Parent Involvement Focus Group Questions for Parents, Teachers and Administrators

1) What do parents do that tell you they are involved in their children’s education?

2) What do teachers do to promote high levels of parent involvement in their children’s education?

3) What does the principal do to promote high levels of parent involvement in their children’s education?

4) What challenges do parents face as they try to become involved in their children’s education?

5) What challenges do principals face in attempting to increase parent involvement in their children’s education?

PROBES: Factors may include language barriers, expanding access of parents to school personnel, providing transportation for parents, arranging regional or neighborhood meetings, collective bargaining restrictions, etc.

6) What challenges do teachers face as they try to increase parent involvement in their children’s education?

7) What resources, supports, expertise and other factors would make the biggest difference in increasing parent involvement?
   a. PROBE – Are they different for…….
      a. families of non-native English speakers;
      b. parents of students with disabilities;
      c. students at various grade levels
   b. How do these differences affect parent involvement?
Other question to ask if time permits

8) What would be reasonable indicators for you and your school community, to measure any increase in parent involvement in your school?
   a. Why would these indicators be reasonable?

9) What would be a reasonable way or what would be reasonable indicators for you to measure the impact of increased parent involvement in your school?
   a. Why would these indicators be reasonable?

10) What are some examples of high quality parent involvement at this school or another school, inside or outside of this school district, that you’re aware of?
   a. Why have these programs been successful?

9/24/08