

ESE Parent Rep

Building a Culture
of Inclusion



Introductions

Jessica Meza: esesouth@hccptaptsa.org

Will Haynes: esenorth@hccptaptsa.org

What We'll Cover

- What is the ESE Parent Rep Initiative
- How you can be involved
- The role of an ESE Parent Rep (how this looks in real life)
- Building the role (4 milestones)
- Time commitment
- Support for ESE Parent Reps

What is ESE?

Exceptional Student Education

Exceptional Student Education is specially designed instruction and related services that are provided to students with disabilities and students who are identified as gifted.

What is The ESE Parent Rep Initiative?

- Join Initiative from Hillsborough County Council PTA and Superintendent's Advisory Council for the Education of Students with Disabilities
- Adding a Parent Rep to the PTA
- Training and supporting PTAs/Parent Reps

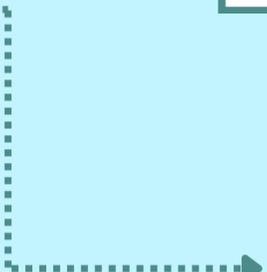
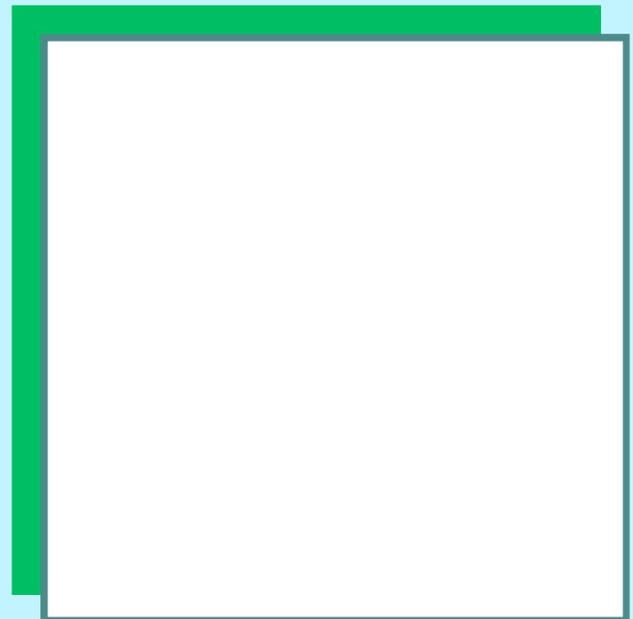
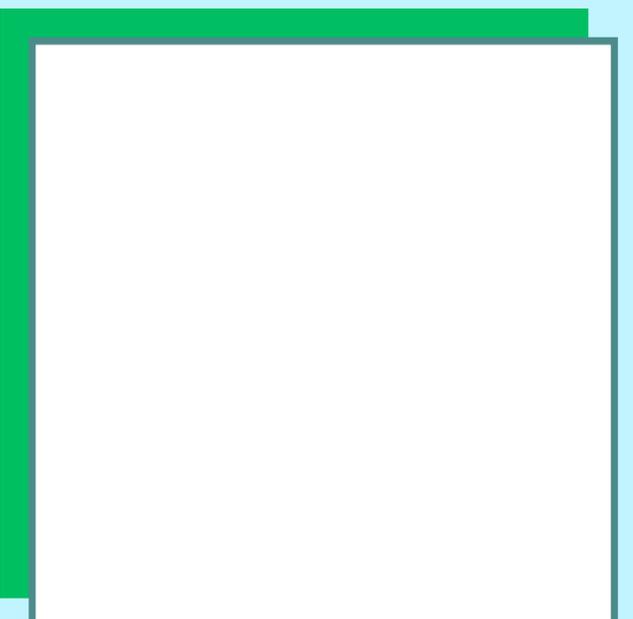
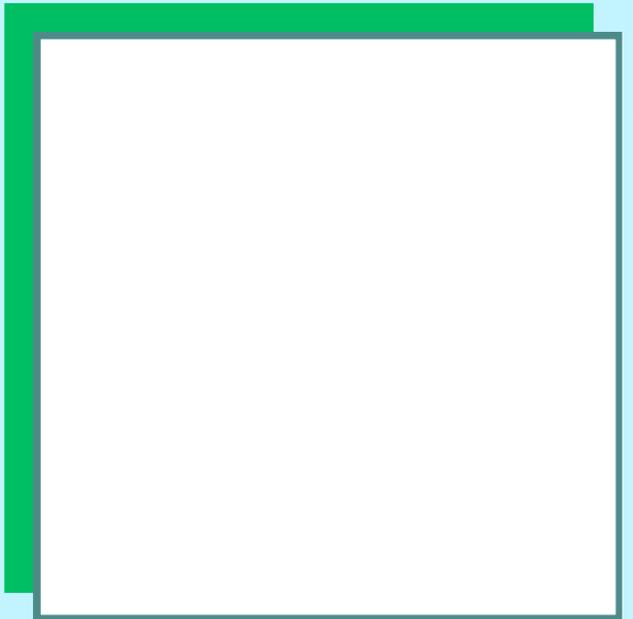
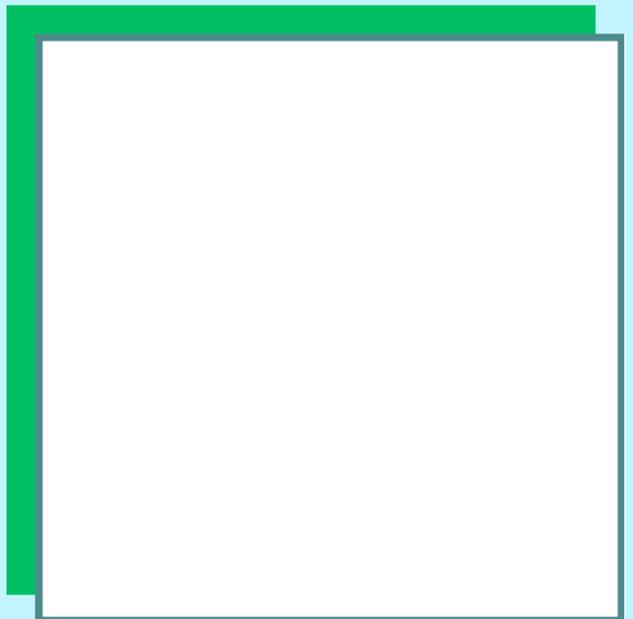
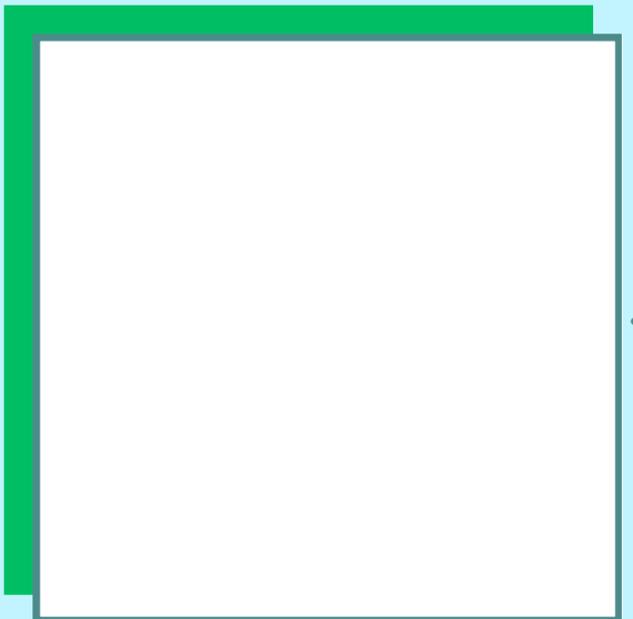
Why ESE Parent Reps?

- Improve communication and inclusion of ESE families
- Strengthen connection between ESE families, staff, and school
- Provide peer support and a shared voice for ESE parents
- Increase ESE family engagement, involvement, and participation in school activities
- Enhanced sense of community (beyond Awareness to Acceptance)

How You Can Be Involved

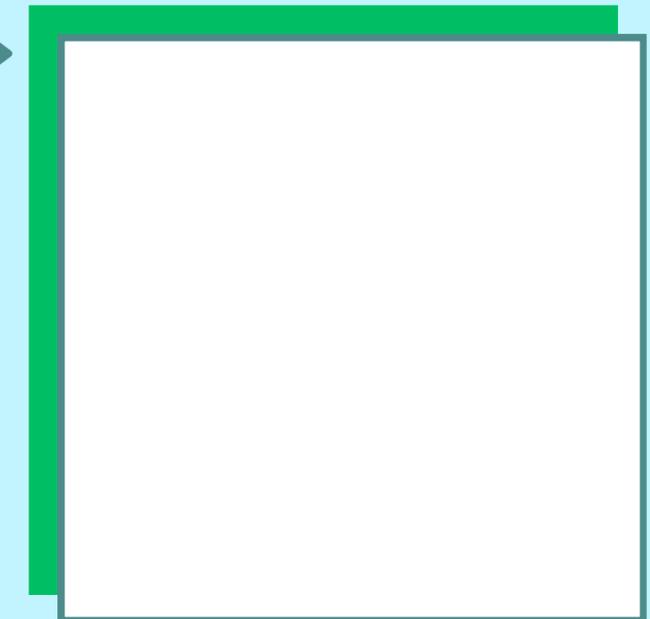
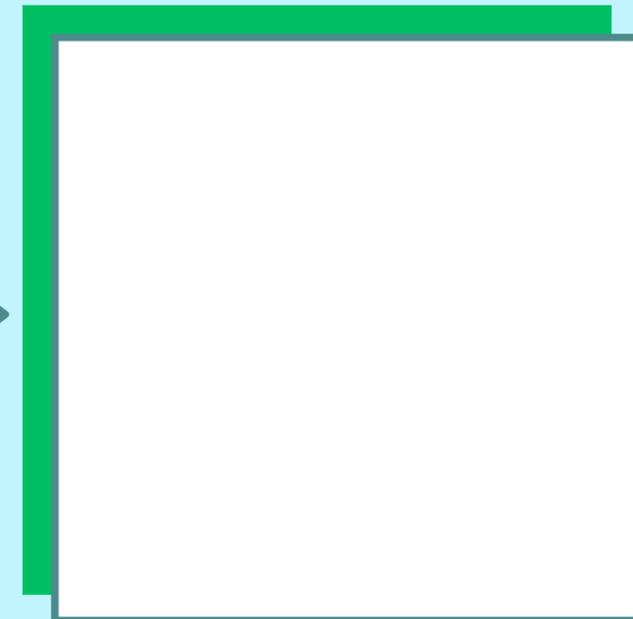
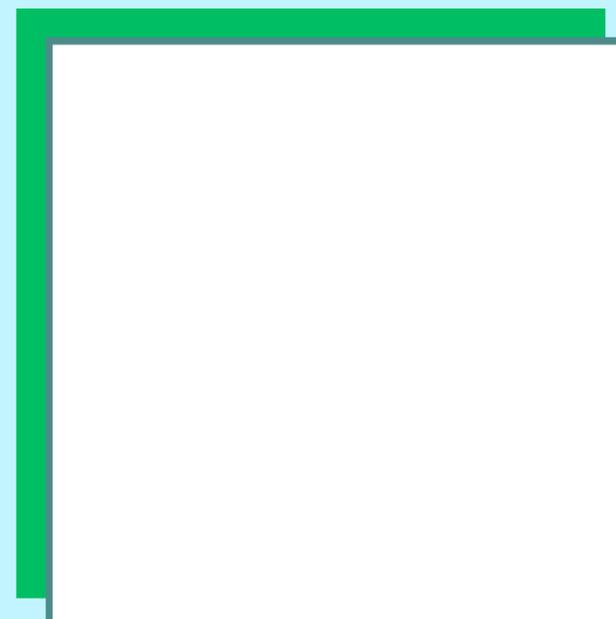
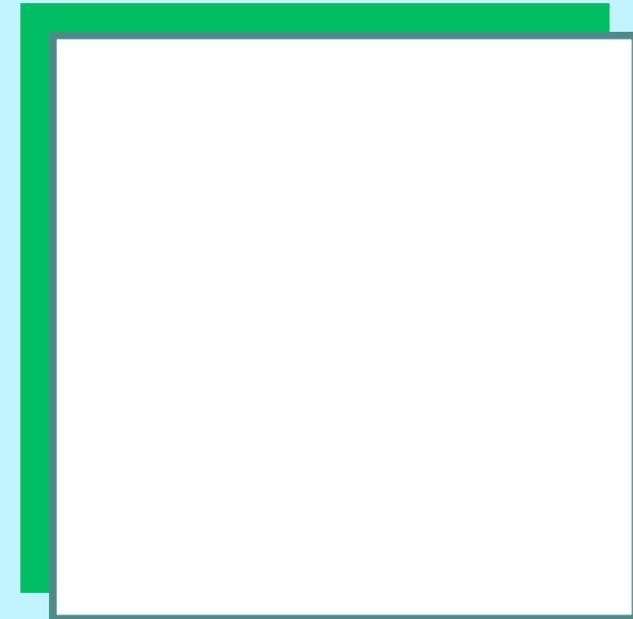
- Become the parent rep for your PTA
- Help recruit/support parent rep for your PTA
- Join the committee (create resources/tools)
- Help charter a county-wide SEPTA (Special Education PTA)

ROLE DESCRIPTION



Represent
the ESE
parent
community
at PTA
meetings

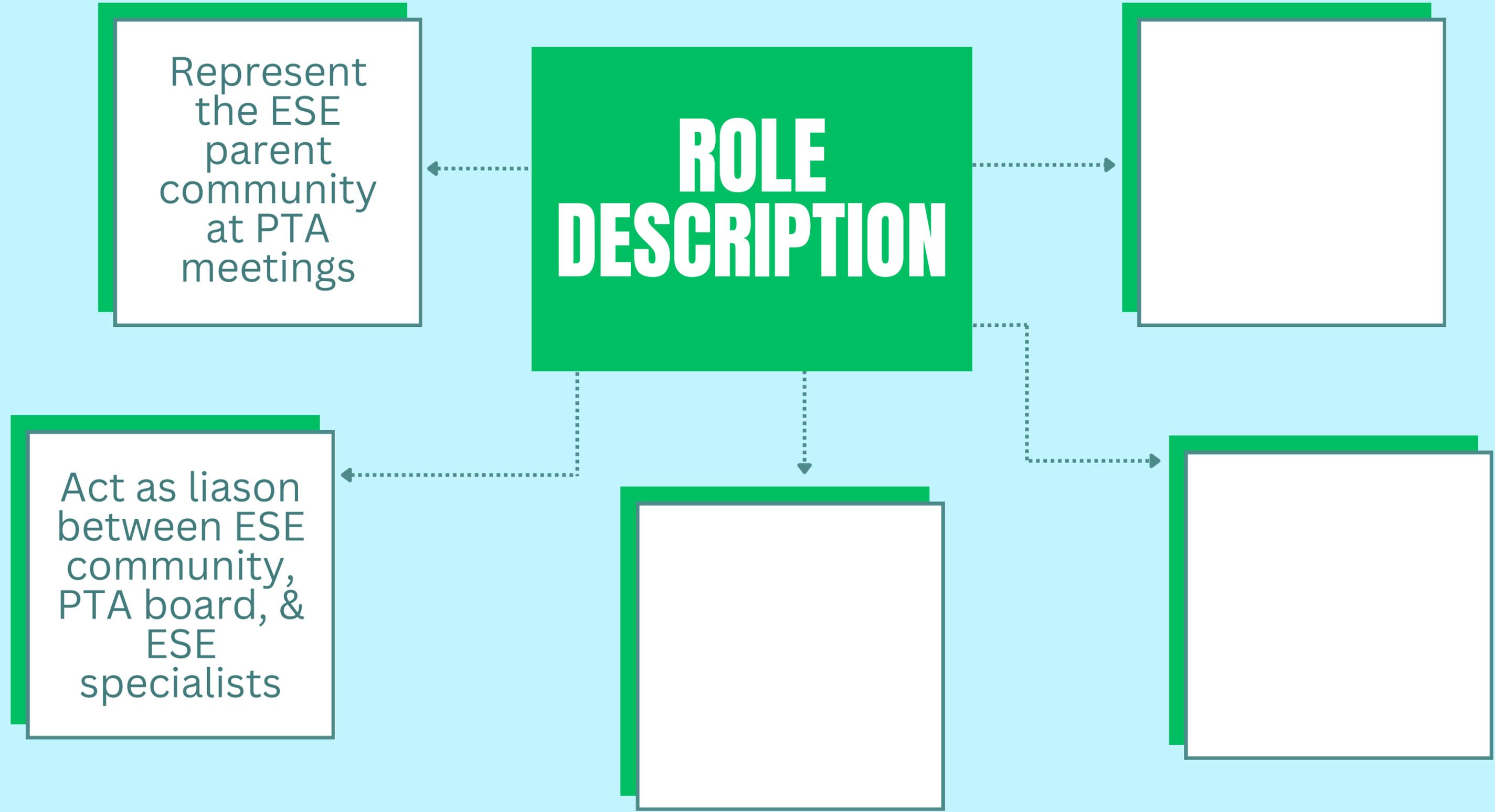
ROLE DESCRIPTION



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Represent the ESE parent community at PTA meetings

Act as liason between ESE community, PTA board, & ESE specialists

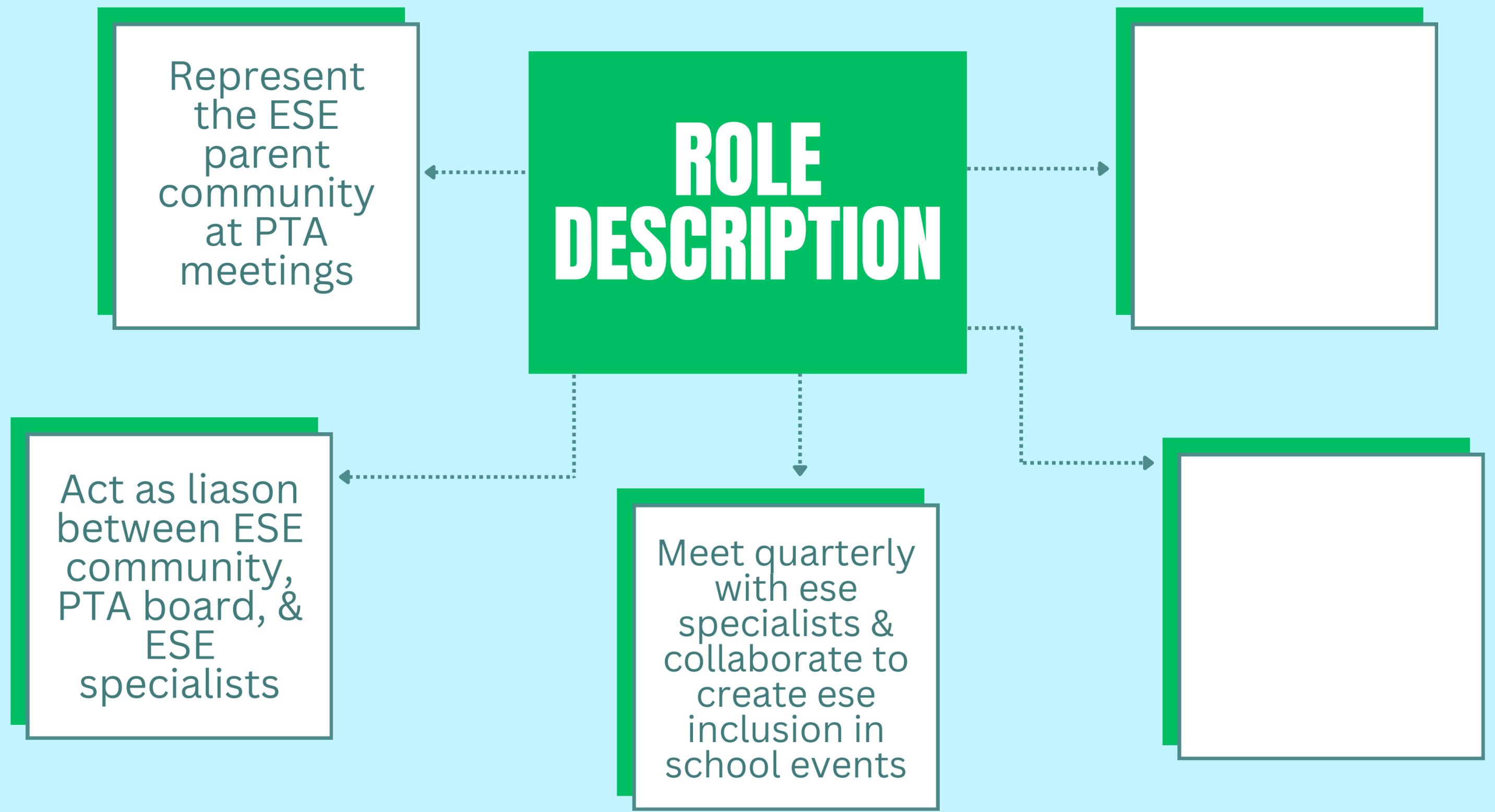


ROLE DESCRIPTION

Represent the ESE parent community at PTA meetings

Act as liason between ESE community, PTA board, & ESE specialists

Meet quarterly with ese specialists & collaborate to create ese inclusion in school events



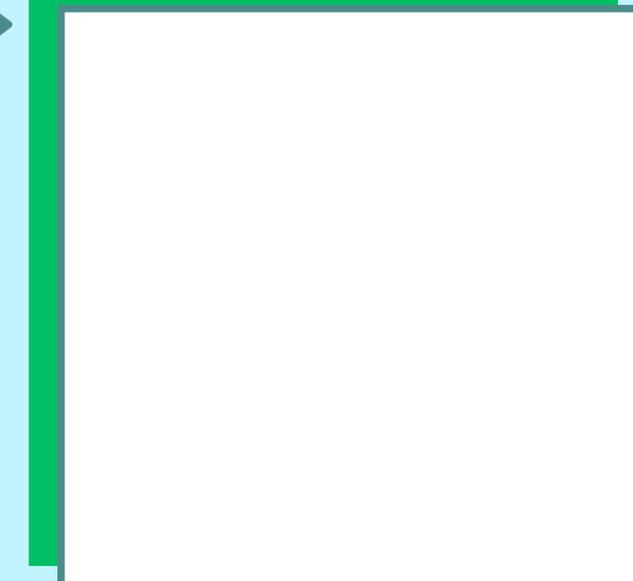
ROLE DESCRIPTION

Represent the ESE parent community at PTA meetings

Help distribute materials, info, and resources

Act as liason between ESE community, PTA board, & ESE specialists

Meet quarterly with ese specialists & collaborate to create ese inclusion in school events



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Represent the ESE parent community at PTA meetings

Help distribute materials, info, and resources by FDLRS through SLC e-mail list

Act as liason between ESE community, PTA board, & ESE specialists

Meet quarterly with ese specialists & collaborate to create ese inclusion in school events

Encourage ESE survey participation

In other words...

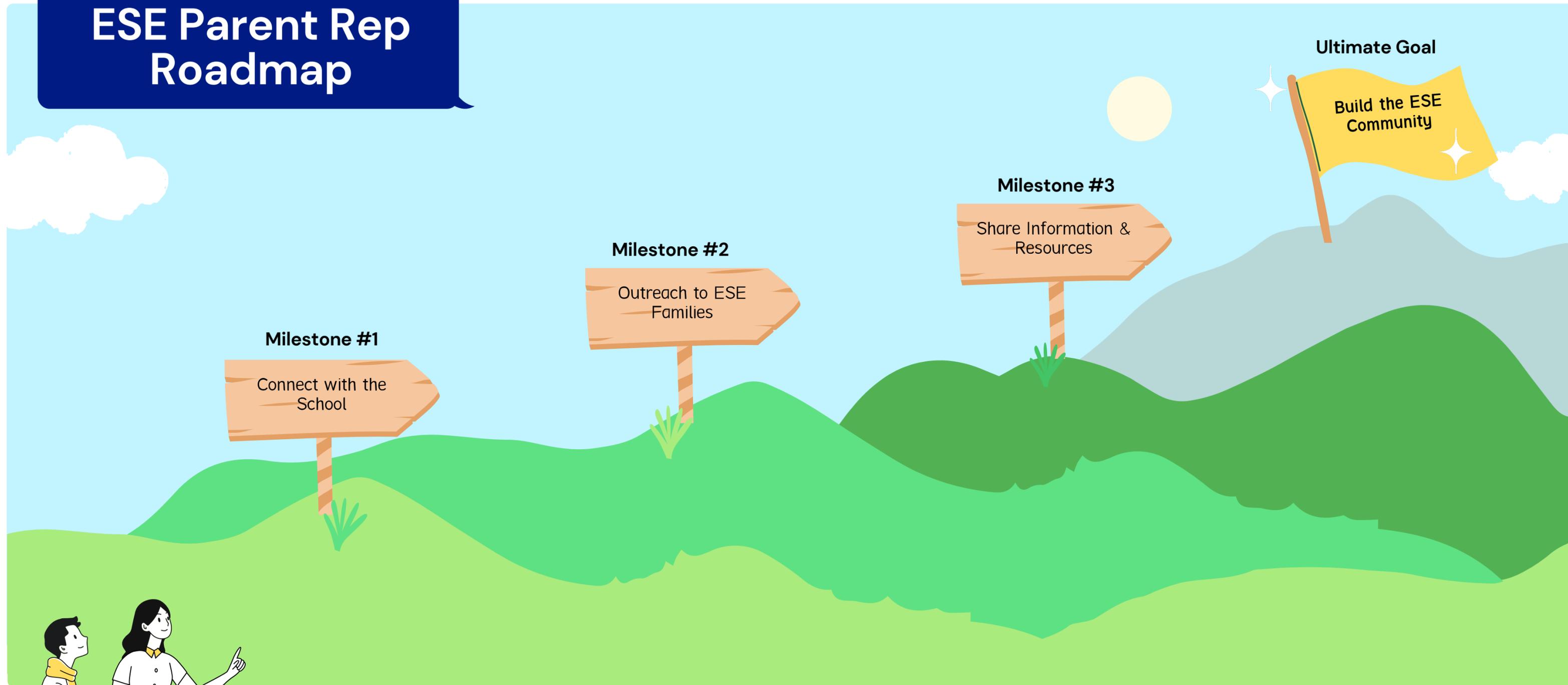
The ESE Parent Rep serves as a bridge between ESE families and the school community. Their role is to strengthen communication, increase engagement, and promote inclusion.

- Attends PTA meetings to represent ESE family needs and perspectives
- Encourages ESE families to complete school surveys to provide feedback
- Brings concerns from ESE parents to the principal, ESE staff, and teachers
- Collaborates with PTA/staff to modify school activities so ESE students can join

How to Get There?

Building the ESE Parent Rep Role

ESE Parent Rep Roadmap



Milestone #1
Connect with the School

Milestone #2
Outreach to ESE Families

Milestone #3
Share Information & Resources

Ultimate Goal
Build the ESE Community



1

- Meet with school leadership and ESE Staff
- Gather input on how you can support ESE families

2

- Build awareness of your role
- Connect with ESE families
- Gather contact info and input on needs

3

- Keep ESE families informed
- Share resources/events
- Regular communication

4

- Provide opportunities for connection
- Host activities/events

Connect With the School

Meet with administration and ESE staff

Actions

- Meet with principal, Assistant Principal, guidance counselor, etc.
- Meet with ESE teachers and support staff
- Get recommendations on connecting with parents
- Gather general demographic information (how many students have IEPs, student representation, etc.)

Connect With ESE Families

Announce Your Role and Gather Info

Actions

- PTA social media, website, meeting announcements
- Send home flyers with students
- Hold a "meet and greet" event
- Survey families on needs (including district ESE surveys)
- Create a contact list, FB group, etc.
- Build committee of like-minded parents/PTA members

Share Information & Resources

Maintain Regular Communication

Actions

- Share the calendar of school events and accommodation info
 - Create FAQs for school events that provide more info to ESE families
 - Send info/resources through email, social media, flyers
 - Share community ESE resources (CARD events, Sunshine Sundays, etc.)
 - Informational sessions, community classes, training opportunities
- 

Build the ESE Community

Provide Opportunities for Connection

Actions

- Increase advocacy efforts
 - Plan networking events, support groups, etc. for ESE families
 - Organize activities to foster inclusion (including existing PTA/school events)
 - Check in regularly with ESE staff/teachers
 - Create educational opportunities to foster acceptance, not just awareness
- 

Time Commitment

The time involved will vary depending on your school, the PTA, and needs of your ESE families. But remember, this is a committee, so the Parent Rep does not need to do it alone.

Where time is spent?

- Attending PTA meetings (several times a year)
- Meeting with ESE teachers, admin, and parents (several times a year)
- Reviewing school events to help add layers of inclusively (est. 30 mins per event)
- Share existing or create new resources (few minutes to few hours a month)
- Create events, hold committee meetings, etc. (few hours a month)

Support for PTAs/Parent Reps

Toolbox of Resources

Training Opportunities

Sharing resources/support with one another



Questions?

Get Involved



<https://bit.ly/ESEParentRep>

Resources

HCCPTA ESE Resources & Info: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1339251516971817>

<https://hccptaptsatampafl.ptaptsa.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HCCPTA>

Superintendent's Advisory Council: <https://www.hillsboroughschools.org/Page/6208>