According to an African proverb, “it takes a village to raise a child.” The village is comprised of various stakeholders – parents, families, teachers, administrators, and community members and organizations. Each stakeholder has different, but interrelated roles that are integral to the effective schooling of children. The village concept is especially vital when addressing the varying educational needs of culturally diverse students and their families. Recognizing the importance of parental and community involvement in the education of children, the National Education Association Policy Brief (2008) states that “the whole community has an essential role to play in the growth and development of its young people. In addition to the vital role that parents and family members play in a child’s education, the broader community too has a responsibility to assure high quality-education for all students” (NEA, 2008, p. 1).

The African-American Advisory Council (AAAC) is a collaborative effort between key stakeholders and is committed to creating a “safe learning environments that meet the cultural, academic, and socioemotional needs of all students.” The AAAC brings stakeholders of the village together to establish strong partnerships to implement strategies which more effectively engage and support the unique social, educational, emotional, and cultural needs of African-American students.

The purpose of the AAAC is to involve and engage parents, families, students, educators, and community members in the decision making process at the local, district and regional level to improve the quality of education for African-American students by raising the level of awareness in our community about cultural learning differences and promoting an understanding among parents, educators, and others about culturally sensitive issues relating to the education of African-American students.

AAAC is committed to ensuring that all students achieve “Excellence on Purpose.”

ABOUT THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (AAPAC)
SCHOOL SITE ADVISORY

Recognizing that parent/family involvement plays a vital role in fostering student success, African-American Parent Advisory Councils (AAPACs) have been established at various schools in Moreno Valley Unified School District. AAPAC is open to all parents.

The Goals of AAPAC are to:

1. **Engage, Equip, and Empower Parents** to advocate for the academic success of their child.
2. Expand and improve the educational opportunities for African-American students.
3. Ensure academic success through high expectation, rigorous and challenging curricula and instruction.
4. Work to enhance and support the educational, personal, and career goals of every African-American student.
5. Encourage success in the regular school program through a collaborative decision-making process within the district, school level and community.

To get more information about how to get involved with or start an AAPAC at your child’s school, please contact a representative from the African-American Advisory Council.