



# What is Parent Involvement?



What is Your  
Definition of  
Parent  
Involvement?

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# Joyce Epstein's Six Levels of Parent Involvement

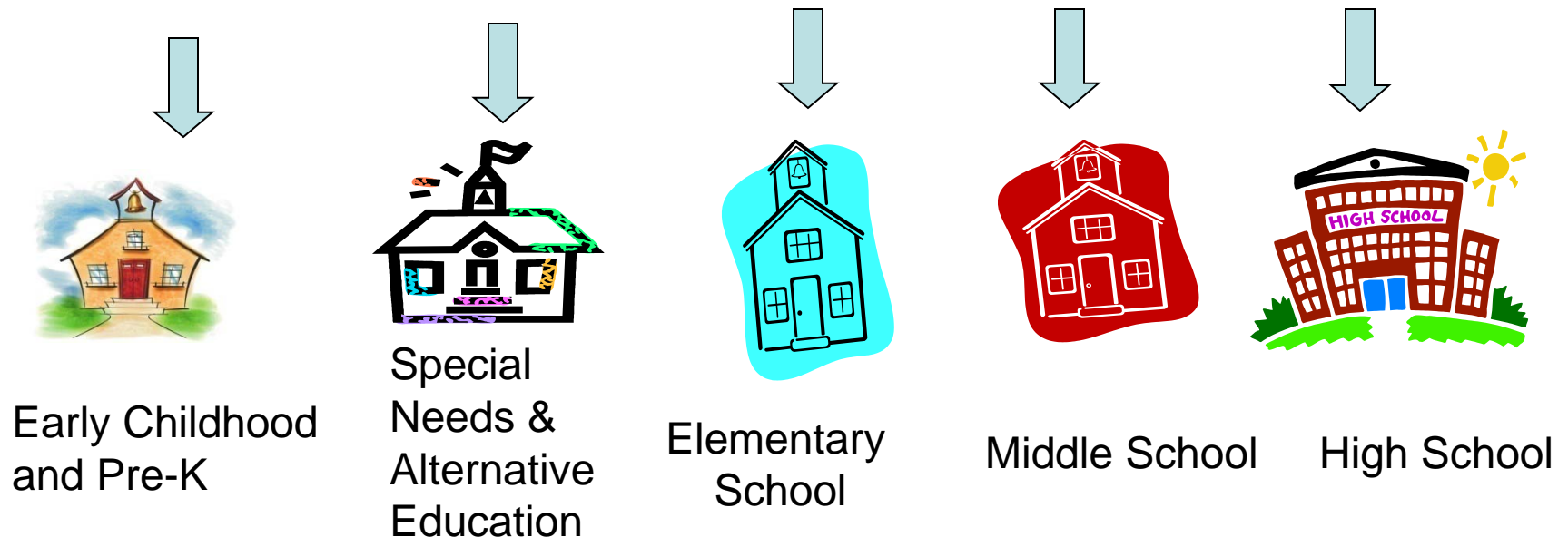
- **1. Parenting** - Help all families establish home environments to support children as students
- **2. Communication** - Design effective forms of school-to-home and home-to-school communications about school programs and children's progress
- **3. Volunteering** - Recruit and organize parent help and support
- **4. Learning at Home** - Provide information and ideas about how to help students at home with homework and other curriculum-related activities, decisions, and planning
- **5. Decision Making** - Include parents in school decisions, developing parent leaders and representatives
- **6. Collaborating with Community** - Identify and integrate resources and services from the community to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development

# The Impact of Parent Involvement

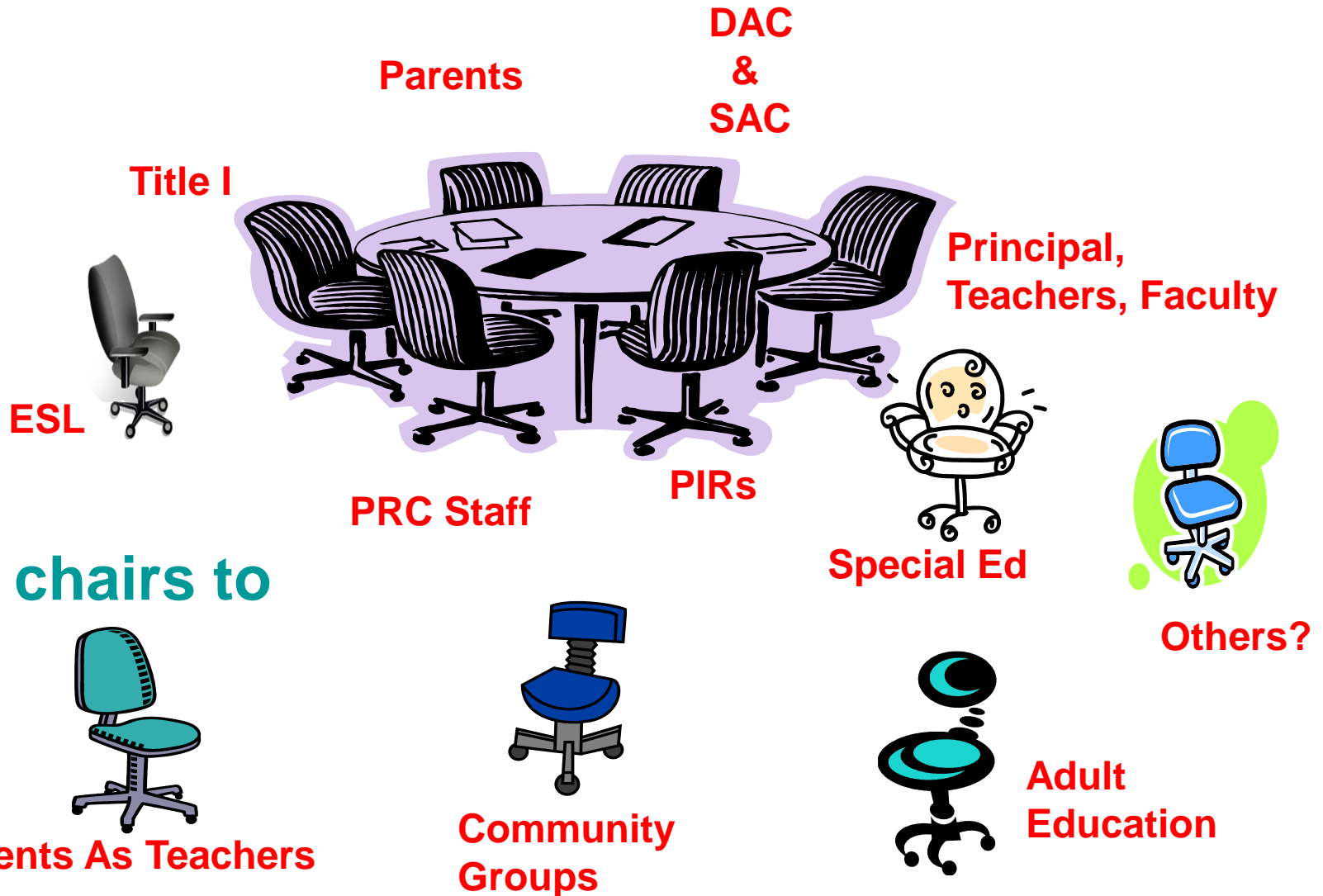
## – A Systemic, Holistic, and Collaborative Process

- Parent Involvement affects MSIP, CSIP Goals, SIPs, Title I policies, and various other program requirements, such as Head Start, and early childhood education.

### School District Parent Involvement Policies



# The School PI Team: Who Works With Parents?



# Parent Leadership

- Education's Greatest Resource

- Parent Leadership prompts:

- Advocacy for school and community
- Reinforced learning for children at home
- Heightened levels of family literacy
- Connection to community resources
- Health literacy
- Financial literacy
- Self sufficiency
- Self esteem
- Partnerships with school and teachers
- School-based and school-linked services
- Enhanced ESL services
- Enhanced father and grandparent involvement
- ***Recruitment of more parent leaders!***



# Why Should We Learn About Adult Learning Styles, Patterns, and Principles?

- See handouts



*Do we effectively communicate with parents?*

- *The Cone of Learning*
- *The Stages of Change and Responses to Change*

# What kinds of activities motivate and attract sustained parent commitment?

- Educational seminars and awareness sessions on much needed community services/basic needs support
- Happy, friendly, respectful environments
- Literacy-rich schools, classrooms, programs
- Culturally competent and culturally sensitive activities and events
- Organized and prepared activities
- Parent Child Interactive Literacy (PCIL)
- Helpful and supportive faculty and staff
- Fun, innovative, and playful activities
- Information that is relevant to families
- Activities that allow parents to facilitate and share strengths and skills
- Opportunities to share and network with other parents
- Opportunities that provide parents ample and appropriate notification before event
- Activities that provide user friendly and easy to do examples that can be repeated at home

# How did the decision to offer specific activities, workshops, trips, education, etc. arrive?

- Parent surveys?
- Parent leadership groups?
- Referenced CSIP, SIP, etc. goals?
- MAP scores and tests?
- Child reading levels and/or child achievement?
- Child screening and assessment outcomes?
- Need to implement new programs or curriculum?
- Title I requirements?
- Parents As Teachers?
- DAC, SAC, PIR, PRC staff recommendations?
- Principal, teacher, faculty recommendations?



# *Parent Involvement Best Practices and Strategies*

- **Parent Newsletters (parents can submit articles with support from staff)**
- **Parents announcing upcoming school/district activities on local radio stations**
- **ESL parents facilitating diversity sessions to provide education on their native country (songs/music, stories, photos, traditions, etc.)**
- **Parent Study Circles to address community concerns (crime, abuse, poverty, etc.)**
- **Did You Know Trade – parents share grocery ads a/o interesting and helpful newspaper articles to keep parent informed of important news, issues, events. This promotes adult and family literacy!**
- **PCIL (Parent Child Interactive Literacy) – parents observe students participating in educational and fun activities to learn more about their child(ren's) interest.**
- **Family nutrition and education with healthy snacks**
- **Community banks facilitating session on family budgeting and banking do's and don'ts**
- **Movie nights with follow-up trivia**
- **Fathering education and activities**
- **Jeopardy Game Show with questions based on what parent know about the school**
- **Holiday assistance program and weatherization program announcements and education**
- **Art, crafts, and other physical and creative activities for parents**
- **Child Developmental activities (Baby Olympics) for parents with young children and preschoolers**
- **School scavenger hunts to locate the library, music room, parent resource center, gym, cafeteria, etc.**
- **Local celebrity motivational speakers, singers, entertainers, sport figures that provide educational messages along with the entertainment, stories, etc.**
- **Community fairs with exhibits**
- **Back-to-school rallies**
- **Parents building a school year planner or calendar to help them remember important school meetings, activities (this helps families arrange transportation, childcare, and other supports needed ahead of time**

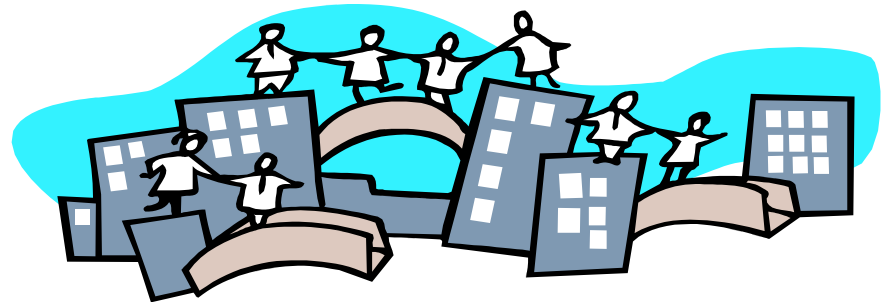
# Parent Involvement Plans – What Do They Look Like?

- Important Components
- Coordinated and Planned by School Team and Parents
- Reflect efforts by all school district programs, if applicable

Date/ Time	Activity & Location	Description	Staff/Team Responsible	Outcomes & Evaluation

# Wrapping Support Around the Family – Bridging Families, Communities, and Schools

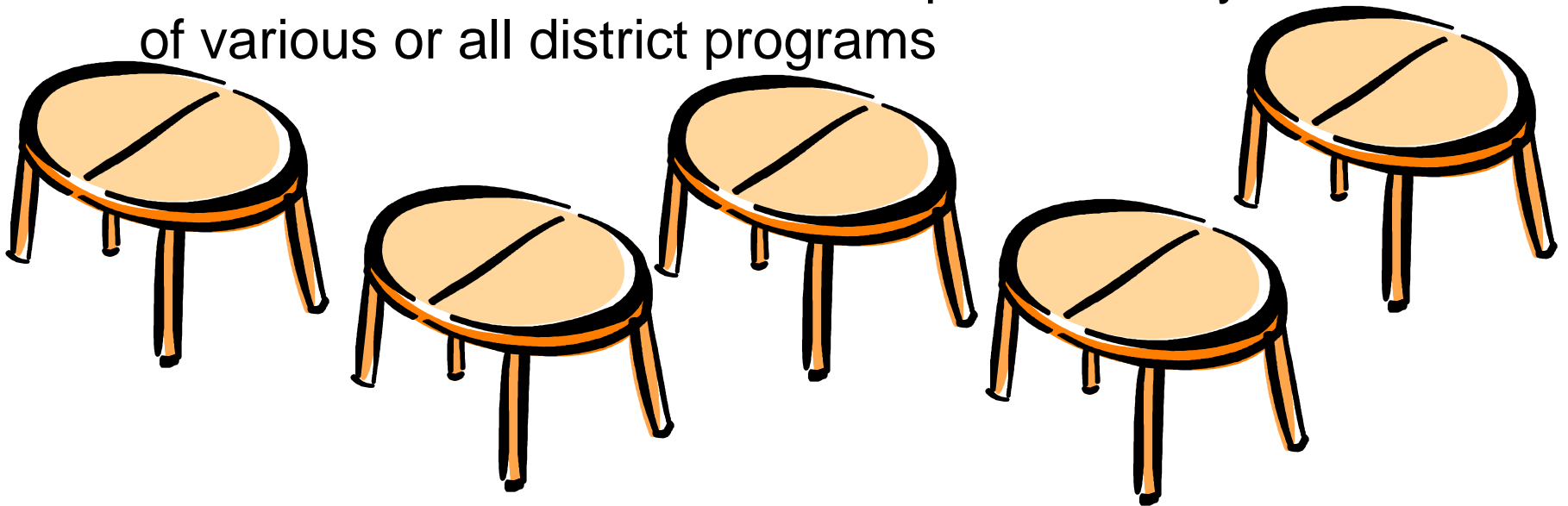
- **See handouts**



- **Strengths-Based Model Assessment**
- **Community Collaboration, Component Integration, and Teamwork**

# Separate Tables for Separate Programs: **Wrong** Plan!

- Parent Involvement needs **one** table and **one** team for each school.
- Each school teams should be represented by members of various or all district programs



***Working in multiple separate groups limits collaboration, resource sharing, advocacy for parents, and causes the different teams to reinvent the wheel and duplicate school district services and efforts.***

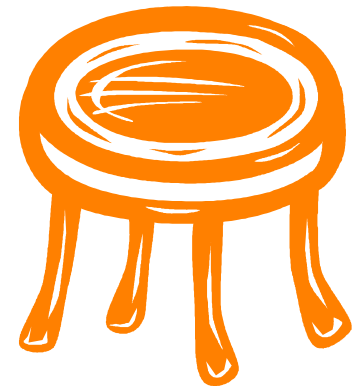
# Parent Involvement thrives when each school has a strong team that works together for students, parents, and families!

- School PI teams may have different titles or work in different programs, but unify for families and student achievement
- School PI teams involve parents on the team
- All teams become more knowledgeable of all school district program services
- School PI teams bridge families, communities, and schools
- Families thrive when the household is safe and healthy under one roof
- School PI teams thrive when teams all work together at one table

**One School**



**One Table**



# Unifying for Families – The Benefits of Strong Parent Involvement Plans and Activities

- Schools and districts can better evidence and document parent involvement efforts at the school level, district level, and state level
- Individual school teams can come together to help complete district-wide plans and reports
- Parents are present on school and district teams, and have input on ideas for activities and services
- Individual school teams are represented by various district programs and community representatives



# Thank You

- **The Missouri PIRC (Parent Information Resource Center appreciates the opportunity to share parent involvement information with you. We hope that you can participate on our PIRC Regional Advisory Councils that will offer networking, resource sharing, education, and collaboration opportunities in the Kansas City area and across the state!**
- Questions?
- Comments?

