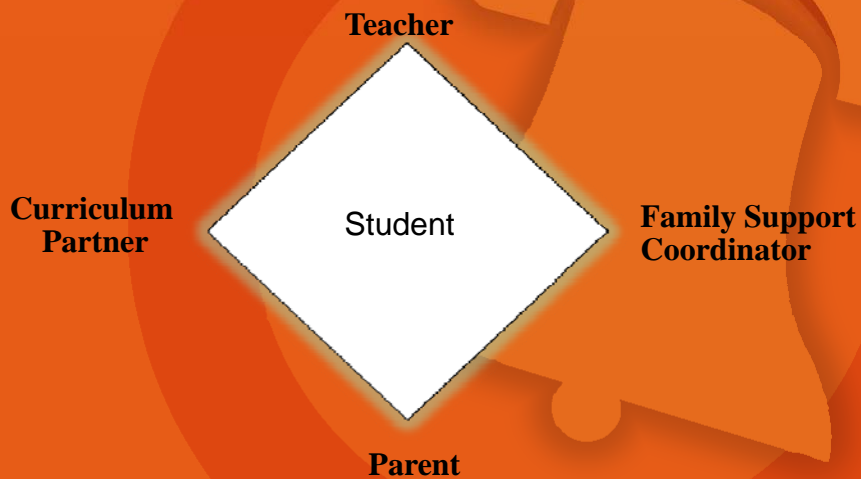
### Family Centered Approach

1. Links families with families, building a culture of partnership.
2. Focuses on child and family strengths.
3. Creates family/professional partnerships and encourages joint decision-making.
4. Provides flexible, respectful and comprehensive support.



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## The Diamond Model of Partnership





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## Family Support Services at PAVCS

<b>Student Support, Records &amp; Compliance</b>	<b>Academic Support Programs</b>	<b>Academic &amp; Social Developmental Support Programs</b>	<b>Parent Support Programs</b>
<b>Registrar's Office</b>	<b>Co-Curricular &amp; Collaborative Learning</b>	<b>Guidance Counselors</b>	<b>Parent Ambassadors</b>
<b>Family Support Coordinators</b>	<b>S.O.A.R.</b>	<b>Student Assistance Program (SAP)</b>	
<b>Pupil Health</b>	<b>Step-Up</b>	<b>Section 504 Planning</b>	
	<b>Title I</b>		
	<b>S.L.A.M.</b>		



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### Role of the Registrar and Role of the Family Support Coordinator

#### Registrar

- The Registrar Unit is responsible for the management of all student records, excluding medical and Special Education documentation. Records are maintained in a secured area and captured in both hard copy and electronic format. Currently there are two Registrars: Registrar for Incoming Records, and Registrar for Outgoing records.

#### Family Support Coordinator

- PAVCS is the only virtual charter school in Pennsylvania to assign a Family Support Coordinator (FSC) to each family to provide consistent one-on-one support throughout the school year. Family Support Coordinators are our families' first point of contact for non-academic concerns. They guide parents and students in becoming acquainted with all aspects of PAVCS.
- Family Support Coordinators continue to work with families throughout the school year. In conjunction with parents, family support coordinators plan monthly, geographically convenient outings which provide great opportunities for socialization, education and fun for all PAVCS families.
- Family Support Coordinators capture and monitor all aspects of daily attendance in accordance with Pennsylvania Department of Education regulations.



## Responsibilities of the Family Support Coordinator

- One of the major myths about home-based charter school education is that the children will not have age appropriate, social interaction opportunities. One component of the Family Support Coordinator's role is to assist with bringing currently enrolled families, prospective families, staff and other members of the PAVCS community together through community service days and social and educational outings throughout the year.
- Social and education outing activities include: museums, theater events, environmental studies, roller and ice skating parks, visiting community or regional attractions, local zoos, state and local parks, libraries, local athletic events, and educational events partnering with teachers to highlight curriculum areas.
- FSC's work with our parents and students to participate in service learning projects throughout the school year. Below are examples of the most successful and frequently held events:
  - Koats for Kids Program
  - Jump for Heart
  - Math-a-thon in collaboration with St Jude Children's Research Hospital



SCHOOLHEALTH MANDATES	K*	1st*	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th	11th	12th	Enrolling
Immunization Compliancy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Physician's Physical Examination*	X						X					X		X
Dental Examination*	X			X				X						X
Growth Screening (Height, Weight & Body Mass Index)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Vision Screening (Near & Far)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Other Vision Screening: Color, Stereo/Depth Perception (3D), & Convex (Plus Lens)		X												
Hearing Screening	X	X	X	X				X				X		
Scoliosis Screening							X	X						



## Mandated Annual Health Screenings PAVCS Certified School Nurses on site at over 55 statewide locations



## Academic Support Programs

Step Up	SOAR	Title One	S.L.A.M.	CCL
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- Targeted Support for All Students
  - Individualized
  - Small Group
- Direct Instruction Opportunities
  - Face to Face
  - Virtual
- Supplemental Curricula



## Family Support & Student Engagement Activities

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Academic Games</li> <li>•Creative Compositions</li> <li>•Collaborative Outings</li> <li>•Community Outreach</li> <li>•EcyberMission</li> <li>•Drop in Tutoring</li> <li>•Game Afternoons</li> <li>•Journey to Discovery</li> <li>•Literature Experience Day</li> <li>•Magic Tree House Series</li> <li>•Math Modules</li> <li>•Newsletters</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Novel Discussions</li> <li>•Parent Council Meetings</li> <li>•Parent Trainings</li> <li>•Readers' Theater</li> <li>•Real World Math</li> <li>•Robotics</li> <li>•Science Fairs</li> <li>•Service Learning Projects</li> <li>•Story Time with the CEO</li> <li>•Summer Enrichment</li> <li>•Who's Who in SOAR</li> </ul> |
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## Comprehensive Guidance and SAP Services

### **Collaborations**

**S.O.A.R.:** Random Acts of Kindness and Leadership

**Title 1:** Parent Learning Opportunities

**Step Up:** Workshops on Study Skills, Organization and Motivation

**Pupil Health:** Dental Health Month, Mental Health Month

**Communications Department:** Fundraisers and Outreach

**Special Education:** Personal/Social Life Skills, Self-esteem

**S.A.D.D.:** Red Ribbon Week

**C.C.L.:** Journey to Discovery, Discovery Days

**American School Counselor Association (ASCA) Model**

**Character Education:** PAVCS Has Character

**Individual, Small Group, Classroom Guidance, All-School Assemblies:** Study Skills, Motivation, Teen Pregnancy and Parenting

**Career Development:** PA Academic Standards for Career Education and Work, Career Speaker Series, Interest Inventories; Virtual College/Career Fair

**Academic Development:** RTI/504/IEP/ SAP, Advising, Study Skills, Test Prep, Graduation Projects

**Personal/Social Development:** Life Skills, Self Esteem, Anti-Bullying



## PAVCS Integrates Chapter 12

- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Character Education
- Counseling Services
- Crisis Response
- Dropout Prevention
- Drug and Alcohol Prevention
- Homeless Education
- Internet Use Policy
- Mental Health Awareness
- PA Academic Standards for Work and Career
- Pandemic Flu Plan
- Suicide Prevention
- Student Assistance Program (SAP)
- Teen Pregnancy and Parenting Support and Education

In 2010-2011, PAVCS will be the first cyber school in the nation to host a Virtual D.A.R.E. program.



## Parent Ambassador Program

Mentoring – NEW and Transitioning Families

Parent Collaboration Groups

Enrollment Support

Discovery Day Booth

Outings

Community Service Connections

Advocacy & Issues

Networking Open Houses \* PSSA Hospitality

Partner Project Groups

Reciprocal Professional Development



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## Parent Ambassador Program

### **Mission**

To provide leadership for PAVCS Parents to form Parent and Staff relationships of equality and respect allowing its transformational power to shape the PAVCS community.

### **What we Believe about the Parent Ambassador Program**

We support and foster the optimal development of student and family members, strengthen and empower families and the PAVCS community.

We provide mentoring, training and education, and help build community for our families and school. We provide Voice in program decisions, policy and build sustainability in our school.



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**We are honored to be here  
today among educators across  
the state of Pennsylvania who  
truly make a difference.**

***Thank You!***