

Building Block: Education/Communication

National Standards for Parent/ Family Involvement Programs

In 1997 and revised in 2009, the National PTA set standards for parent and family involvement programs. More than 30 years of research and 100 years of practice helped develop the standards by which parent involvement programs can excel. National PTA, in collaboration with parent involvement researchers and other national leaders, developed the standards. Nearly 100 professional education and parent/family involvement organizations, state departments of education, colleges of teacher education, and school districts endorse them. The standards clearly delineate those practices that have been shown to lead to success and high-quality parent involvement programs.

The standards booklet was developed to be a practical tool for meeting the threefold purpose of the voluntary national standards:

- To promote meaningful parent and family participation
- To raise awareness regarding the components of effective programs
- To provide guidelines for schools that wish to evaluate and improve their programs

For further information about the PTA National Standards for Family-School Partnerships, go to www.pta.org.

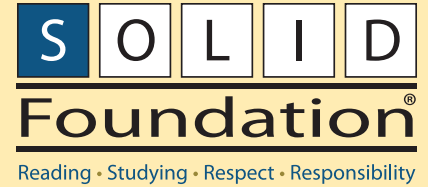
Contact PA PIRC for additional free *Family Friendly Organization* posters that contain information based on the PTA standards to place around your school.



Solid Foundation Recommends these Action Steps for an Effective Parent-Teacher Organization:

- Develop a team of parents that have a clear understanding of the purpose of the organization
- Develop guidelines for organizing your team by having expectations of each member: meeting schedule, procedures for recording decisions and planning between meetings, etc.
- Connect with other committees in the school that have similar goals (e.g. School Improvement Team)
- Review the school's Parent/Family Involvement Policy
- Develop an Action Plan that includes:
 - o Objectives
 - o Activities
 - o Implementation plan – assign tasks so activities run smoothly
- Evaluate the work of the organization and adjust accordingly

Source: Solid Foundation Resource Menu



**Solid Foundation is
a school-based team
process that helps:**

- Strengthen family-school connections
- Engage parents in their children's learning
- Improve student, academic and social learning

Check out the *Solid Foundation Resource Menu*
www.adi.org/inventory/Resourcemenue.asp



Go to Building Block: Shared Leadership: The Parent Teacher Organization

NEED HELP?

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**More information
can be found at:**
www.center-school.org/pa-pirc
www.adi.org/solidfoundation
www.Families-Schools.org



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Linking Standards with Student Learning

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The Mastery Charter School, Shoemaker Campus PTA held a Saturday "PTA Conference of Philadelphia: Urban Leadership and Education" for parents. As part of National PTA's Urban Family Engagement Initiative, a variety of workshops were offered to parents. For the PTA leaders, there was a PTA "Board Basics" and a "Financial and Assets Protection" workshop. Other workshops included a PA PIRC "Families Matter", "Dynamics of Difference", "Tiger Moms and Dads" and more. This conference was co-sponsored by the National PTA, the Pennsylvania PTA, 100 Black Men – Philadelphia Chapter, State Farm Insurance, and PA PIRC. The day ended with an appearance by Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter. The daylong event was covered by WTXF Fox 29 News.