

## 12 Tips for Creating a Solid Parent Involvement Program:

1. Link your program with school success. Create a well defined parent involvement plan with goals and objectives that also align and are central to the goals and objectives of the school.
2. Welcome all families recognizing and respecting cultural diversity and work to remove barriers that may exclude some.
3. Reach out to your parents and families. Don't wait for them to come to the school.
4. Focus on the needs of the parents. In addition to being central to the goals and objectives of the school your program should also focus on the needs of the parents.
5. Foster understanding, trust and respect and develop programs that further these through staff and parent trainings.
6. Adopt a no-fault approach, focusing not on who is to blame but on what can be done.
7. Recognize the family as the expert about their child.
8. Encourage two-way communication and interaction that is open, consistent and ongoing.
9. Develop an attitude of partnership. Share power and encourage all to be equal partners in decisions that affect children and families.
10. Outreach to the community for resources to strengthen schools and families. Build partnerships that will benefit your families.
11. Hold high expectations for parents and families and be specific about these expectations. When parents understand their roles and responsibilities, they are better able to help their children and guide them to success.
12. Motivate, inspire, and stimulate parents and families for optimum success.