



Arizona State  
**PIRC**  
PARENT INFORMATION  
RESOURCE CENTER

A program of the Chandler Education Foundation

## Consultation Services Booklet



**Menu of Services**

Introduction & Background.....3-4

Family Engagement Research & Results.....5

Giggles, Squiggles, and Squirms.....6

Family Friendly Walk-Through Assessment.....7-8

Professional Development Workshops.....9

Parent Liaison Training Series.....10

Framework Models for Family Engagement.....11-12

ParentAcademy for Student Success.....13

Integrated Service Package.....14-15

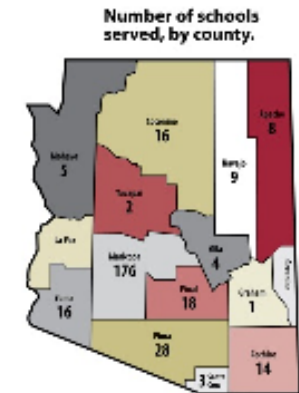
Service Inquiry Form.....16

*Our Mission:*  
 To effectively engage, energize, and empower educators, parents,  
 and community leaders to improve student achievement for all of  
 Arizona’s children.

## Introduction & Background

The Arizona State PIRC, a program of the Chandler Education Foundation, has been the state's leading provider for effective family, school, and community partnership services for over 12 years. Serving hundreds of urban and rural schools with low income and culturally diverse communities throughout the state, the Arizona State PIRC has developed a strong network of families, educators, and community partners committed to increasing student achievement.

Our statewide trainings and technical assistance services to Title I schools provide a systemic framework for increasing student achievement through meaningful parent engagement that is linked to learning.



### Educator Comments:

"Your services and guidance have been priceless. In just two years of support, Porter Elementary School has become a model school in Mesa in regards to parental involvement and support."

- Tony LaMantia, Principal

### Parent Comments:

"We spend more time talking about school and his educational needs. I feel more effective as a parent in my ability to help him work through issues."

The extensive services Arizona State PIRC has provided across the state has propelled school staff, district administrators, and family members to take responsibility in working together to improve student achievement

With the growing awareness of family, school, and community partnerships’ link to increased student achievement, the need for intensive coaching on how to successfully integrate family engagement into school and district improvement has been identified as a high-need area

The following outline provides a menu of services available through Arizona State PIRC to assist schools and districts engage families in the student learning process.

For further information, please contact Arizona State PIRC Director, JenniBrasington at 480.224.2061 / [jenni@azpirc.com](mailto:jenni@azpirc.com).

*Our Program is Committed to:*

- Educating stakeholders on the importance of parent engagement in education
- Empowering adults to be advocates for their children
- Strengthening school-home-community partnerships

“No question parent involvement is a crucial connection...in my new job of coaching principals this is clearly an area of ALL aspiring school leaders. The need for a comprehensive plan for parent engagement is crucial and Arizona State PIRC provides this service.”

-Dr. Bob Fleischman,  
Director of School Leadership,  
IsaacElementary School District

AZ State PIRC Service	Check Off for Further Details
Giggles, Squiggles, and Squirms	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Friendly Walk-Through Assessment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Professional Development Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent Liaison Trainings	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family Engagement Models	<input type="checkbox"/>
Parent Academy of Student Success	<input type="checkbox"/>
Full Service Package	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Requestor Information:**

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

School & District: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Requests can also be submitted electronically at [www.azpirc.com](http://www.azpirc.com).

PackageService	Details
<b>AZ PIRC Signatures</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family Friendly Walk-Through Assessment</li> <li>Framework Model selection &amp; implementation</li> <li>Parent Liaison training</li> <li>PASS curriculum &amp; workshop facilitation</li> <li>Professional development</li> </ul>
<b>Family Engagement Coach</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Family engagement personnel coaching</li> <li>Customized professional development design and facilitation</li> <li>Implementation of FFWT strategies</li> <li>Coaching on framework model selection and implementation</li> <li>Guidance on family engagement workshops/events</li> <li>Assistance with brokering community partnerships</li> </ul>
<b>Communication Systems Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parent newsletters, brochures, parent compacts, informational letters, welcome packets, etc.</li> <li>Family engagement section on school website</li> <li>Other templates and documents as needed</li> </ul>
<b>Title I Alignment &amp; Integration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development and revision of current parent involvement policies and parent compacts</li> <li>Budget planning of Parent Involvement dollars</li> <li>Integration of family engagement in Continuous Improvement Plans and SIG Grants</li> </ul>
<b>Data Systems &amp; Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The development of needs assessment tools, including school climate and parent surveys</li> <li>Design of progress monitoring system</li> <li>Family engagement component on teacher/administrative evaluations</li> <li>Data analysis</li> </ul>

**Service Inquiry**

For further information regarding Arizona State PIRC services at your school/district, please complete and submit the following form. An AZ State PIRC representative will contact you to discuss opportunities for partnership.

**Family Engagement Research & Results**

Educational research indicates that parental involvement in a child's education (regardless of ethnic, racial, socio-economic, and educational background) is one of the greatest factors to a child's success in school. By systematically embedding family engagement into instructional practices, schools have transformed their achievement levels and found that students:

- Earn higher grades & test scores
- Adapt better to school and attend regularly
- Graduate from high school, on-time
- Attend college

Additionally it has been found that when schools effectively integrate family engagement into the school's climate and culture all stakeholders, including school staff and parents, experience benefits:

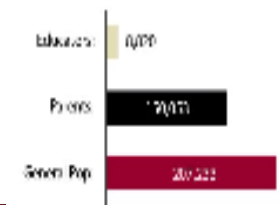
School Staff Benefits	Parent Benefits
Increased respect and trust for the profession	Increased social/political capital
Higher staff morale	Development of leadership skills

Achieving these results requires that schools and districts adopt a comprehensive approach to integrating family engagement into instructional practice. The services provided by AZ State PIRC offer research-based strategies for effectively linking family engagement to student learning. AZ PIRC's technical assistance includes early childhood parent education programs, a professional development series for school staff, and a parent leadership program.

"When we talk about being linked to learning, we're talking about engaging families in a way that will support the learning process for each student...linking family engagement to learning focuses this work on improving and enhancing the instructional core."

- Dr. Karen Mapp

Impact of Arizona PIRC Services



## Giggles, Squiggles, and Squirms (GSS)

**Description:** The Giggles, Squiggles and Squirms program uses a unique 32-week home-based curriculum for parents and their three and four year old children. Home liaisons meet with parents weekly and provide them with books, supplies and activities to complete with their children. As the parents read the books to their children, they do

**Parent Comments**

“I feel more comfortable and connected with the school system.”

“GSS prepared my daughter for Kindergarten.”

accompanying activities such as counting, sorting, matching, movement, poetry and cooking. This program empowers parents in being their child’s first teacher. All activities are based on state and national Early Learning Standards and are available in English and Spanish.

For a complete listing of materials visit

[www.gigglessquigglesandsquirms.com](http://www.gigglessquigglesandsquirms.com)

**Program Results**

-98% of children participating in Early Childhood Parenting programs were at or above the benchmark for their age.

- 95% of parents reported increased school readiness interactions with their children

- 99% of parents reported confidence in their ability to build parent-teacher communication



Available Services	Details
GSS Books & At-Home Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All GSS materials are available in English &amp; Spanish</li> <li>Please visit <a href="http://www.americopy.com">www.americopy.com</a> for pricing information</li> </ul>
*GSS Program Implementation Training	<p>This training covers the key components to establishing a successful GSS program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GSS start-up (marketing, membership, etc.)</li> <li>Home Visitor training</li> <li>Program sustainability</li> </ul>

## Full Services Package

**Description:** Encompassing AZ State PIRC’s signature services and introducing new features, this **Full Service Package** comprehensively addresses the best practice strategies for engaging families in schools.

\*Service components can be tailored to school needs and timeline. Cost dependent on location, number of schools, etc. **Contact AZ PIRC for further details.**

## Parent Academy for Student Success (PASS)

**Description:** Arizona State PIRC’s **Parent Academy for Student Success (PASS)**, is a 7-week parent leadership program that provides a framework to assist families in understanding basic school roles, functions, and structure. Designed to provide families with the information and tools needed to effectively navigate the school system PASS topics cover:

- Structure and function of the school/district
- Understanding academic standards, terminology, and school report cards
- Effective communication
- Understanding federal programs for your child’s success
- Responsible leadership
- Family rights and responsibilities

The **PASS** program supports schools and families in taking initial steps to establish family, school, and community partnerships. It is purposely designed to be flexible, both in time and content to allow schools the ability to enhance the existing content and/or add topics to address particular needs of their community and reach outlined school goals.

Available Services	Details
PASS Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete with facilitator manual, participant materials, and CD-ROM for electronic access to curriculum content</li> </ul>
*PASS Facilitator Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides designated PASS facilitators with an overview and understanding of curriculum content, purpose, and strategies for implementation</li> </ul>

\*Cost dependent on specific school needs including location, number of schools, and/or the length and size of training (# of participants). **Contact AZ PIRC for further details.**

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## Family Friendly Walk-Through Assessment

**Description:** As one of Arizona State PIRC’s signature services, the Family Friendly Walk-Through (FFWT) offers a data-based assessment of your school’s ability to effectively engage families. Focusing on the areas of Communication, Information, Participation, and Welcoming the FFWT tool evaluates the schools current school-to-home practices, by gathering parent feedback, school staff input, and third-party observation.

### Service Components

- School Campus Visit
- Shopper Phone Calls
- School Website Review
- Document Review
- Parent, Educator, Parent Liaison, and Principal Surveys
- Data Analysis
- FFWT Assessment Report

### FFWT Results

- 100% of Principals reported implementing actions to improve parent involvement
- 90% of principals reported that the actions taken were effective in improving parent involvement

By highlighting a school’s areas of strength, emerging practices, and areas of improvement, this needs assessment is an invaluable resource for schools committed to increasing parent involvement. The Family Friendly Walk- Through is an effective tool for building a strong foundation for family engagement.

Available Services	Details
*FFWT Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Includes all FFWT service components listed above</li> </ul>
*FFWT Trainings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductory: “Creating Family Friendly Schools”</li> <li>• Follow-Up: “FFWT Action planning”</li> </ul>
*FFWT Coaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance with the implementation of FFWT report recommendations</li> </ul>

\*Cost dependent on specific school needs including location, number of schools, and/or the length and size of training (# of participants). **Contact AZ PIRC for further details.**

### FFWT Service At-A-Glance

Arizona State PIRC’s FFWT consists of key components designed to collectively provide a comprehensive assessment of a school’s current capacity to engage families in the educational process.

<b>School Campus Visit</b>	A2-3 hour visit to evaluate your school campus on several factors, including displays of student learning, availability of parent resource materials, and customer service.
<b>School Website Review</b>	A comprehensive overview of your school’s website to examine the level of family-oriented information available, with special attention to updated materials and ease-of-use.
<b>Shopper Phone Calls</b>	The AZ PIRC Shopper Phone Calls, conducted in English and Spanish, provide insight into the level of customer service parents encounter when contacting the school.
<b>Survey Participation</b>	FFWT surveys provide a diversified and inclusive opportunity for all stakeholders to provide input on family engagement. Collectively, the <i>Parent, Educator, Principal, and Parent Liaison</i> surveys are designed to measure the awareness of and participation in family engagement initiatives.
<b>Document Review</b>	The AZ PIRC document review examines the availability and ease-of-use of written communication including, newsletters, flyers and parent involvement Policy.
<b>Data Analysis</b>	Analysis of FFWT tools provides your school scores in the areas of Communication, Information, Participation, and Welcoming. Each score reflects areas of strength, emerging practice and identified areas for improvement.
<b>FFWT Assessment Report</b>	The report outlines each scored area of the FFWT process, providing recommended strategies and highlighting current best-practice that can build a school’s capacity to engage families.

### Framework Models At-A-Glance

The premise of framework models is built around team-based planning and implementation of family engagement initiatives that support student achievement.



#### National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS):

Established in 1996 at Johns Hopkins University, NNPS guides schools in planning, implementing, evaluating, and continually improving their

engagement programs. Arizona State PIRC assists schools in the recruitment and sustainability of

a school-based team for family engagement and provides technical assistance on action plan writing and implementation. NNPS provides a model that is adaptable to school culture, demographics, and needs.



#### Academic Development Institute - Solid Foundation:

The Solid Foundation model was developed by the Academic Development Institute and has been field tested for over 20 years. It is a

web-based program that provides school teams with a structured process to assess, plan,

implement, and monitor school initiatives for parent engagement. Arizona State PIRC provides assistance to school teams through an introductory training on Solid Foundation, guidance on assessment and planning, and web-based coaching on progress monitoring.

#### NNPS Award Winner

In 2009, 2010 & 2011 AZ PIRC was awarded the NNPS Organization Award for providing research-based technical assistance and professional development opportunities

participants). Contact AZ PIRC for further details.

## Professional Development Workshops

**Description:** Arizona State PIRC specializes in designing and facilitating professional development workshops focused on preparing schools and districts to build their own capacity to partner with families.

### Professional Development Results:

-98% of educators participating in AZ PIRC PD rated the works as "High Quality"

- 96% reported knowledge of parent involvement strategies

- 98% reported awareness of resources that support school improvement

All workshops provide research-based strategies for increasing and improving family engagement. Arizona State PIRC offers a wide variety of topics, as well as the option to have workshops developed to meet your school's individual needs.

### Topics

- Beyond the Bake Sale Book Study
- Family, School, and Community Partnership – A Guided Approach
- Front-line Customer Service
- Family Engagement and School Reform
- Encouraging Parent Involvement in Secondary Schools
- Introduction to Family, School, and Community Engagement
- Top Ten Ways to Increase Parent Involvement
- Parent Involvement 101: Understanding Title I

For a full description of trainings please visit [www.azpirc.com](http://www.azpirc.com)

Available Services	Details
*Professional Development Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select from any of the workshop topics above to provide your school staff with the necessary tools and skills to effectively partner with families. Workshop length can be tailored to your specific school needs.</li> </ul>
* Year-long PD Workshop Series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select your own sequence of workshop topics from the list above to design your school's complete and comprehensive Family Engagement Training Series. <i>A maximum of 6 workshops is recommended.</i></li> </ul>

\*Cost dependent on specific school needs including location, number of schools, and/or the length and size of training (# of participants). **Contact AZ PIRC for further details.**

## Parent Liaison Workshop Series

**Description:** Parent Liaisons are an important and integral resource in connecting families and community to the school. A liaison, when provided the tools and training, is able to effectively support families to understand school programs, systems, and procedures to support student academic and social success.

Through the Arizona State Parent Liaison workshop series professionals in these positions are provided the tools and training to be an effective parent coach. By providing Parent Liaisons with the strategies to motivate parents to be informed, educated, and focused on student success, this series builds the infrastructure for family, school, and community partnerships.

### Workshop Series Includes:

- Parent Liaison 101
- Effective Communication
- Home Visiting
- Teams & Committees Unplugged
- Understanding Data
- Parent Resource Centers

Available Services	Details
*Parent Liaison Workshop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Select from any of the workshop topics above to provide your parent liaison professional with the necessary tools and skills to engage families in school</li> </ul>
*Parent Liaison Workshop Series	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides your school's/district's parent liaisons with the complete and comprehensive 6 Part Workshop Training Series.</li> </ul>

\*Cost dependent on specific school needs including location, number of schools, and/or the length and size of training (# of participants). **Contact AZ PIRC for further details.**

## Framework Models for Family Engagement

**Description:** Framework models for family engagement provide a structured, research-based approach to addressing and sustaining family and community involvement in schools. With a focus on the use of data and evaluation, these models help align family engagement plans to overall school goals.

Arizona State PIRC provides coaching and professional development services on two of the nation's leading framework models for family engagement. AZ State PIRC has

### Framework Schools in AZ

- 91 National Network of Partnership Schools (NNPS)
- 5Solid Foundation Schools

assisted in building the capacity of schools and districts across the state to

effectively utilize family engagement to support student learning through these framework models.

### Workshop Topics

- Introduction to Family, School, and Community Engagement
- School Community Councils
- Action Teams & Committees Unplugged
- The Road to Partnership
- Utilizing Data to Strengthen Family Engagement Work
- Home Visits
- Establishing Sustainability for Family Engagement
- Assessing and Leveraging Support for Family Engagement

For a full description of trainings please visit [www.azpirc.com](http://www.azpirc.com)

Available Services	Details
Model Selection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist school with Framework Model selection</li> </ul>
*Framework Model Trainings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehensive training structure to assist schools in the first two years of model implementation</li> </ul>
*Framework Model Coaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School is assigned PIRC coach to assist with framework implementation, action plan writing, and team building</li> </ul>

\*Cost dependent on specific school needs including location, number of schools, and/or the length and size of training (# of