

Community Involvement Resources

School community involvement practices: Based on Sheldon S. B. & Epstein J. L. (2005), *Involvement Counts: Family and community partnerships and mathematics achievement*

- Conduct workshops during daytime or school hours for parents on content skills and expectations for children.
- Conduct similar workshops for parents in the evening.
- Give families information on how to contact the teachers at school.
- Issue certificates for students to take home that recognize mastery of new mathematics skills or other proficiency.
- Schedule individual conferences with parents of students who are failing or are at risk of failing.
- Inform parents of students' progress and problems in content areas on report cards.
- Offer videotapes on mathematics skills that families can view at school or at home (i.e., Khan Academy)
- Invite parents and the community to assemblies for student awards for excellence.
- Invite parents and the community to assemblies for student awards for improvement in content areas, including mathematics, English, Social Studies, Science, etc.
- Request parent or community volunteers to tutor students.
- Assign students homework that requires them to show and discuss skills with a family member.
- Offer parents or students mathematics game packets or lending-library activities to use at home.
- Offer students and families mathematics or supportive classroom activities on Saturdays.
- Organize presentations for students on how classroom skills are used by business, government, and industry.

3. Activities to engage families: Based on Epstein J. L. (2008), *Improving Family and Community Involvement in Secondary Schools*

- When high schools conduct workshops on post-secondary planning, more parents respond by discussing college and career plans with their teens.
- When middle level schools organize interactive homework in science, more families talked with students about science and students improved their homework completion, report card grades, and achievement test scores.
- In high school, family involvement in and support of reading is linked to student success in that subject.
- When educators communicate clearly with families about attendance policies and how attendance affected report card grades, schools' average daily attendance improved, and chronic absenteeism declined.

- When teachers and administrators communicate with parents about student behavior, the number of disciplinary actions in schools decreased.
- Organize presentations for families on how classroom skills are used by business, government, and industry.
- When educators and administrators communicate clearly with families about school expectations, available support systems

Theory of Motivation:

Abraham Maslow was an American psychologist who developed a [hierarchy of needs](#) to explain human motivation. His theory suggested that people have several basic needs that must be met before people move up the hierarchy to pursue more social, emotional, and self-actualizing needs.

