



Illinois State Board of Education

2011 Parent Involvement Regional Summits

Welcome

This session will begin at 3:30 PM

Today's Topic

How to get Families Engaged in an Early Childhood Setting



Illinois State Board of Education

2011 Parent Involvement Regional Summits

How to get Families Engaged in an Early Childhood Setting

This Session is the collaborative work of:

Illinois State Board of Education Division of Innovation & Improvement

Illinois State Board of Education Division of Early Childhood

Jefferson School, Moline School District 40

Academic Development Institute

Great Lakes West Comprehensive Center

How to get Families Engaged in an Early
Childhood Setting

Welcome & Introduction

Joseph Banks

Illinois State Board of Education

Chicago Office, Division of Innovation & Improvement

- Welcome
- Overview
- Question & Answer Time

Questions

The presenter will respond to your questions after the presentation.

- Click on the hand icon to raise your hand
- Type your question into the Question Box

All 2012 webinar sessions are recorded and posted to the *Tool Box* page at *IllinoisParents.org*

Welcome to
IllinoisParents.org
Resources for Families and Schools to Strengthen School Communities

HOME RESOURCES FOR PARENTS RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS SCHOOL COMMUNITY JOURNAL ILLINOIS ORGANIZATIONS AND EVENTS FAMILY ENGAGEMENT TOOL

Provided for Illinois Families and Schools
by the Illinois State Board of Education's Division of Innovation and Improvement

Family Engagement Webinar Series

- New!** Improving High School Family Engagement through Social Emotional Learning
(Click here to start presentation)
Download Powerpoint
SEL Presenters Information (PDF)
- New!** Improving High School Family Engagement through Parent Support Centers
(Click here to start presentation)
Download Powerpoint
Webinar Qs & As (PDF)
- Creating a Welcoming Place
(Click here to start presentation)
Download Powerpoint

Parent Involvement in Action Series

Discover creative applications of research-based practices. Read about the innovative strategies other schools across the country have implemented to successfully engaged parents in their children's learning. Become acquainted with the free resources available to your school through the Parent Involvement Analysis online tool.

Select from dropdown

Share IllinoisParents.org with your Families

- Presentation Introduction**
Use this PowerPoint™ presentation as an orientation tool for the families you serve at your next Parent meeting.
(Click here to download)
- Informational Brochure**
Created specifically with parents in mind, this brochure helps families discover tip sheets, parent student activities, and other parenting information.
(Click here to download and print)
- Link to IllinoisParents.org**
You can link your families to resources on raising and educating their children by placing a link to IllinoisParents.org on your school or district website.

Family Engagement Tool Orientation

- Orientation to FET Online Tool**
(Family Engagement Tool)
For administrators, school staff and school team members. This Webinar will help schools in the development of the family engagement components for their School Improvement Plans.
(Click here to start the recorded presentation)
(Click here to view PowerPoint)

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Today's Presenters

Rhonda Clark

Principal Consultant

Early Childhood Division

Illinois State Board of Education

Rachel L. Fowler

Principal Jefferson School

Moline School District 40

Early Childhood Block Grant

- Parent Education and Involvement
 - Parent volunteer opportunities
 - Classroom activities
 - Field trips
 - Preparing classroom materials
 - School functions
 - Progress reporting to parents
 - Narrative reports
 - Parent Conferences
 - Home visits
 - Parent Activities
 - Parenting skills
 - Parent education events



Early Childhood Block Grant



Early Childhood Block Grant



Rachel L. Fowler
Principal
Jefferson School
Moline School District 40



Increasing Family Engagement in a Early Childhood Setting



What is the one thing that most likely will be with a child from the time he enters kindergarten to the time he graduates from high school?

Their Parents...



We know parent involvement can make a difference, but...

- Up to 10% of our families were participating in family/child activities.
- A majority of parents reported that they did not know what was going on at school.
- Parents were comfortable with the classroom teachers, but not with the entire school



*Even if you are on the right track,
You'll get run over if you just sit there.
-Will Rogers*

What did we need to do...

Be reflective of your current practice

What do you believe about family activities

What is the climate of your school

Why are you completing the activity

What is the expectation of the activity

Parent Involvement vs. Family Engagement

Parent Involvement

- All families are involved in their children's learning
- There are more members of the family beyond the parent and one child
- One type of activity is offered and is meant to meet all parent's needs

Family Engagement

- Not all families are "engaged" or active in their child's learning
- All family members are recognized and included
- Participation may take on many forms and depends on the unique characteristics of the family

Where did we start?

- Targeted Climate Change
- Parent Contract
- Created Activities with a purpose
- Created a variety of activities
- Rewarded Participation



Targeted Climate Change

- A friendly expectation is emphasized
- Meaningful displays in the hallway
- Personal invitation to events
 - Use of Interpreter
 - Targeted Invitations
 - Follow Up Thank You

Building Wide Data Center



Parent Contract emphasizes

- Parent Responsibility
 - Student Attendance
 - Family Participation
 - Parent Volunteers
- Rewards the positive behavior
 - Useful materials given to families
 - Great Door Prizes
 - Kohl's Gift Cards given at the End of the Year

Volunteer Program

- What does National Statistics tell us?
 - At the end of September 2011, the percentage of people volunteering rose to 26.8%. This is an increase from 2010.
 - A majority of volunteers are women. Mothers are more likely to volunteer than fathers.
 - People between the ages of 35 to 44-years-old and 45 to 54-years-old were most likely to volunteer
 - A person in their early twenties were the least likely to volunteer.
 - Most volunteers are involved in either one or two organizations.
 - Among volunteers, more are likely to volunteer when they are asked to volunteer.

(Statistics gathered from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Feb. 22, 2012)

What are the results...

- Since our parent volunteer campaign,
 - 39% of parents have volunteered at Jefferson
 - 62% of the parent volunteers have volunteered for more than the two hour requirement.
 - Number of hours volunteered range from 36.5 hours to .5 hours.
 - 15% of the parent volunteer fall in the 35 to 44-year-olds age range. A majority of volunteers are in their 20s.
 - 13% of the parent volunteers are men.



What are the Volunteers Doing?



- Special Events
 - Bulb Planting
 - Hand Painting
 - Spring Clean Up
- Learning Activity Days
 - Fall Festival
 - Winter Festival
 - Welcome Summer Day
- Parent Volunteer Days
- Classroom Volunteers
- Library Cart
- Photographer

Activities with a Purpose

- Meet a need based on student data
- Reflect parent's needs expressed on survey
- Exemplify parent research based material



Combination of School and Home Events

- Series of 5 Events Held at School
 - What Your Child Will Learn in Preschool
 - Ways to Encourage Pre-Literacy
 - Ways to Encourage Math Skills
 - Ways to Encourage Science Skills
 - Moving Up to Kindergarten Night
- Two Take Home Packets
 - January Take Home Pack
 - February Take Home Pack

Materials Families Receive by the End of the Year

- Dry Erase Board
- Dry Erase Markers
- Magnetic Letters
- Magnetic Numbers
- Cookie Sheet
- 2 Dice
- 6 Paperback Books
- Highlighter
- Measuring Strips
- Wikki Stix
- Playdough
- Cookie Cutter
- Placemat
- Alphabet Cards
- Number Cards

What are the Results

- Improvement in Student Data
 - 69% to 75% of all children attending Jefferson have shown improvement in skills
 - 76% of all children attending Jefferson are meeting Math Benchmarks and Language Benchmarks
- Increase in parents completing target activities
 - 79% of all families participate in family engagement activities
 - Families participated in RTI intervention take home activities
 - Over 50% of children in a Tier 3 intervention were placed on maintenance after a nine week cycle. Parents completed activities at home as well as the intervention at school.

Where do we go from here

- Target hard to reach parents
 - Personal Phone Calls
 - Offer programs during the school day
 - Interpreters will be available during the activities
- Make sure all families feel welcome no matter when the child registers
- Continue to allow activities to reflect what families request
 - Evaluate how we are communicating with families
 - Review what our presumptions are
 - Reflect on the success of this school year



Is Family Engagement Worthwhile?

Families are an untapped resource as an intervention to a child's education. Parents desire for their children to succeed. Research has shown that parents no longer measure their child's success based on college attendance or job acquisition . Instead, parents desire their child to meet his or her potential. As educators, we need to assist families in this process.

Final Thought...

If you see a turtle on a fence post,
you know it had some help.

Alex Haley



Questions

The presenter will now respond to your questions.

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2012 Webinar Schedule

Parent Involvement in High Poverty Schools

March 22, 2012

Very Important Parents (VIP): Utilizing Parents during the School Day as a Resource to Improve Reading Outcomes for Students

April 26, 2012

Involving at Risk Families in Rtl supports with an ELL Focus

May 10, 2012

Contact Information

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