

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:

a. Explain more about that

b. What do you mean when you say _____?

c. Can you give an example of _____

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?

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