

Module 6: **Encouraging Involvement**

Expand the Definition

While there is no doubt that volunteers and schools go together, it is time to update the traditional definition of volunteers to realize the different _____, abilities, and _____ that families offer

Develop Opportunities

1. How are families currently volunteering?
2. What are our needs as a school?
3. How do we identify families' skills/interests?

Examples of Family Participation

- Class projects/events
- _____ Day
- Clean up/paint classroom or school

Additional Ideas

- _____ Events
- Volunteers in the office; copies
- _____ Buddies
- Committees (PTA, Clubs)

Recruit families directly

- Target _____, or _____ families, through various methods of contact and communication

Recruit families indirectly

- Share and post information about opportunities where families will _____

Offer support

- Provide frequent _____ and alerts
- Publish a calendar of all opportunities
- _____ current and ongoing opportunities
- Post training videos, resources
- Specify if training is needed
- Develop a training _____
- Follow-up with specific details when families offer to help

Is training needed?

- Will they be _____ with students?
- Will they be using school _____?
- Will they represent the school in an official capacity?
- Will they be responsible for other _____?

School-parent compacts

- a written agreement of _____ responsibility
- a catalyst for collaboration and better communication between school staff and parents by _____ goals for student _____ into shared action statements

School-parent compact requirements

- Jointly develop with parents a school-parent compact
- Outline how parents, the entire school staff and students will share the responsibility for improved student _____ achievement
- Outline the _____ by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the state's high standards

What should be included?

- Describe the school's responsibility to provide high _____ curriculum and instruction
- Describe the ways _____ will be responsible for supporting their children's learning
- Address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on a continuous basis
 - Annual parent-teacher conference
 - Frequent reports on _____ progress
 - Reasonable access to staff
 - _____ to volunteer and participate



Reflection Questions: After participating in Module 6, Encouraging Involvement, reflect personally on the following questions.

A. List the ways that families currently volunteer in your class/school.

B. How can you encourage greater involvement from families in your classroom?

C. Generate a list of strategies to involve the community for volunteer opportunities.

D. How can you strengthen school-parent compacts in your classroom/school?

E. How can you support your families with the school-parent compact agreements throughout the school year?