

Salem/Keizer Coalition for Equality

Educate & Inspire

Oregon Statewide Parent Leadership Training

Workshop Series in a Snapshot

School Year 2009-10

This workshop series is an informational resource prepared to assist individuals who are involved in the education of Latino and migrant parents. The curriculum is aimed to support parents with their participation in the education of their children.

Through an unusual combination of parent participation and leadership in the development and assessment, the curriculum presented here (*Educate and Inspire: The Oregon Statewide Parent Leadership Training Series*) is being developed with the input of hundreds of Latino immigrant and migrant parents. The resulting workshop series is therefore a tool that is by parents and for parents; the true leaders of this project.

Parent & Family Workshop Series Overview

Unit 1: The Reality of Latino Youth in our Community: Recognizing the Importance of Education & Parent Involvement in our Children's Future Success

The sequence of workshops begins by encouraging parents to identify the importance that parent participation plays in their children's educational achievement and lifelong success. It also gives parents information about the national and local data regarding student achievement and the reality of educational outcomes for Latino youth.

Unit 2: No Latino Student Left Behind in their Education: Federal Law "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB)

The next workshop provides opportunity for parents and families to understand their rights and their responsibilities according to the federal education law.

Unit 3: Education Programs and your Child's Learning: How Education Law has Evolved to Provide Special Programs Designed to Protect your Children and Support their Learning

The series continues by providing an overview of how civil rights laws formed the basis to educational laws and programs that protect and support all children's potential for academic success. This workshop also explores a history of parent involvement activities that have resulted in creating new education laws.

Unit 4: Report Cards, State Tests & Understanding your Child's Learning Progress

This workshop invites parents and families to understand how their children's learning is progressing in order to participate in and support their education. It helps explain the difference between a child's report card and school report cards.

Unit 5: Effectively Communicating with Schools for the Success of your Children

As a follow-up to Unit 4, this workshop encourages families and parents to use the knowledge of how their child is doing in order to effectively communicate and partner with the school staff in ways that promote and advance student achievement.

Unit 6: Raising Achievement by Teaching & Supporting your Children at Home

This workshop provides support to families and parents so that they can be equipped to help inspire and motivate their children, teach them language and literacy skills, assist them with school work, and help them be successful in school and life. It explores all the ways parents can be involved with their children's education at home—starting with helping them create and communicate high expectations

Unit 7: School Leadership and Decision-Making

Building upon previous learning, this workshop helps parents explore the many ways they can be involved in school leadership and decision-making. It introduces them to site councils, parent advisory committees, and the parent involvement sections of a school's improvement plan.

Unit 8: Planning and Preparing for Your Child's Future

This next to the last workshop, helps parents plan for their child's future. It looks at the early ways that parents can help encourage their children's education—including setting goals, taking the right courses, and the ways parents can talk about the future in concrete ways. It is directed towards a college or post secondary education (of some sort) as well as vocational training. It encourages parents to be involved from the early years in helping their kids dream (and plan) for becoming successful adults.

Unit 9: Our Reality as Parents

Finally the series closes with an opportunity for parents to explore, reflect and discover the obstacles that may challenge their level of engagement in their children's education. This unit allows for peer-to-peer conversations to take place in order to internalize the reasons why there isn't more parent involvement in the schools and ways to keep each other motivated and engaged.