



## **Howard County Public School System**

### **Multilingual Parent Leadership Program (MPLP)**

The Multilingual Parent Leadership Program (MPLP) is designed to increase leadership capacity of Multilingual parents to step into leadership roles in schools and communities as advocates on behalf of the system's Multilingual students. The six-week program helps Multilingual parents understand the framework of the US educational system and the structure and functions of the Howard County Public School System.

The inaugural class began during spring of 2006. Since that time the system has hosted 20 cohorts. The 21st cohort will start in the fall of 2022. In each session the participants receive information about the school system.

Information about the MPLP program is disseminated through the HCPSS website, HCPSS news, and word of mouth. Many past participants have recommended the program to friends. It has in the past been advertised at Chinese language schools, CAPA (Chinese American Parent Association), PTA Council, Korean churches, CONEXIONES, Muslim Council, and the Kaur Foundation.

This program has opened a venue for Multilingual parents to visit the Board of Education's Central Office building as well as their own children's school. Information shared during the sessions assists parents in making informed decisions about the schooling of their children and serves to increase the participation of parents from Multilingual communities in the life of schools and the school system.

The graduates of the program are serving on their respective PTA advisory committees as well as curriculum advisories in county and state level.

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Multilingual Family Services

