

Using Technology to Support a School-Family-Community Partnership

Purpose: This survey is intended to help the school identify how it can plan and implement technology to support school-family-community partnerships.

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This survey was developed based on Epstein's Six Types of Involvement in School, Family, and Community Partnerships. The six types of involvement in schools make up the following six facets of the survey:

1. **Parenting** – helping all families establish a home environment to support their children as students
2. **Communicating** – designing effective forms of school-to-home and home-to-school communications about school programs and student progress
3. **Volunteering** – recruiting and organizing parent help and support
4. **Learning at Home** – providing information and ideas to families about how to help students at home with homework and other curriculum-related activities, decisions, and planning
5. **Decision Making** – including parents in school decisions, developing parent leaders and representatives
6. **Collaborating with the Community** – identifying and integrating resources and services from the community to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development

Additional information on Epstein's work with the National Network of Partnership Schools can be found at www.partnershipschools.org

Reference: Epstein, J. (2001). School, family, and community partnerships: Preparing educators and improving schools. Westview Press: Bolder, CO.

A. Respondent Information

1. School Name: _____

2. I am affiliated with the school as a (please check one):

School staff _____ Family member of a student _____ Other _____

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B. Supporting Partnerships

Directions: For each statement, please select the option that best represents the use of technology (as indicated in Section A) at your school to support on-going family and community involvement efforts.

Scale: 6 = Daily, 5 = Weekly; 4 = Monthly; 3 = Once every grading period; 2 = Once a semester; 1 = Once a year; Circle the "0" if you do not have enough information to respond to the statement. Circle the "X" if, as far as you know, your school does not engage in this practice.

| | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Grading Period | Semester | Annually | Don't know | Not done |
|--|-------|--------|---------|----------------|----------|----------|------------|----------|
| I. Parenting – How often does your school use technology to... | | | | | | | | |
| 1. Assist families with developing parenting skills. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 2. Provide parent education training (e.g. GED, technology, job skills, etc.) | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 3. Provide suggestions to parents about conditions that support learning at home. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 4. Provide information to all families who want or need it. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 5. Support opportunities for families to share information about culture and background | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 6. Support opportunities for families to share information about children's talents and/or needs. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| II. Communicating - How often does your school use technology to... | | | | | | | | |
| 7. Support annual conferences with parents. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 8. Send home student work for review. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 9. Inform families of school events. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 10. Provide information to families about choosing courses, programs, or activities within the school. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 11. Provide information on school policies, programs, reforms, or transitions. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 12. Provide ways for parents to communicate information back to the school. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| III. Volunteering - How often does your school use technology to... | | | | | | | | |
| 13. Support school or classroom volunteer programs. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 14. Identify interests, talents, or availability of volunteers. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 15. Provide a family center for volunteer work, meetings, or resources. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 16. Support parent patrols or other activities to aid safety and operation of school programs. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| IV. Learning at Home – How often does your school use technology to... | | | | | | | | |
| 17. Provide information to families on homework policies. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 18. Provide information to families on how to monitor and discuss school work at home. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 19. Provide information to families to assist students to improve skills on various class or school assessments. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 20. Support summer learning packets or activities. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 21. Support family involvement in setting student academic goals each year. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |

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| | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Grading Period | Semester | Annually | Don't know | Not done |
|---|-------|--------|---------|----------------|----------|----------|------------|----------|
| V. Decision Making – How often does your school use technology to... | | | | | | | | |
| 22. Support a PTA/PTO or other parent organization. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 23. Support district-level councils or committees for family or community involvement. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 24. Provide information on school or local elections for school representatives. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 25. Link families with parent representatives on school's advisory council, improvement team, or other committees. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 26. Involve families with their children in important curriculum-related decisions. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| VI. Collaborating with the Community – How often does your school use technology to... | | | | | | | | |
| 27. Provide information to families on community health, cultural, recreational, social support, or other programs or services. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 28. Support service learning partnerships between the school and other (e.g. civic, environmental, non-profit, etc.) organizations. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 29. Support service to the community by students and families, (e.g. recycling, art, music, drama, activities for seniors). | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 30. Support relationships between the school and local businesses. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 31. Support interactions between families within the community. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |
| 32. Support collaboration with businesses to identify educational needs/job skills training to meet hiring needs. | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | X |

C. Open-Ended Questions

1. What major factors contributed to the successful use of technology to support your school's family and community involvement efforts this year?

2. What major factors limited the successful use of technology to support your school's family and community involvement efforts this year?

Thank you for your time! Your input is invaluable to us.