

# The Role of Teachers' Unions in Parent Teacher Home Visits

## Our History

In 1998, parents from a low-income neighborhood in Sacramento, CA, used community-organizing principles to develop a strategy intended to build trust and accountability between parents and teachers, starting with a voluntary home visit. In an unprecedented collaboration, the local teachers' union (SCTA), the local school district (SCUSD), and the community organizing group, Sacramento ACT, formed a pilot project.



*"When we as educators go to people's homes, when parents welcome us into their homes, there's something very powerful about that."*

Randi Weingarten, President American Federation of Teachers

## Our National Network

The project evolved into a nonprofit organization and word of the program's success spread beyond Sacramento. Our founding parents and teachers have since answered thousands of requests to train communities like theirs, from Washington to Florida, in rural, suburban and urban districts across the United States. Local collaboration with union partners is a core readiness metric we use when considering a group's application to be trained. We credit our longevity, sustainability, and the long-term integrity of our work to the dynamic support of our union partners.

*"We've been proud to support PTHV as high-impact engagement for students and their families, professional development for educators and powerful relationship building between school and community."*

Lily Eskelsen García, Past President  
National Education Association



## Our Leadership

The PTHV Board of Directors, representative of the work across the country, includes our national union partners, American Federation of Teachers (AFT) and National Education Association (NEA). There is also local union representation.

### References

NEA Foundation Issue Brief: Parent Teacher Home Visits  
American Educator Article re St. Paul Federation of Teachers PTHV  
See more in Toolbox at [www.pthvp.org](http://www.pthvp.org)