

Research shows engaging families in children's learning has a positive impact on student achievement.

TOGETHER We Make a Difference

Family-School Partnership Contracts

The Parent Education Network, Wyoming State PIRC, targets Title I schools or those not having made Adequate Yearly Progress by offering contracts to parent-teacher groups. These contracts actively engage parents in linking school work and learning at home by creating partnerships with schools to increase student achievement.

Family-School Contracts are designed to help build the capacity of parent-teacher groups to:

- create partnerships with their schools
- understand their options under No Child Left Behind and its accountability systems
- engage parents in their children's learning

The Purpose for the contracts between local parent teacher groups and PEN, is for parents to see the LINK between what is happening in the schools and learning at home.

Our mission is to provide a means of communication, cooperation, and education to parents and professionals who wish to serve and support children with and without disabilities. We aim to help families become more active in their children's learning and education, and obtain better programs and services through advocacy, education and referral.



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Wyoming State PIRC

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Family-School Partnership



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A project of Parents Helping Parents of WY, Inc.

Why Family-School Partnership?

Partnerships among schools, families, and community groups are not a luxury--
they are a necessity.



Partnership and student academic achievement are closely linked.

The evidence is consistent, positive, and convincing: families have a major influence on their children's achievement. When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more.

This statement summarizes the conclusion of *A New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family and Community Connections on Student Achievement*.



The No Child Left Behind Act provides partnership opportunities that can help schools meet the requirements of the law.

NCLB holds public schools accountable to provide all students with a quality education, putting educators under intense pressure.

According to *NCLB: What's In It for Parents*, parents must be involved at several points:

- **School-parent compact.** Every Title I school must have a compact, developed with, and approved by parents.
- **School and district policy.** Each Title I school and district must write a parent involvement policy that has been developed with and agreed upon by parents.
- **Report cards.** Each school district must distribute a report card specifying how every school and the district is performing as a whole.
- **Parent choice.** If a Title I school has not made adequate yearly progress in improving student performance, parents have two options: they may request a transfer or ask for supplemental education services.

*Information adapted from Anne Henderson, Karen Mapp, Vivian Johnson, & Don Davies—
"Beyond the Bake Sale, The Essential Guide to Family-School Partnerships"*

Partnerships help build and sustain public support for schools.

Schools that embrace the partnership idea enjoy higher levels of respect and trust in the community. Partnership schools tend to have better teacher morale and higher ratings of teachers by families.

Families and the community can help schools overcome the challenges they face.

A collaborative approach is needed to define the problems, discuss productive approaches and design and implement possible solutions.

Teachers can benefit from parent and community partnerships.

Involved families are more likely to understand the goals of the teacher and the school and to be more supportive of proposed changes. Teachers who involve parents positively and consistently tend to rate families more positively.



**Our Business is
Family-School Partnerships**
How can we help you?

