

Illinois State Board of Education

2011 Parent Involvement Regional Summits

Welcome

This session will begin at 3:30 PM

Today's Topic

Improving High School Family Engagement through Parent Support Centers

2012 ISBE Webinar Series



Illinois State Board of Education

2011 Parent Involvement Regional Summits

Improving High School Family Engagement through Parent Support Centers

This Session is the collaborative work of:

Illinois State Board of Education Division of Innovation & Improvement

Academic Development Institute
Great Lakes West Comprehensive Center



Great Lakes West Comprehensive Center

Welcome & Introduction

Joseph Banks

Illinois State Board of Education
Chicago Office, Division of Innovation & Improvement

- Welcome
- Overview
- Question & Answer Time

Today's Presenters

Anne Coffman

Director, Federal & State Programs Community High School District #218

With:

Philip Henry,

Associate Principal, Eisenhower High School Greg Walder,

Associate Principal, Shepard High School

Malinda Majoch,

Associate Principal, Richards High School

Community High School District 218

- Chicago southwest suburban area—10 communities
- Calumet Park, Blue Island, Merrionette Park, Alsip, Robbins, Crestwood, Palos Heights, Worth, Chicago Ridge, Oak Lawn
- Eisenhower, Richards, Shepard High Schools
- Title I Schoolwide Programs

Community High School District 218

- Student Enrollment—5600
- Free/Reduced Lunch—60%
- White—40%
- Black—32%
- Hispanic—24%
- Other—4%
- Diversity of Home Languages

Challenge: Meaningful Parent Involvement

- 2005-2008: SIP, DIP, & Title I Plans
- More than parent-teacher conferences
- Ideas from workshops
- Parental involvement research
 - **Partnerships**
 - Proactive, positive focus
 - Personalization
- Washington, D.C.-area high schools

Development: Parent Liaison Positions & Parent Support Centers

- Fall 2008: Eisenhower School Improvement
 Team focus on parent involvement
- Winter 2009: Three Eisenhower Parent Liaisons hired
- Fall 2009: Eisenhower Parent Support Center established
- Fall 2010: Parent Liaison and Parent Support
 Center for Richards & Shepard

Implementation: Parent Liaison Positions & Parent Support Centers

- Title I Targeted Title I Schoolwide
- Key Focus Areas
 - ➤ Culture—involvement to engagement
 - ➤ Location—making room for what's important
 - Communication—multiple, varied, personal
 - ➤ Barriers---identifying and addressing

Culture: Involvement to Engagement

- Parents' role in student success
- Introduction of parent liaison position telephone, mailings, email, website
- Invitations to Parent Support Center
- Help to access student grades, school website
- Awareness of and personal invitations to meetings and workshops
- Encouragement to access academic support programs
- Personal contact for students' academic success

Location: Parent Support Centers

- Convenient school location
- Conference table
- Computers for parent use
- Individualized training
- Informational materials
- Parent liaisons provide link to teachers, counselors, deans, extracurricular activities, etc.

Communication: Multiple, Varied, Personal

- Parent and staff surveys
- Phone calls
- Emails
- Website
- Ongoing relationship with counseling department and deans
- Parent Support Team presence at school events

Barriers: Identification

- Language
- Unfamiliarity with American school system
- Culture
- Uncertainty of how to get involved
- Busy with home and work responsibilities
- Feelings of intimidation

Addressing Barriers

- Language & Culture
 - Bilingual Parent Liaison
 - Document Translation & Oral Interpretation at all parent events
 - Adult English classes
 - "Parents Helping Parents"—We share the same concerns and experiences

Addressing Barriers

- Unfamiliarity with American school system
 - ➤ Workshop series—Navigating the American Educational System, Pathways to Academic Excellence, Career Cruising for Parents
- Uncertainty of how to get involved
 - Title I Advisory Council
 - Fathers' Forum
 - Volunteering at parent events
 - Training (computer classes, English classes)

The proof is in the numbers...

Events	Dates	Attendance
Navigating the American Educational System	April, June, 2010; Sept., Feb., 2011; Sept., 2011	15-25 at each series
Adult English Classes	SeptNov. & FebApril 09-10, 10-11, 11-12	25-75 at each session
Computer Classes	2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012	30 per class
Pathways to Academic Excellent Workshops	September, December, March, 2010-2011, 2011- 2012	50 per workshop
Career Cruising for Parents	November, 2011	40
Fathers' Forum	3-4 times per year—09- 10, 10-11, 11-12	50 dads enrolled— attendance 10-25
Parent Support Center	2009-2012	100-500 parents

Community High School District 218 Values

NAVIGATING the FLEET of DISTRICT 218 SCHOOLS

Our values chart the District's course toward educational excellence.

Our goals and action plans reflect what we believe.

Shared Vision

We will foster a shared vision with all stakeholders through ongoing dialogue, planning, implementation and evaluation to promote student success.

Informed Decision Making

We will consider a variety of data sources and research to make informed decisions about our students.

High Expectations for Student Learning

We will require our students learn at high levels, and we will provide the necessary support and instruction to reach those standards.

Orderly Environment

We will foster a safe and inviting school where 21st century learning is the focus.

CHSD 218 VALUES

Equity & Opportunity

We will deliver equitable access and support to academic and co-curricular opportunities to maximize individual student success.

Rigorous Curriculum & Innovative Instruction

We will deliver and support curricula that will challenge all students using a variety of effective research based instructional and assessment strategies.

Meaningful Engagement

We will seek and utilize student, staff, parent and community input to ensure the success of the school community.

Community of Learners

We will engage in continuous and collaborative professional learning opportunities.

"The answer is to stop treating parents like 'clients' and start treating them like 'partners' in helping children learn."

John H. Wherry,
President, The Parent Institute
Fairfax, Virginia

Questions

Ask your question in one of two ways:

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

2012 Webinar Schedule

Improving High School Family Engagement through
Social and Emotional Learning
February 23, 2012

How to get Families Engaged in an Early Childhood

Setting

March 2, 2012

Parent Involvement in High Poverty Schools
March 22, 2012

Wrap Up

Contact Information

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All 2012 webinar sessions are recorded and will be posted to IllinoisParents.org website