

School-Community Collaboration: A Self-study Survey

Formal efforts to create school-community collaboration to improve school and neighborhood, involve building formal relationships to connect resources involved in preK-12 schooling and resources in the community (including formal and informal organizations such as the home, agencies involved in providing health and human services, religion, policing, justice, economic development; fostering youth development, recreation, and enrichment; as well as businesses, unions, governance bodies, and institutions of higher education).

As you work toward enhancing such collaboration, it helps to clarify what you have in place as a basis for determining what needs to be done. You will want to pay special attention to

- *the mechanisms used to enhance collaboration*
- *clarifying what resources already are available*
- *how the resources are organized to work together*
- *what procedures are in place for enhancing resource usefulness*

The following survey is designed as self-study instrument related to school-community collaboration. Stakeholders can use such surveys to map and analyze the current status of their efforts.

This type of self-study is best done by teams. For example, a group of stakeholders could use the items to discuss how well specific processes and programs are functioning and what's not being done. Members of the team initially might work separately in filling out the items, but the real payoff comes from discussing them as a group. The instrument also can be used as a form of program quality review.

In analyzing, the status of their school-community collaboration, the group may decide that some existing activity is not a high priority and that the resources should be redeployed to help establish more important programs. Other activity may be seen as needing to be embellished so that it is effective. Finally, decisions may be made regarding new desired activities, and since not everything can be added at once, priorities and time lines can be established.

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III. Overview: *System Status for Enhancing School-Community Collaboration*

Items 1-7 ask about what processes are in place. Use the following ratings in responding to these items. DK = don't know; 1 = not yet; 2 = planned; 3 = just recently initiated; 4 = has been functional for a while;

5 = well institutionalized (well established with a commitment to maintenance)

- | | | | | | | |
|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| A. Is there a stated policy for enhancing school-community collaboration (e.g., from the school, community agencies, government bodies)? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| B. Is there a designated leader or leaders for enhancing school-community collaboration? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| C. With respect to each entity involved in the school-community collaboration have specific persons been designated as representatives to meet with each other? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| D. Do personnel involved in enhancing school-community collaboration meet regularly as a team to evaluate current status and plan next steps? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| E. Is there a written plan for capacity building related to enhancing the school-community collaboration? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| F. Are there written descriptions available to give all stakeholders regarding current school-community collaboration efforts? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| G. Are there effective processes by which stakeholders learn | | | | | | |
| 1. what is available in the way of programs/services? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. how to access programs/services they need? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| H. In general, how effective are your local efforts to enhance school-community collaboration? | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| I. With respect to enhancing school-community collaboration, how effective are each of the following: | | | | | | |
| 1. current policy | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. designated leadership | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. designated representatives | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. team monitoring and planning of next steps | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. capacity building efforts | DK | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

IV. School-Community Collaboration to Improve the School

Indicate the status of collaboration between a given school or family of schools and community (name of school(s): _____)

Indicate all items that apply

A. Collaboration to improve school

| | Yes | Yes but more of this is needed | No | If no, is this something you want? |
|---|-----|---|-----|---|
| 1. the instructional component of schooling | | | | |
| >kindergarten readiness programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >tutoring | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >mentoring | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >school reform initiatives | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >homework hotlines | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >media/technology | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >service learning | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >career mentoring | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >career academy programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >adult education, ESL, literacy, citizenship classes | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 2. the governance and management of schooling | | | | |
| >PTA/PTSA | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >shared leadership | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >advisory bodies | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 3. school-based programs and services to address barriers to learning | | | | |
| >student and family assistance programs/services* | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >transition programs* | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >crisis response and prevention programs* | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >home involvement programs* | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >community involvement programs* | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >classroom-based approaches* | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >pre and inservice staff development programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 4. stakeholder development | | | | |
| >school staff | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >staff from community programs and services | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >family members | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 3. financial support for schooling | | | | |
| a. adopt-a-school | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| b. grant programs and funded projects | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| c. donations/fund raising | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| d. other _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |

*See surveys for each of these arenas of school intervention.

B. Collaboration to improve *neighborhood*

| | Yes | Yes but more of this is needed | No | If no, is this something you want? |
|---|-----|--------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| 1. youth development programs | | | | |
| >home visitation programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >parent education | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >infant and toddler programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >child care/children's centers/preschool programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >community service programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >public health and safety programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >leadership development programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 2. youth and family recreation and enrichment opportunities | | | | |
| >art/music/cultural programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >parks' programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >youth clubs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >scouts | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >youth sports leagues | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >community centers | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >library programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >faith community's activities | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >camping programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 3. physical health services | | | | |
| >school-based/linked clinics for primary care | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >immunization clinics | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >communicable disease control programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >EPSDT programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >pro bono/volunteer programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >AIDS/HIV programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >asthma programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >pregnant and parenting minors programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >dental services | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >vision and hearing services | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >referral facilitation | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >emergency care | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 4. mental health services | | | | |
| >school-based/linked clinics w/ mental health component | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >EPSDT mental health focus | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >pro bono/volunteer programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >referral facilitation | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >counseling | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >crisis hotlines | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 5. programs to address psychosocial problems | | | | |
| >conflict mediation/resolution | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >substance abuse | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >community/school safe havens | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >safe passages | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >youth violence prevention | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >gang alternatives | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >pregnancy prevention and counseling | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >case management of programs for high risk youth | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >child abuse and domestic violence programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |

B. Collaboration to improve *neighborhood* (cont.)

| | Yes | Yes but more of this is needed | No | If no, is this something you want? |
|---|-----|--------------------------------|-----|------------------------------------|
| 6. basic living needs services | | | | |
| >food | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >clothing | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >housing | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >child care | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >transportation assistance | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 7. work/career/higher education programs | | | | |
| >college prep programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >job mentoring | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >job shadowing | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >job programs and employment opportunities | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 8. social services | | | | |
| >school-based/linked family resource centers | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >integrated services initiatives | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >budgeting/financial management counseling | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >family preservation and support | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >foster care school transition programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >case management | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >immigration and cultural transition assistance | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >language translation | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 9. crime and juvenile justice programs | | | | |
| >camp returnee programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >children's court liaison | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >truancy mediation | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >juvenile diversion programs with school | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >probation services at school | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >police protection programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 10. legal assistance | | | | |
| >legal aide programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 11. support for development of neighborhood organizations | | | | |
| >neighborhood protective associations | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >emergency response planning and implementation | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >neighborhood coalitions and advocacy groups | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >volunteer services | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >welcoming clubs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >social support networks | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| 12. economic development and housing programs | | | | |
| >empowerment zones | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >urban village programs | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >accessing affordable housing | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |
| >others _____ | ___ | ___ | ___ | ___ |