



Parent Involvement Inventory

The Illinois State Board of Education (1994) has developed the following parent involvement inventory to determine strategies for increasing family involvement:

<p>CHECK ONE</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Parent <input type="checkbox"/> Combined Response</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Administrator</p>	<p>ILLINOIS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION</p> <p>Program Initiative Section 100 North First Street Springfield, Illinois 62777-0001</p> <p>Parent Involvement Inventory</p>
<p>Instruction: Please consider each statement carefully. Check each box that applies <i>throughout</i> your school.</p>	

I. TEACHER/COACH - Supporting the learning process

1. Parents are informed of homework policy by:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Handbook | <input type="checkbox"/> f. Homework Hotline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Parent orientation | <input type="checkbox"/> g. Special information sheet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> h. Teacher contract |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Homework Calendar | <input type="checkbox"/> i. Other (specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> e. Assignment Notebook | |

2. Parents are given specific ways to monitor homework.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> d. Special information sheet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Parent-teacher conferences | <input type="checkbox"/> e. Other (specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Interactive Homework | |

3. Parents are encouraged to monitor/limit television viewing.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> c. Special information sheet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Parent-teacher conferences | <input type="checkbox"/> d. Other (specify) _____ |

4. Parents are provided with material or easy access to materials to assist parents as teachers.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Parent Library/reading room | <input type="checkbox"/> d. Parent inservice |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Parent tip sheets | <input type="checkbox"/> e. Other (specify) _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Daily activity calendar | |

5. Parents are provided information about libraries, book clubs, and other educational opportunities for their child.

- a. Teacher contact
- b. Informational brochures
- c. Newsletters
- d. Other (specify) _____

6. Parents are provided with classes.

- a. Techniques for creating a home learning environment
- b. Helping your child with school
- c. English literacy
- d. GED
- e. Computer literacy
- f. Other (specify) _____

7. Parents are informed immediately when children are truant or absent.

- a. Within one hour of school beginning
- b. During the same school day
- c. By the principal
- d. By the secretary
- e. By the truant officer
- f. By the classroom teacher
- g. Other (specify) _____

8. Parent-teacher conferences are held for every student.

- a. Once a year
- b. Twice a year
- c. Quarterly
- d. As needed
- e. Regular school hours only
- f. Combination evening and regular school hours
- g. Other (specify) _____

9. Parents new to the school and/or community receive some special orientation.

- a. Welcome Wagon
- b. Orientation meeting
- c. Other (specify) _____

10. School personnel are easily accessible to all parents.

- a. During prep time only
- b. After school only
- c. Before school only
- d. By appointment only
- e. Combinations of above
- f. Other (specify) _____

11. School/home projects and activities are provided to reinforce classroom work.

- a. Student and parent information sessions provided
- b. Science fairs/Invention Convention
- c. History fairs
- d. Home learning packets to reinforce classroom learning
- e. Other academic affairs
- f. Young Authors
- g. TIPS (Teachers Involve Parents in School Work)/TR>
- h. Family math
- i. Family science
- j. Family/home reading
- k. Interactive homework assignments
- l. Other (specify) _____

12. Parents are notified immediately when their child is having academic difficulty.

- a. Written progress report
- b. Individual student progress conferences
- c. Telephone conferences
- d. Student/teacher/parent contracts/TR>
- e. Team meetings with parents
- f. Other (specify) _____

13. Specific suggestions are given to parents in order to prevent their child's failure.

- a. Written progress report
- d. Student/teacher/parent contracts/TR>

- b. Individual student progress conferences
- c. Telephone conferences
- e. Team meetings with parents
- f. Other (specify) _____

The school provides information to parents on how to support the learning process. (Rate your school on a scale of 5-1, with 5 being the highest rating and 1 being the lowest. Circle your rating.)

High				Low
5	4	3	2	1

II. SUPPORTER/VOLUNTEER

14. The school has solicited volunteers.

- a. From the parents/families
- b. From the community
- c. From businesses
- d. From organizations

15. Parents are solicited to volunteer in some way during the year.

- a. Survey
- b. Group meetings
- c. Newsletters
- d. Parent orientation
- e. Personal contact
- f. Other (specify) _____

16. Someone is in charge of coordinating volunteer efforts.

- a. Principal
- b. Teacher
- c. Parent
- d. Paid position
- e. Other (specify) _____

17. The volunteer program is organized.

- a. Orientation is provided
- b. Guidelines/handbook is provided
- c. Training is provided
- d. Program is consistent
- e. Effectiveness is monitored
- f. Volunteers receive feedback
- g. All who volunteer are utilized in some way
- h. Other (specify) _____

18. Volunteers are recognized and/or rewarded for their contributions.

- a. Ongoing recognition (e.g., notes, verbal praise)
- b. Yearly recognition ceremony
- c. Certificate given
- d. Other (specify) _____

19. The school has provided the following parent volunteer opportunities.

- a. Committee member (e.g., discipline, strategic planning)
- b. Field trips
- c. Library aides
- d. Computer aides
- e. Office help
- f. Activity sponsor
- g. Monitoring events
- h. Special events
- i. Social activities
- j. Fund-raising
- k. Communications (e.g., newsletter)
- l. Book fairs
- m. Special skills
- n. Teacher assistant
- o. Telephone
- p. School store
- q. Friend/mentor
- r. Extended day program
- s. Tutor
- t. Other (specify) _____

The school provides opportunities for volunteers to be involved in the school and supports children and families. (Rate your school on a scale of 5-1, with 5 being the highest rating and 1 being the lowest. Circle your rating.)

High	Low
5 4 3 2 1	

III. COMMUNICATOR

20. The school provides:

- a. Parent-teacher conferences
- b. Weekly newsletter school/classroom
- c. Back to school nights
- d. parent organization meetings
- e. Coffee/breakfast with principal/staff
- f. Presentations to community groups
- g. Progress reports
- h. Policies (homework, health, discipline)
- i. Report cards
- j. Recorded call-in phone messages (hotline)
- k. Telephone conferences
- l. Open houses
- m. Special events (e.g., fun nights)
- n. Team/classroom meetings
- o. Home visits
- p. Parent survey (written or telephone)
- r. Handbooks to home
- s. Activity calendar
- t. Regular classroom observation time
- u. Process portfolios
- v. Weekly folders of students' work
- w. Tip sheets
- x. Assignment calendars
- y. Homework journals
- z. Homework contracts
- aa. Parent/teacher grams
- bb. Success reports/happy grams
- cc. Community breakfast
- dd. Potluck supper
- ee. Grade-level curriculum packets/expectations
- ff. Meeting notices
- gg. Other (specify) _____

q. Regular letters/notes

21. The school provides interpreters for non-English speaking parents.

- a. Spanish
- b. Greek
- c. Chinese
- d. Polish
- e. Vietnamese
- f. Japanese
- g. Other (specify) _____

22. Non-custodial parents are kept informed.

- a. The same as the custodial parent
- b. Quarterly
- c. Annually
- d. Other (specify) _____

23. The school makes every effort to communicate with parents who are non-readers.

- a. Home visits
- b. Phone calls
- c. Audio tapes
- d. Video tapes
- e. Cable TV

24. The school communicates regularly with social agencies and other community service groups.

25. The school utilizes available media sources.

- a. Closed circuit television
- b. Newspapers
- c. Business marquee
- d. Radio
- e. Cable TV
- f. Other (specify) _____

26. The school schedules events/conferences requiring parent participation at a variety of times to accommodate all parents.

- a. Evening
- b. Weekends
- c. Before school begins
- d. During school
- e. After school
- f. Other (specify) _____

The school and parent are engaged in frequent, clear two-way communication. (Rate your school on a scale of 5-1, with 5 being the highest rating and 1 being the lowest. Circle your rating.)

High					Low
5	4	3	2	1	

IV. LEARNER

27. The school provides.

- a. Parent information nights
- m. Problem solving

- b. GED classes at the school
- c. Language classes at the school
- d. Parenting classes for AIDS education
- e. Parenting classes for drug and alcohol awareness
- f. Parenting classes for parenting skills
- g. Parenting classes for improving self-esteem
- h. Parent center/room
- i. Parent classes for wellness, health and nutrition
- j. Family literacy activities
- k. Computer literacy
- l. Preventing abuse (verbal, physical, sexual)
- n. Child/adolescent development
- o. Parent/child communication
- p. Vocational counseling/skills (e.g., completing job applications, writing a resume, job interview techniques, re-entering the work force)
- q. Stress management
- r. Study skills/how to help with homework
- s. Parenting classes for discipline/behavior management
- t. Parent classes for motivation
- u. Time management
- v. Other (specify) _____

28. The school provides classes/workshops for teachers on:

- a. Communication
- b. Teaming
- c. Time management
- d. Parent involvement
- e. Cultural diversity
- f. Discipline/classroom management
- g. Conflict management
- h. Other (specify) _____

29. Classes and workshops provided are co-presented by teachers and parents.

30. Classes and workshops are offered at sites other than at school.

The school provides consistent opportunities for parents to improve their skills and broaden their knowledge base. (Rate your school on a scale of 5-1, with 5 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. Circle your rating.)

High		Low
5	4 3	2 1

V. AUDIENCE

31. The school provides all students an opportunity to perform for parents (e.g., holiday programs, musicals, concerts, fairs, intramural sports events, etc.).

- a. Yearly
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. Infrequently
- e. _____

- b. Twice a year
- c. Frequently
- e. Never
- f. Other (specify) _____

32. The school provides special groups of students the opportunity to participate for parent audiences.

- a. Sports
- b. Music events
- c. Talent nights
- d. Art events
- e. Academic skill events (e.g., science fairs, spelling bees, quiz bowl)
- f. Other (specify) _____

33. The school provides parents the opportunity to observe student work/projects displayed in the community.

34. The school schedules events for parent audiences at a variety of times to accommodate all parents.

- a. Evening
- b. Weekends
- c. Before school begins
- d. During school
- e. After school
- f. Other (specify) _____

The school provides all parents with regular opportunities to observe their children in skill and talent demonstrations. (Rate your school on a scale of 5-1, with 5 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. Circle your rating.)

High		Low
5	4	3
	2	1

VI. ADVOCATE/DECISION MAKER

35. The school has a policy or process to insure parent involvement in decision making.

36. Parents have an equal opportunity to serve on curriculum, discipline or other types of committees.

37. Parents have an opportunity for input on policy development.

- a. Written survey
- b. District committee
- c. School committee
- d. School cadre
- e. Suggestion box
- f. Informal comments to teachers/principal
- g. Other (specify) _____

38. Parents have easy access to school policies.

39. A functioning parent organization provides input to the administration on issues affecting their children (e.g., PTA, PTO).

40. Parents are asked for help in resolving problems which face the school (e.g., declining test scores, vandalism, increased truancy, parking problems).

- a. Written survey
- b. District committee
- c. School committee
- d. School cadre
- e. Suggestion box
- f. Informal comments to teachers/principal
- g. Other (specify) _____

41. Parents are equal partners in the Steering Committee/Building Leadership Team.

42. Parents are members of each cadre functioning in the school.

43. Parents have received training on how to be co-decision-makers.

44. Regular meetings are held for parents of children in special programs (e.g., Chapter 1, gifted education, special education).

45. The school schedules committee meetings at a variety of times to accommodate participation by all interested parents.

- a. Evening
- b. Weekends
- c. Before school begins
- d. During school
- e. After school
- f. Other (specify) _____

The school provides parents with regular opportunities to serve on school committees/groups involved in problem-solving/decision making. (Rate your school on a scale of 5-1, with 5 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. Circle your rating.)

High					Low
5	4	3	2	1	

VII. HOME/SCHOOL/COMMUNITY PARTNERS

46. The school has formed partnerships with outside agencies, businesses or institutions of higher education as a way of enhancing the cultural capital for children.

- 47. The school provides support for families and children which have been referred for a specified problem.
- 48. The school provides prevention and early intervention with families through coordinated resources.
- 49. On-site school physicals/dental exams are provided by community service providers.
- 50. Community service opportunities are provided for students.
- 51. Community members/organizations share their knowledge, and skills (e.g., career days, exploratory activities) with the school.
- 52. School health/social service agencies share facilities with the school.
- 53. Youth service agencies share facilities/services with the school.
- 54. Parents, students, teachers and/or business persons trade places.
- 55. The school has a written policy on parent involvement.
- 56. Teachers receive inservice on effective communications and parent involvement.
- 57. The administration provides released time for parents and teachers to collaborate during school time.
- 58. The principal serves as a parent advocate.
- 59. Staff meeting time is devoted to discussing ways to improve/increase parent involvement.
- 60. The school provides child-care and transportation for school events and/or conferences.
- 61. The school climate is monitored to ensure a friendly, welcoming atmosphere for parents (and other visitors).
- 62. School office staff are instructed on how to respond to contacts with families.

63. Parents have a comfortable place to meet and work at the school site.

- a. Separate room
- b. Share teachers' lounge
- c. Other (specify) _____

64. Parent and community needs in home-school relationships are assessed.

- a. Survey
- b. Interviews
- c. Focus groups
- d. Other (specify) _____

65. Parents and community representatives participate in developing the school's vision.

66. Parent involvement is specified in the school improvement plan.

67. Social events also have a strong education content (e.g., achievement assembly).

68. Parents and/or business persons shadow students.

69. Community service projects are considered on a regular basis.

70. Parents sit on an interagency council for coordinating health, education and social activities.

71. Parents serve on the steering committee and all cadres.

72. Community representatives serve on the steering committee and appropriate cadres.

The school provides a positive climate for home/school/community partnerships. (Rate your school on a scale of 5-1, with 5 being the highest and 1 being the lowest. Circle your rating.)

High					Low
5	4	3	2	1	

Courtesy of the Illinois State Board of Education.



References

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