Parental Involvement in Schools

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Agenda

1) Types of Parent Involvement

2) Who is not involved?

3) Discussion on Parent Involvement

4) Parent Involvement and Student Success

5) Counselors Role
Types of Involvement

Epstein's Six Types of School-Family-Community Involvement Interactions

I. Parenting
II. Communicating
III. Volunteering
IV. Learning at home
V. Decision Making
VI. Collaborating with the community
Parenting
Communicating

Parent Teacher Conference

Know the Rules
Volunteering

P.T.A.

Volunteers Wanted

field trips

WATCH D.O.G.S.
Dads of Great Students
Learning at Home
Decision Making
Collaborating with the Community
Who's Under Represented?
Involving Low-income Parents in school

**Benefits**
- Higher grades, test scores and graduation rates
- Better attendance
- Better self-esteem
- Decreased use of drugs
- Increased motivation
- Lower rates of suspension
- Fewer instances of violent behavior

**Challenges**
- Fundraising
- Lack of relationship between school and parents
- Language Barriers
- Limited Education
- Time

**Statistics**
- Full-time parents 62%
- Part-time parents 13%
- Unemployed or stay at home 24%

**Resources**
- Provide meals
- Interpreters
- Transportation
- Personal Relationship
- Child care
- Work with the community center
Fathers in Schools

Benefits
- Learn more.
- Perform better in school.
- Exhibit healthier behavior.
- Have fewer discipline problems.
- Are more likely to participate in extracurricular activities.
- Enjoy school more

Challenges
- Many men do not feel welcomed.
- Fear of looking foolish
- A lot of schools don't ask Dads to volunteer because they think they are too busy
- Discomfort in a female world

Statistics
- 16% involvement whereas Moms have a 82% involvement

Resources
- Educate Dads on the importance of their involvement.
- Emphasize that getting involved doesn't require a large time commitment
- Design invitations specifically for Dads.
- Employ both male and female recruiters.

Other Resources
Discussion

Pair up.

Based on what you have heard so far and what you have seen/experienced in your practicum site or micro internship, discuss if you think parental involvement is helpful or a hindrance?
Parental Involvement and Student Success

Studies Show:

- Parental school involvement has a positive influence on academic achievement outcomes for children (Hill & Taylor, 2004; Rogers, Theule, Ryan, Adams & Keating, 2009; Jeynes, 2007).
- Two major mechanisms by which parental school involvement promotes achievement (Hill & Taylor, 2004).
  1) Increasing social capital
  2) Social control
Parental involvement during middle and high school is associated with an increase in the amount of time students spend on homework and with an increase in the percentage of homework completed (Hill & Taylor, 2004).

"I'd love to have you join, Mom, but the medical school I go to doesn't have a PTA."

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Critiques

- Parental punishment, intrusion, and criticism in reaction to children’s grades and homework are related to lower academic performance (Rogers, Theule, Ryan, Adams & Keating, 2009).
- The biggest complaint in parental-involvement research is that various measures of academic outcomes have been used in the extant literature, including school grades, standardized test scores, teacher ratings of academic performance, and ratings of classroom behavior (Rogers, Theule, Ryan, Adams & Keating, 2009).
- Previous meta-analysis studies included studies that were not published, so the findings are not valid (Rogers, Theule, Ryan, Adams & Keating, 2009).
Current Trends

Figure 1

Trends in the Percentage of Students Whose Parents Reported Involvement in their Child's School: Selected Years

Parental Education Breakdown

Figure 2: Percentage of Students in Grades K-12 Whose Parents Reported Attending School Events, by Parental Education Level, 2007

Achievement Gap

- Findings suggest that parental involvement may be one means of reducing the achievement gap that exists between White students and some racial minority groups (Jeynes, 2007).

- Head Start, the nation’s largest intervention program for at-risk children, emphasizes the importance of parental involvement as a critical feature of children’s early academic development (Hill & Taylor, 2004).
Counselors Role

**Leadership and Advocacy**
in facilitating
School-Family-Community Partnerships:

- Parenting
- Communicating
- Volunteering
- Learning at home
- Decision Making
- Collaborating in the community
References


