

# Parent Involvement Plan

## Creating a Positive Climate

Cedar – Lincoln B.E.S.T.

**Date of Plan:** June 1, 2000

**Coordinators:** Maria-Louisa Knobel

**Specific Interest of the Team:** Improve involvement of parents of older kids (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades, hard-to-involve parents, and all parents in general.

### Tasks of Coordinators:

1. Review and determine which of the following components are currently in place, what is missing, and what could be improved:
  - Parenting (e.g., parent workshops)
  - Learning at Home (e.g., parent help with homework)
  - Communication (e.g., newsletters)
  - Volunteering (organize activities)
  - Decision-Making (serve in various committees, perhaps even BEST)
  - Collaborating with the Community (provide parents information on community resources)
2. Develop a survey for teachers to determine ways to involve hard-to-involve parents (e.g., resistant families, parents of older kids).
3. Call parents to determine their views on how to improve their involvement.
4. Pick 2-3 areas and plan specific activities by which to involve parents.
5. Determine procedure to measure effectiveness of what is implemented.
6. Investigate to find people who could teach parents such skills as parenting, positive reinforcement, problem solving, facilitating homework.

### Training Needed:

1. Team members should review literature on parental involvement.
2. Teachers will need information and support on how to involve parents.

**Costs:** total approx. \$400

- ◆ To develop a staff survey on methods to improve parent involvement (what they have tried, what worked) and to identify hard-to-involve parents: 2 hours work for one person, \$24 total.
- ◆ To call hard to a sample of parents and ask them what kinds of things would help them to be more involved: 2 people, 1/2 day each - \$96
- ◆ To develop method of evaluating effectiveness of activities that are implemented: BEST, early fall, usual stipend.
- ◆ Informational materials for parents and teachers, refreshments for activities, etc.: about \$200.

**Schedule of Implementation:**

Time Line in Academic Years:

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1999-2000 summer | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Review literature on parent involvement.</li> <li>*Members will brainstorm and look for resources on improving parent involvement.</li> <li>*Develop a teacher survey to determine what teachers have tried and what has been successful, and to identify hard-to-involve parents</li> <li>*Call a sample of parents to determine how they think parent involvement could be improved</li> </ul> |
| 2000-2001        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Develop a method to evaluate the effectiveness of any activities/interventions – were parents more involved?</li> <li>*Implement activities to improve parent involvement in 2-3 areas.</li> <li>*Evaluate effectiveness of activities.</li> <li>*Plan for implementation of additional parent activities.</li> </ul>  |



to-involve” parents?

6. How have you tried to overcome those barriers?

7. What things have you found to be least useful in including or involving “hard-to-involve” parents?

8. Please list the names of parents that you have found very difficult to involve, for example considering the students and families that you were involved with last year.