



**Pennsylvania Parent Information and Resource Center
Online Lunchtime Learning Series**

Increasing Parent Involvement in Your Community

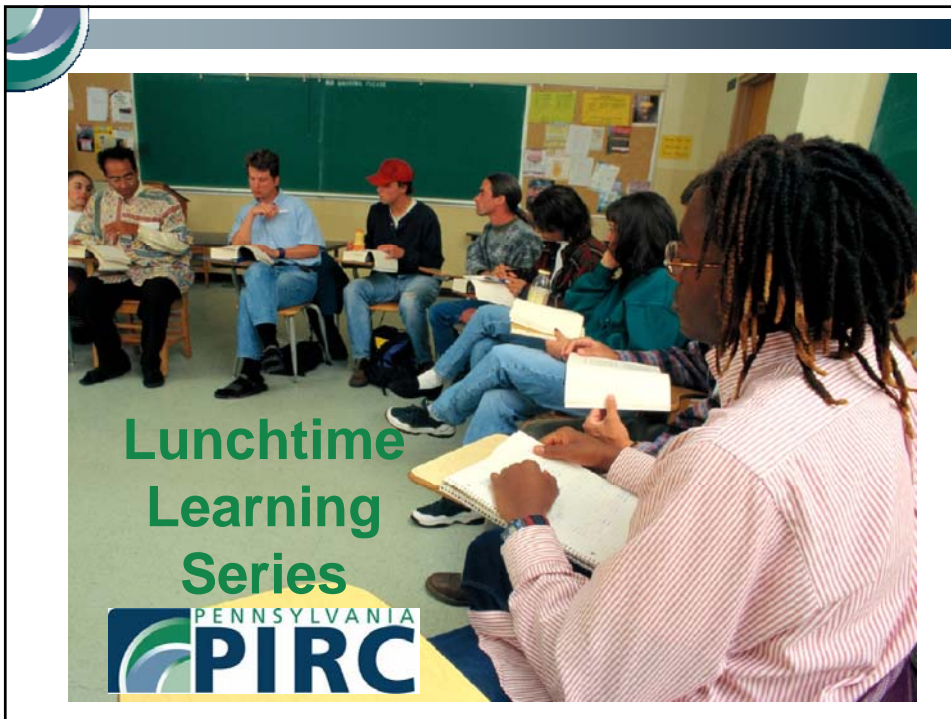
Presenter:
Erin Hart, Director of Strategic Alliances, Partnerships and Programs
National PTA

**Wednesday, August 24, 2011
12:05 p.m. to 12:40 p.m. EDT**



Center for Schools & Communities Online Learning

Powered by



Moderator for Today's Session



Karen Shanoski

Family-School-Community Partnerships Project Manager
Pennsylvania Parent Information and Resource Center (PA PIRC)
Center for Schools and Communities
275 Grandview Ave., Suite 200
Camp Hill, PA 17011
Phone: 717-763-1661 x 139
Phone: 215-275-8739
E-mail: kshanoski@csc.csiu.org
Web: www.center-school.org/pa-pirc

Housekeeping Notes

- **Question & Answer Opportunities**
We encourage you to ask questions using the text messaging (Chat) feature.
- **Recording of Session and Slides**
A link to the recording of today's session as well as the PowerPoint presentation (in PDF format) will be available within 3 days. You are welcome to view the recording and the PowerPoint at your leisure.

<http://www.center-school.org/pa-pirc>
- **Online Evaluation**
A brief online evaluation will be presented at the conclusion of today's session. Your feedback is important to us. Please take a few minutes to complete the evaluation.



Participant Information

- **Using the text messaging (Chat) feature, please provide the following information:**
 - The full name of all participants who are joining us but did NOT register for today's session. If available, please also provide their email addresses.

Example: Caroline Allen – callen@csc.csiu.org



Lunchtime Learning Series

- Support parents to:
 - Guide children's educational path
 - At home
 - In school
 - In the community
 - Participate in education partnerships
 - Advocate successfully for all children



Presenter for Today's Session

Erin Hart

Director of Strategic Alliances, Partnerships and Programs
National PTA®
1250 N. Pitt Street
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 800-307-4782
Email: ehart@pta.org



PTA®

everychild.one voice.®

PTA's National Standards for Family- School Partnerships



Today's Goals

- Learn about PTA's Framework for Family Engagement
- Learn about the Resources PTA has Available to Help You Engage More Families



PTA Overview

- PTA is the nation's oldest and largest child advocacy organization
- PTA stretches from small towns to large cities, from state legislatures to the Nation's Capital
 - 5 million members
 - 24,000+ units
 - A presence in all 50 states, DC, US Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, and abroad in U.S. military installations



Beyond the Bake Sale

- PTA's history is rooted in advocacy and social justice
 - PTA championed efforts to defeat Polio, led the campaign for child immunizations, supported school desegregation, labored to improve the nation's juvenile justice system, among other accomplishments.



Moving Forward

- Today, PTA is working to ensure that every child's potential is a reality.

- PTA is working to advance:
 - Family Engagement
 - Child Health and Nutrition
 - The Arts



Family Engagement

- Family Engagement is:
 - A shared responsibility among families, educators and the community

 - Continuous, from birth to young adulthood

 - Happens wherever children learn – at home, in school and in the community



Overall Findings from the Research

When families are involved
at home and at school,
children do better in school.



Family Engagement Matters to Students

- The research is overwhelmingly clear:
 - When parents are involved, students have better test scores and higher grades, enroll in higher level classes, attend school and pass their classes, develop better social skills, graduate from high school, attend college, and find productive work.
 - Parent involvement is so significant that it has been shown to be equivalent to an extra \$1,000 in additional per-pupil spending.



Family Engagement Matters to Teachers

- Elementary Teachers Are Much More Likely to Stay in Schools Where They Report Trusting Relationships With Parents
- Teachers are much more likely to remain in elementary schools where many parents are involved with a school.



Family Engagement Matters to Schools

- Chicago Study:
 - Family engagement is a “key ingredient” to school improvement in low-income, urban schools.
 - Showed that parent involvement was integral to school improvement, rather than just as an “add on” activity.



National Standards for Family-School Partnerships



Standard 1

Welcoming All Families

Goal 1: Creating a Welcoming Climate

- Develop personal relationships
- Create a family-friendly atmosphere
- Provide opportunities for volunteering

Goal 2: Building a Respectful, Inclusive School Community

- Respect all families
- Remove economic obstacles to participation
- Ensure accessible programming



Standard 2

Communicating Effectively

Goal 1: Sharing Information Between School and Families

- Use multiple communication paths
- Survey families to identify issues and concerns
- Have access to the principal
- Provide information on current issues
- Facilitate connections among families



Standard 3

Supporting Student Success

Goal 1: Sharing Information About Student Progress

- Ensure parent-teacher communication
- Link student work to academic standards
- Use standardized test results to increase achievement
- Share school progress

Goal 2: Supporting Learning by Engaging Families

- Engage families in classroom learning
- Develop family ability to strengthen learning at home
- Promote after-school learning



Standard 4

Speaking Up for Every Child

Goal 1: Understanding How the School System Works

- Understand how the school and district operate
- Understand rights and responsibilities under federal and state laws
- Learn about resources
- Resolve problems and conflicts

Goal 2: Empowering Families to Support Their Own and Other Children's Success in School

- Develop families' capacity to be effective advocates
- Plan for the future
- Smooth transitions
- Engage in civic advocacy for student achievement



Standard 5

Sharing Power

Goal 1: Strengthening the Family's Voice in Shared Decision Making

- Have a voice in all decisions that affect children
- Address equity issues
- Develop parent leadership

Goal 2: Building Families' Social and Political Connections

- Connect families to local officials
- Develop an effective parent involvement organization that represents all families



Standard 6

Collaborating with Community

Goal 1: Connecting the School with Community Resources

- Link to community resources
- Organize support from community partners
- Turn the school into a hub of community life
- Partner with community groups to strengthen families and support student success



Best Practices in State Policy

Standards in State Policy

- 10 States have Codified the Standards into Law.
- 5 States have Included the Standards In State Policy.



Best Practices in School Districts

Examples of Best Practices

- Boston Public Schools Uses the Standards as a Part of their Training for Principals and School Staff
- Indiana PIRC Embedded the Standards into their Curriculum for Statewide Parent Leadership Academies
- Kansas has Integrated the Standards in their State's Guidelines for School Improvement Plans



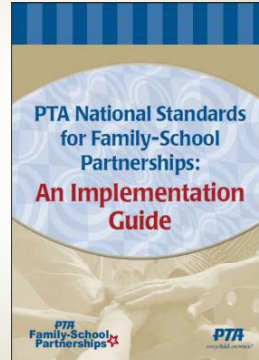
Programs, Tools and Resources to Use the Standards



Tools to Use the Standards

Implementation Guide

An explanation of the National Standards, action steps, and resources to aid PTA leaders, parents, educators, the community, and students in working together for the educational success of all children.



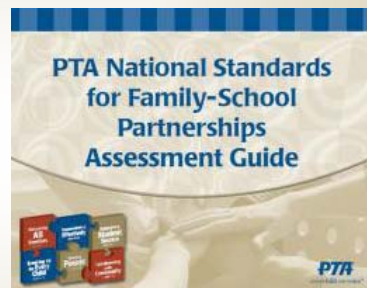
PTA.org/partnerships



Tools to Use the Standards

Assessment Guide

Allows you to rate yourself on your progress in meeting the Standards.



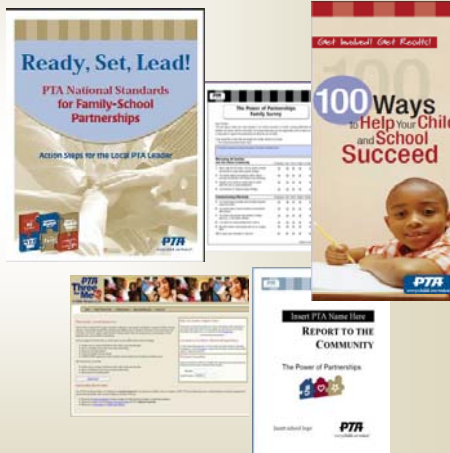
PTA.org/partnerships



Tools to Use the Standards

- Ready Set Lead
- Three for Me
- Power of Partnerships Survey
- Report Card For Parents
- Report to the Community
- ...and More!

http://www.pta.org/national_standards.asp



PTA Family Engagement Programs

- Take Your Family to School Week Grants
- Phoebe Apperson Hearst Family-School Partnership Award
- Three for Me (Engagement Tool)



Take Your Family to School Week

Funding for Your PTA

- Grants of up to \$1,000 are available for PTAs (schools/districts and PTAs may partner together)
- Take Your Family to School Week will be celebrated on February 12-18, 2012
- Apply this Fall on PTA.org



Phoebe Apperson Hearst Family-School Partnership Award

- One award is given to a PTA for its outstanding work in demonstrating effective family engagement.
- Apply this fall!



Three for Me

■ Tool to Engage Parents

■ Learn More at
www.three4me.com/



Thank You!



Erin Hart

ehart@pta.org

(800) 307-4PTA (4782) x 3333

www.pta.org



Resources

- PA PIRC
 - www.center-schools.org/pa-pirc
- National PTA
 - www.pta.org
- Pennsylvania PTA
 - www.papta.org
- Harvard Family Research Project
 - www.hfrp.org
- SEDL
 - www.sedl.org
- US Department of Education
 - www.ed.gov
- PA State Parent Advisory Council
 - www.spac.k12.pa.us

THANK YOU!

- Upcoming webinars:

September 28: Out of School Time

October 26: Learning Standards

- Join us at 12:05 p.m. EDT

