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## LEARN AND GROW PARENT EDUCATION SERIES

Barrett Academy

Akron, Ohio

After assessing the needs of families, the Barrett Academy Action Team decided they wanted parents to have practical instruction from school/community staff (Type 1: Parenting). They developed the 'Learn and Grow' Parent Education Series.

This partnership activity offers instruction and discussion to parents in crucial areas of family well-being. Subjects included in the school's spring schedule were Stress Management, Co-Dependency, Women's Issues, Family/Child Relationships, and Fighting Fair for Families. Meals were provided at each meeting, and parents received useful printed materials to take home. The majority of presenters were staff who work in the school building as agency therapists or parent volunteers.

The Principal at Barrett Academy provided consistent dedication to improve contact with parents and the community and to wisely use community personnel resources. In addition, the custodial staff helped to make these events possible as well as a local business partner who contributed money toward the expense of food and child care during the activity. Parent volunteers received training in "Fighting Fair for Families" so that they could instruct other parents.

Rather than establishing one general evening time for all the topics, the Action Team worked to reach as many parents possible by hosting three of the topics during lunch and the other three during the evening with dinner.

No results are available yet, but the Action Team plans to continue the series in the fall because they believe the total school community would benefit all through the year from what will be learned at these events.

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Type1 - Parenting

Promising Partnership Practices