
Kentucky Teacher: Communicating about School-Family-Community Partnerships

Kentucky Department of Education
Frankfort, KY

The Kentucky Department of Education's *Kentucky Teacher* (December 1997 – January 1998) devotes nine of its sixteen pages to school-family-community partnerships. The Commissioner of Education's column, "Help Families Get Comfortable with Today's Changing Schools," includes information on Epstein's ten steps of school-family-community partnerships. Excerpts from the Kentucky Board of Education Policy Statement: Parent and Family Involvement Initiative help identify successful family involvement programs.

An eight-page spread in the middle of the newsletter focuses on Epstein's six types of involvement and highlights partnership programs from different Kentucky schools. The article on the six types of involvement includes a description of each type with sample practices and a Kentucky example. Stories from the field include an urban school, a rural school, and schools in four counties across the state. An article about volunteering discusses how parent volunteers can extend the reach of hard-working teachers. Finally, a list of resources provides information on programs, publications, organizations, and web sites that can help build stronger school-family-community partnerships.

This issue of the *Kentucky Teacher* says to all educators, families, and community members that school-family-community partnerships is important in Kentucky. Information is provided about how to build partnership programs and schools are recognized for their hard work and achievements. The Kentucky Department of Education takes a leadership role by communicating the importance of school, family, and community connections with all educators and families.

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