

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.

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 _____	___	___	___	___