

Colorado Accountability Conference 2004

Developing a Framework to Increase Parental Involvement in Schools

Presented by:

Judith Martinez, M.U.R.P.

National Center for School Engagement at
The Colorado Foundation for Families and Children

www.truancyprevention.org

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Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- History of Parental Involvement in Schools
- "Definition and Reflections" Activity
- Effective Models and Strategies to Increase Involvement
- Resources/Materials Available

Purpose of Workshop

- Increase awareness of the benefits of parental involvement.
- Review and discuss effective practices to increase parental involvement.
- Provide resources and materials to build parent and school collaborations.

Benefits of Parent Involvement

- When schools work together with families to support learning, children tend to succeed not just in school, but throughout life.

■ Source: The Parent Institute

Benefits of Parent Involvement

Research indicates that the most accurate predictor of a student's achievement in school is not income or social status, but the extent the student's family is able to:

1. Create a home environment that encourages learning.
2. Express high and realistic expectations for their children's achievement and future careers.
3. Become involved in their children's education at school and in the community.

Source: www.cde.state.co.us - Strengthening Parent Involvement Toolkit and The Parent Institute

Benefits of Parent Involvement

■ The Triple A_s

1. Student Achievement
2. Student Attendance
3. Student Attachment

History of Parent Involvement

- Post WWI (1945 - 1950s)
 - ✓ Participation in parent conferences
 - ✓ Homework monitoring
 - ✓ Report card review - sign report card
 - ✓ PTA meetings
 - ✓ Fundraising events
 - ✓ Mother-focused - "room mothers"

Source: Milbrey McLaughlin, *Educational Researcher*, (December 1990)

History of Parent Involvement

- 1960s

“In the mid-1960s educators and policy-makers focused on parent involvement as a promising way to improve educational outcomes for poor and underachieving students, and they developed a variety of models and strategies to promote such involvement.”

Source: Milbrey McLaughlin and Patrick Shields, *Phi Delta Kappan* (October 1987)

History of Parent Involvement

- 1960s – 1970s
- ✓ Parent involvement mandates – Title 1/War on Poverty Programs, Title VII (Bilingual Education)
- ✓ Headstart model – involvement of parents as paraprofessionals
- ✓ Movements for community control of education – integration and education of African American and Latino Children
- ✓ Focus on compliance of mandates versus partnering with parents

History of Parent Involvement

- 1979 – 1980s
 - ✓ Research completed on federal mandates related to parent involvement
 - ✓ Increase in parent involvement did not translate to decision-making and governances
 - ✓ Reagan administration withdrew federal mandates
 - ✓ Best practices and models to support involvement developed

History of Parent Involvement

Parent Involvement from 1945 to 1985 included traditional school organizations and support (PTAs and volunteerism among middle class parents) by some school districts in response to federal mandates to involve low-income parents in policy-making in compensatory education and other federally funded programs.

Source – *New Directions in Parent Involvement/Academy for Educational Development, Inc (1992)*

History of Parent Involvement

- 1990s to Today
- ✓ Parent involvement mandates – No Child Left Behind, School Accountability Teams
- ✓ Movements for community control of education – education of low-income children, special education students, and English Language Learners
- ✓ Focus on implementing strategies to promote parent, family, and community involvement

Parent Involvement Model

Community Impact model by Ira Gordon (1979) include six roles for parents:

1. Parents as Teachers
2. Parents as Volunteers
3. Parents as Paraprofessionals
4. Parents as Adult Learners
5. Parents as Adult Educators
6. Parents as Decision-Makers

Framework for Parent Involvement

Conceptual Framework for Parent Involvement by B. Cervone and K. O'Leary (1982) includes four forms of parent activity:

1. Reporting progress (exchange of information)
2. Special Events
3. Parent Education
4. Parent teaching in school and at home

Home-School Partnership Programs

In 1982, research conducted by Oliver Moles identified key program characteristics related to parent involvement:

1. Educational resources/strategies to assist parents in helping their children at home
2. Parent education, referral, and support services to help parents improve their children's learning
3. Channels for home-school communication
4. Opportunities for parent-teacher contact to improve student learnings

Six Types of School-Family-Community Involvement

Joyce Epstein (Center on School, Family and Community Partnerships at John Hopkins University) has identified six important types of cooperation between families, schools, and other community organizations.

- 1. Parenting**
- 2. Communicating**
- 3. Volunteering**
- 4. Learning at Home**
- 5. Decision-making**
- 6. Collaboration with the Community**

Favorite Websites

- Colorin Colorado – Helping kids learn to read and succeed

www.colorincolorado.org (in English & Spanish)

- Positive Behavior Supports -

www.pbis.org/main.htm or

www.pbis.org/spanish

- Strengthening Parent Involvement:

A Toolkit - www.cde.state.co.us/cde

[unified/download/pi_toolkit.pdf](http://www.cde.state.co.us/cde/unified/download/pi_toolkit.pdf)