

Creating Dynamic Family-School Partnerships: Key Parent Roles

Core Components: Successful Models

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The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



The Family's Role

Everyone Agrees...

- Academic
 - Social
 - Emotional
- ## Development

Common Refrain:

- Desire: More Families
- Diverse Backgrounds & Cultures
- Engaged in Child's Education
- Strong Partnerships – Home & Schools





What is your
vision for
Effective
Family-School
Partnerships at
your school?

The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



Ineffective Family-School Partnerships:

The Challenge:

Building Capacity for
Partnerships

The Challenge:



- Current Policies & Programs
- Flawed Assumptions
- Collective Capacity to Succeed

Some Parenting Partners Observations

Flawed Practices/ Assumptions

- Parents as Consumers vs. Partners
- Service Delivery vs. Valuing Parents' Contributions
- Expecting Involvement w/o Investing in Capacity Building
- District Wide vs. School-based
- Academic Focus vs. Parent Skills



The Evolution of Parent Engagement

- **Developing a new mindset**
 - Parent engagement is no longer just a compliance issue
- **Family Engagement vs. Parent Involvement**
- **Moving beyond Random, Discrete Activities**
- **Building leadership capacity**

The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



Influential Voices:

- Dr. Karen Mapp - Harvard Family Research
- Joyce Epstein: NNPS, Johns Hopkins (6 Types of Parent Involvement
- U.S. Dept of Education – new framework

The Dual Capacity-Building Framework for Family-School Partnerships



Characteristics of Effective Programs Organizationally:

OPPORTUNITY CONDITIONS

Process Conditions

- Linked to learning
- Relational
- Development vs. service orientation
- Collaborative
- Interactive

Organizational Conditions

- Systemic: across the organization
- Integrated: embedded in all programs
- Sustained: with resources and infrastructure

- Systemic
- Integrated
- Sustainable

Characteristics of Effective Programs - Process:

- Linked to learning
- Relational
- Development vs. Service Orientation
- Collaborative
- Interactive

What do these mean?



Focus: Building Capacity



All 4 needed:

- Capabilities (Skills and Knowledge)
- Connections (Networks)
- Cognition (Beliefs, Values)
- Confidence (Self-efficacy)

Effective Partnership Outcomes:

Staff Outcomes:

- Create Welcoming, Inviting cultures
- Honor and Value Families Contributions
- Connect Engagement to Student Learning

Family Outcomes:

Families who engage in multiple roles:

- Supporters
- Encouragers
- Monitors
- Advocates
- Decision-Makers
- Collaborators



DISCUSSION

- ☐ What do you find helpful from the U.S. Department of Education's "Dual Capacity-Building Framework?"

- ☐ What stands out as distinct, or perhaps 'new' in thinking about Creating Dynamic Partnerships?

Family Engagement: HOW

- Cultivate and Sustain
- Positive Relationships
- Partnerships for Shared Responsibility
- Build Key Parent Roles



Selecting Best Practice Programs: A Checklist

- ✓ **Builds Key Parent Roles**
- ✓ **Best Practice – Research/Outcomes based**
- ✓ **Practical and Relational**
- ✓ **Develops Parents' Skills & Capacity**
- ✓ **Partnership for Achievement**
- ✓ **Builds Parent Leadership**
- ✓ **Sustainable – Ongoing support**

Selecting Best Practice Programs: A Checklist

- ✓ **Builds Key Parent Roles**
 -Introducing Key Roles to Parents**

Parent Roles Skit

What are some of your **Dreams and Goals** for your children?

What are the **Risk Factors** your children face that could prevent them from reaching these goals?

Key Parent Roles – In Student Achievement



Encouraging

- **Building an achievement Identity**
 - “Can Do” Spirit
 - Positive Self Image



Communicating

- Talking together
- Expressing high expectations



Modeling

- Lifelong Learning
 - Reading Daily
- Enthusiasm for Education



Creating Structure

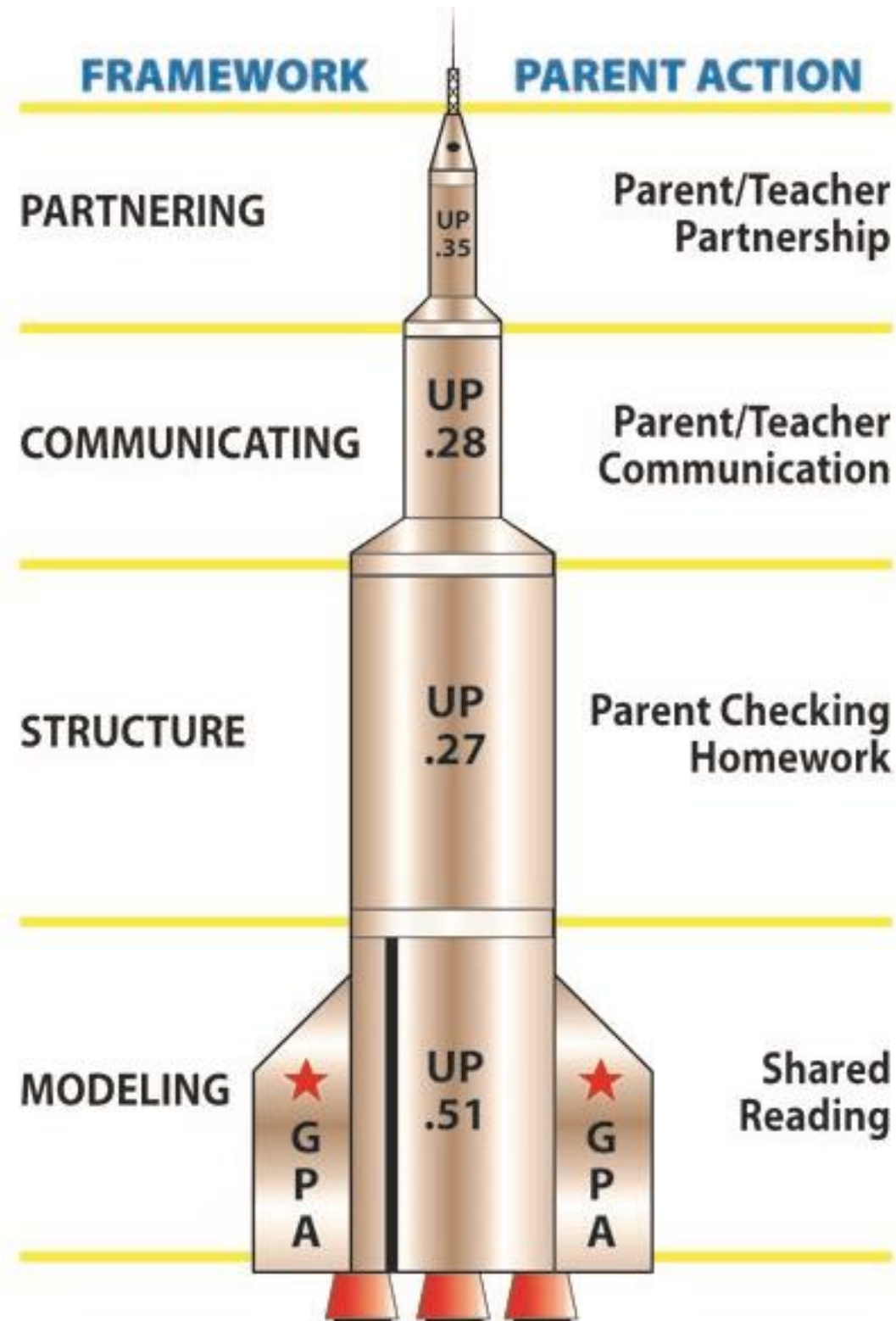
- Family routines
- Boundaries for time and behavior



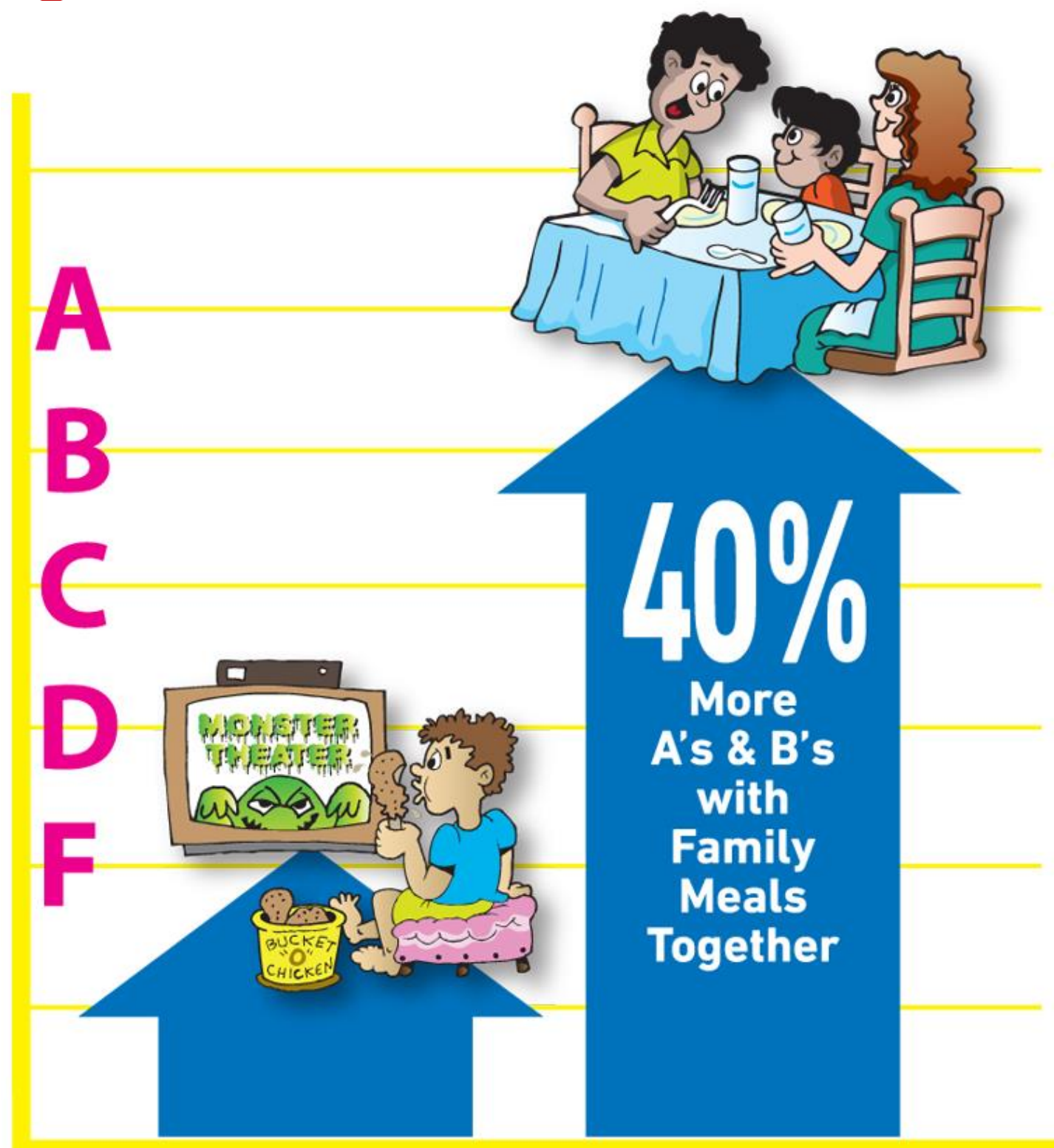
Selecting Best Practice Programs: A Checklist

- ✓ **Best Practice – Research/Outcomes based**
 -Share Valuable Research with Parents**
 -Track and Report Outcomes**

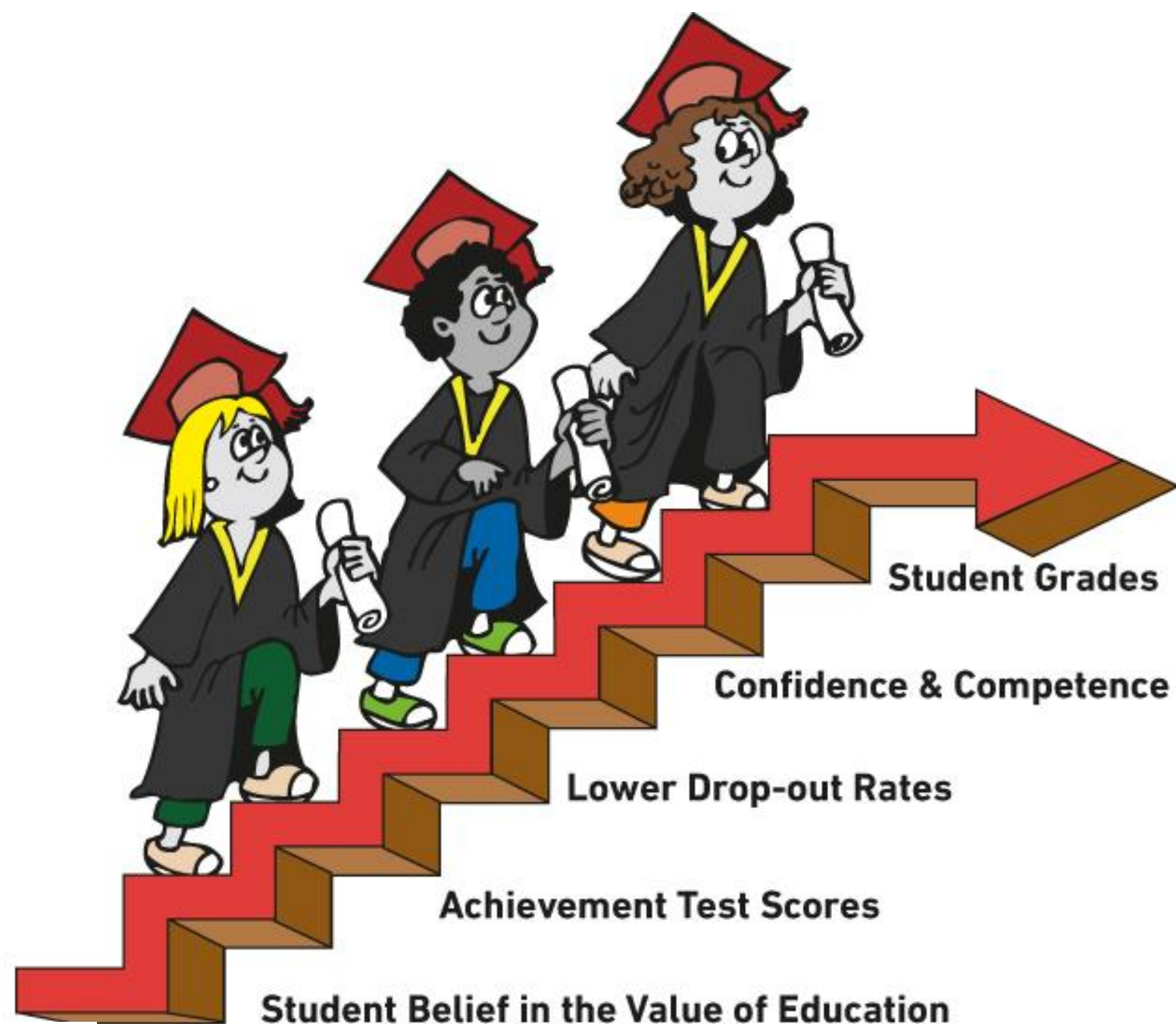
Research Demonstrating Parent Engagement Outcomes



Best Practices in Parent Engagement from Research



Research Links Family Roles in Education with Indicators of Student Achievement



Research Links Family Roles in education with Indicators of Student Achievement

**Graduates of
Parenting
Partners
increase:**

- 1) Hours spent reading together.
 - 2) On time school attendance.
 - 3) Monitoring homework completion and studying.
 - 4) Consistent structure at home.
 - 5) Use of positive discipline and consequences.
 - 6) Support: talking together more often.
 - 7) Positive family communication.
 - 8) Volunteer involvement at school.
-

Vital Parenting Partners Outcomes



Selecting Best Practice Programs: A Checklist

- ✓ **Practical and Relational**
 - **Build on Parent Strengths**
 - **Small Group, Interactive Model**
 - **Honor and Value Parent Contributions**

We *invite*
them as
leaders.

We
*identify &
build* on
parents
strengths.

Valuable Parenting Qualities

Caring Good Listener Flexible

Loving Trustworthy Consistent

Patient Creative Playful

Follow-Through Structured

Selecting Best Practice Programs: A Checklist

- ✓ **Develops Parents' Skills & Capacity**
.... to be effective in all the Key
Parent Roles

Key Parent Roles – In Student Achievement



How do parents become *positive* and *constructive* leaders?

Parenting Skills are Leadership Skills

- Listening
- Clear Expectations
- Dealing with conflict
- Affirmation and Encouraging

Paper Heart Skit

Words that wound the hearts of our children



Positive Power Words for Parents

Words for Listening Well

Words for Encouraging



Positive Power Words for Parents

Words that
Affirm Character



Words that Frame
A
Positive Future



The Argument Trap



What Are Some Reasons Why Kids & Teens Argue?

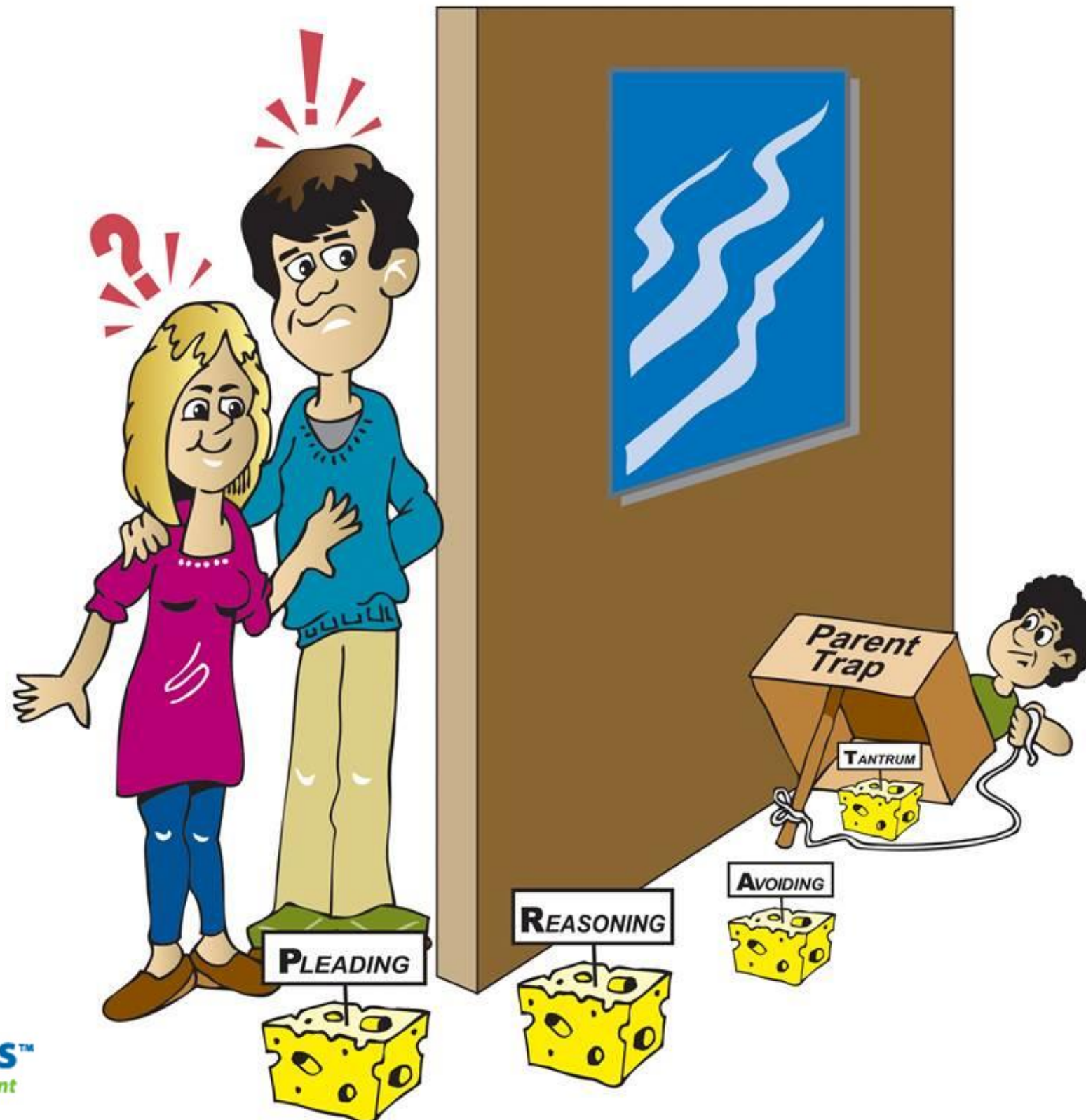
Ending Arguments & Setting Boundaries

Stand Strong

- Use few words
- Don't engage
- Repeat like a broken record



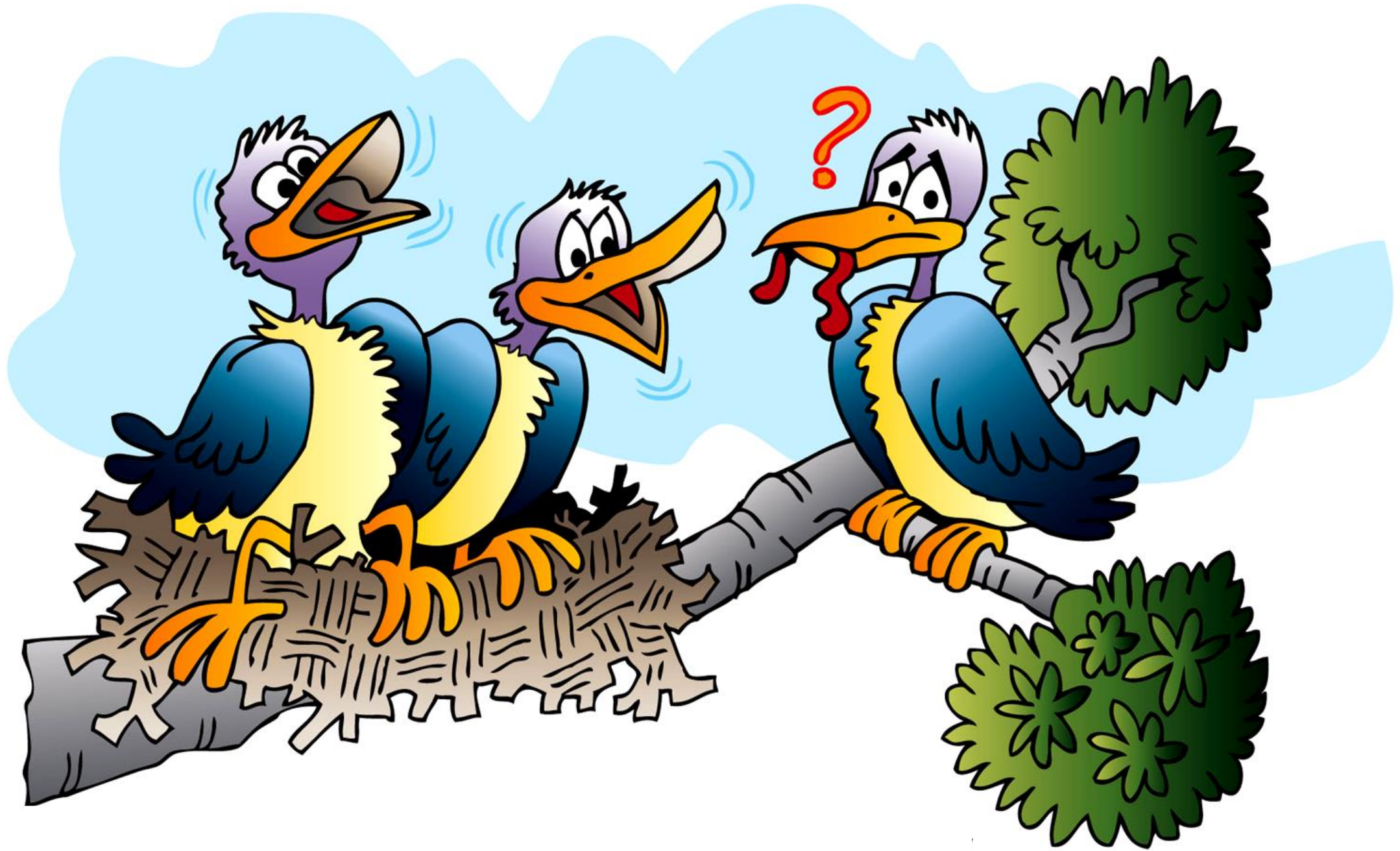
Don't Take The Bait!



Parents Ignore The Polls



Be The Parent Now or Later

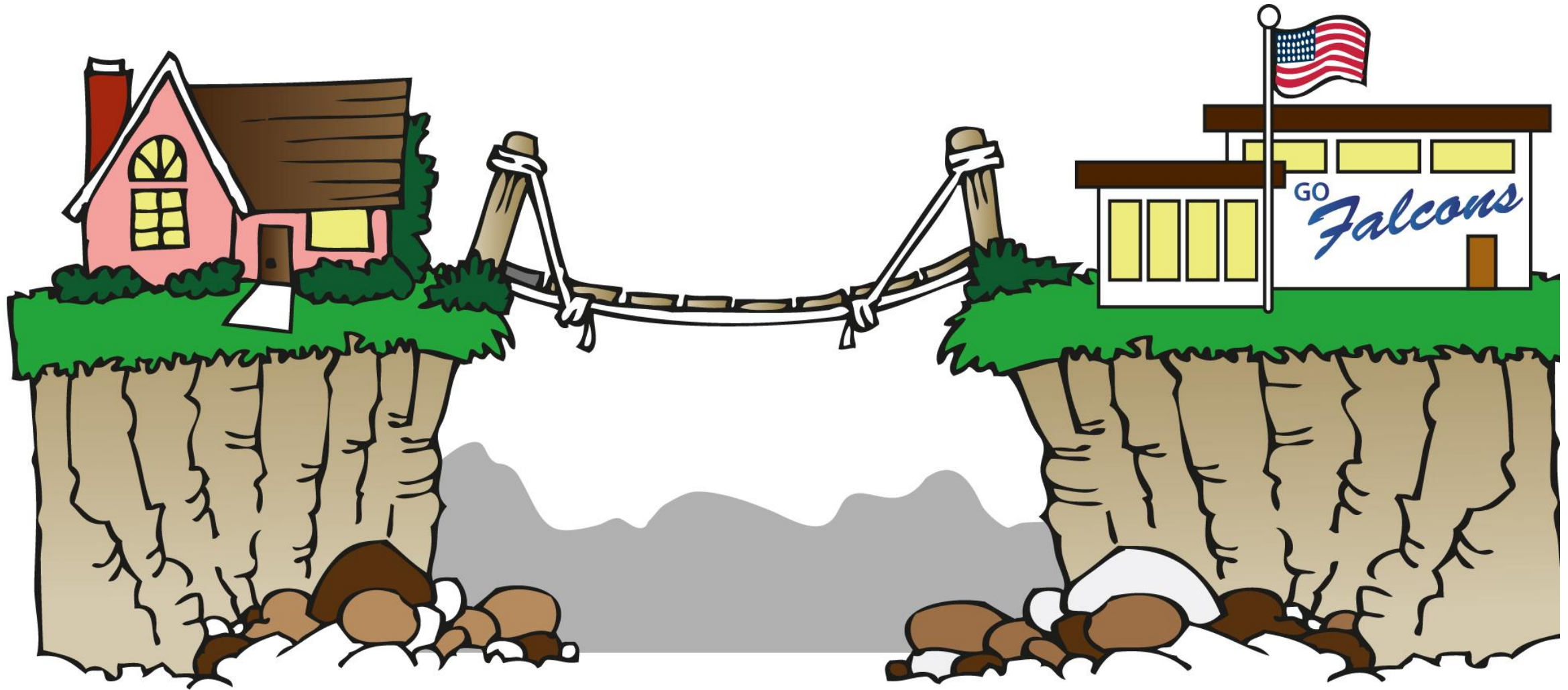


Selecting Best Practice Programs: A Checklist

✓ Partnership for Achievement

....Creating capacity for parents and staff to work together in support of academic achievement

Parent Roles in Family – School Partnership



Connecting Home and School

Partnering

- **Connecting Home to School**
 - **Monitor School Work**
- **Plan for Further Education**



Collaborating

- **Working Together for School Improvement**
- **School and Community Networks**



Leadership

- **Advocating**
- **Parents as leaders at home, school, and community**



Creating Structure for Achievement



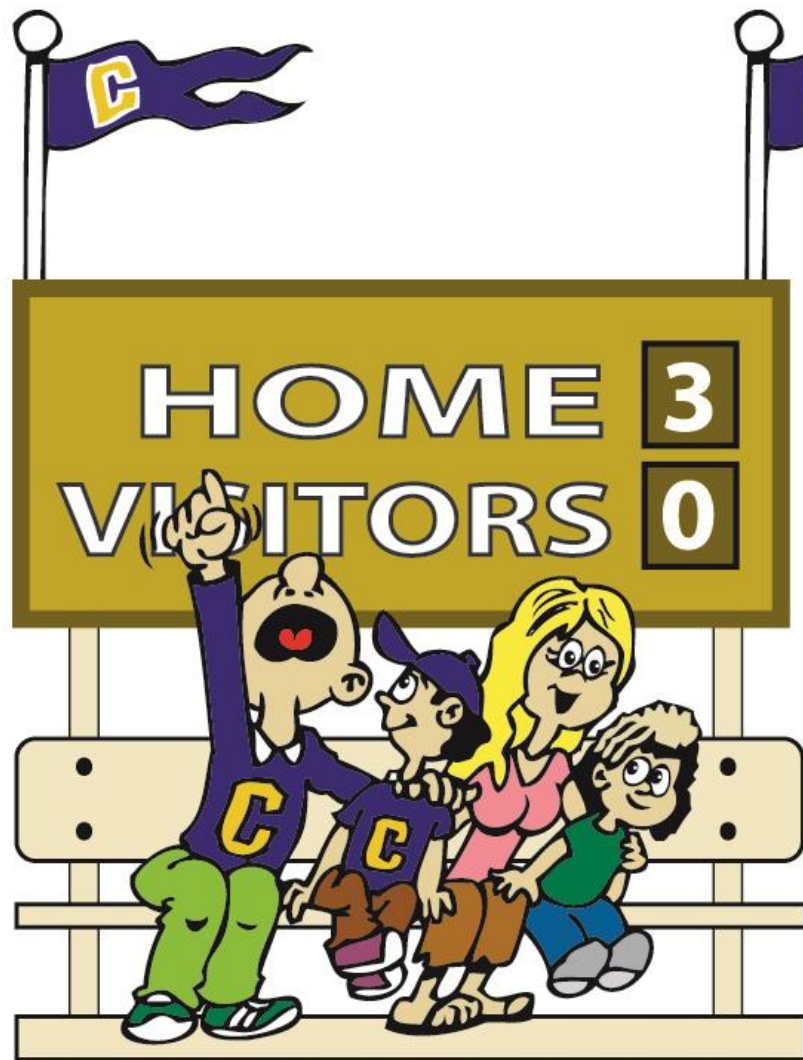
Top Study Skills



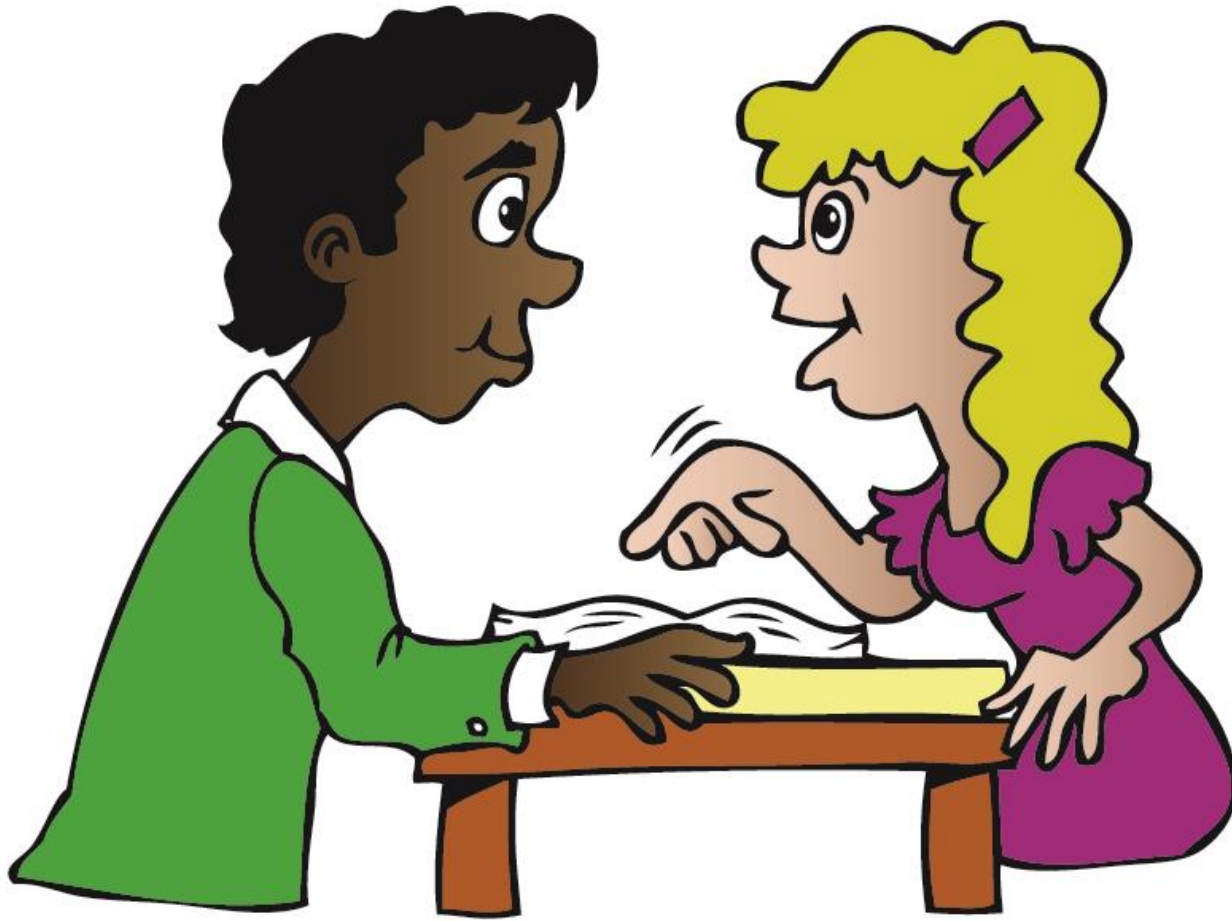
Top Study Skills Topics

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | Game Plan for Test Preparation | 6 | Motivation and Setting Priorities |
| 2 | Game Plan for Test Preparation Part Two | 7 | Positive Family Communication |
| 3 | Break It Up—Add Spacing & Variety to Your Study Time | 8 | Time Management Routines for Better Grades |
| 4 | Finding the Best Places for Learning | 9 | Sleep—Waking up to Learn Better |
| 5 | Limiting Interruptions is Vital | | |

On Track For Higher Education



The Parent/ Teacher Connection



Topics include:

- 1 Practicing Great Parent–Teacher Conferences
- 2 Parent–Teacher Conference Tip Sheets from Harvard Family Research Project
- 3 What Should You Talk to the Teacher About?
- 4 Bridging Communication Styles
- 5 Practicing Brief, Positive Presentations

“The relationship between home and school serves as the foundation for shared learning and responsibility.”

A Middle School Case Study



Morgain Sanchez

Parent Engagement Coordinator for CSR Colorado

Parent Liaisons

Fidel Salazar

Eldia Luvin

Towanna Henderson

Parent Engagement



Goal: To increase engagement of historically underserved parents, and to provide parents with the tools that are necessary to support their children academically.

First Steps:

Action plans built with school administrators tailored to the needs of our individual schools.

Office hours in each school that allow us to support families with resources, and to support teachers and staff with parent outreach.

Parent Outreach



Our experience has shown that building a foundation of strong relationships with parents results in increased meaningful engagement.



Building Relationships



**We start with Parenting Partners classes.
These are some of the things that parents have said:**

“This information is so good, that on the weekends I invite my friends over and have my own Parenting Partners session!” – Hill Middle School

“My husband and our teenaged son had not been able to talk for such a long time. I’ve been sharing with him what I’ve learned in Parenting Partners, and now they are talking more – this is pure gold!” – Lake Middle School,

Parent Engagement Team



Students First - Parenting Partners

CSR families that took the 40 Developmental Assets Workshop and decided to take the Parenting Partners classes. This picture is on their graduation day from the class.

CSR Colorado

Parent Engagement Team



Fun and Collaboration - Family Educational Field Trips

In collaboration with school staff and museum institutions, the parent engagement team organizes fun Family Educational Field Trips to different museums throughout the school year. These visits are awarded to students who have excellent achievement in Science and Social Studies; students are allowed to invite their entire family to attend with them.

Academic Connection



CSR for Parents teaches parents how to use the important reading strategies with their children at home!

These are some of the things that parents have said:

“Thanks for offering this training, now I know how to help my children in reading and teach them how important it is to understand what they are reading.” – Skinner Middle School, CSR for Parents

“I learned so much about how our students have different responsibilities in their groups, and how that helps them learn. Thank you for teaching us how to help our students!”- Lake International

CSR Colorado

Parent Engagement Team



Collaboration and Equity - CSR for Parents

The P.E. team collaborates with school staff and plans CSR family nights with the teacher leaders to educate families on how CSR works in the classroom. We ensure to cover any needs families have to attend the meetings; such as, language barriers.

Leadership and Collaboration



Highly engaged parents take on leadership roles at the school and district level

We offer a Parent Leadership class that teaches parents to look at data, communication skills, and public speaking!

This is a comment from a parent who took our leadership class:

“This class has opened up my eyes even more, now I want to be more involved in my daughter’s school and I don’t want only her to succeed, I want all the kids to graduate and go to college and succeed in life.”

Our partner in work with parents is the community-based advocacy group Padres y Jovenes Unidos, whose work focuses on supporting parents through home visits and leadership training.

Selecting Best Practice Programs: A Checklist

- ✓ **Sustainable – Ongoing support**

.... Funding comes and goes, so effective Parent Engagement models must be sustainable

- ✓ **Builds Parent Leadership**

Success
starts at
home.

*We empower
parents to
give their
children the
best
opportunity to
succeed.*

We're a
Trainer
of
Trainers
model.

Each
school has
it's own
presenting
team.

Parents
attend 8
workshops,
each 90
minutes.

How does the ***Facilitator Team Training*** work?

With 4 manageable steps...

1

**Each School
forms a team
with up to
6 members.**

*Team includes parents
& key staff members*







2

The team attends the 2-day Facilitators Training together

- *Teams practice presenting the workshops*
- *Each team receives coaching at their table in their own language*





3

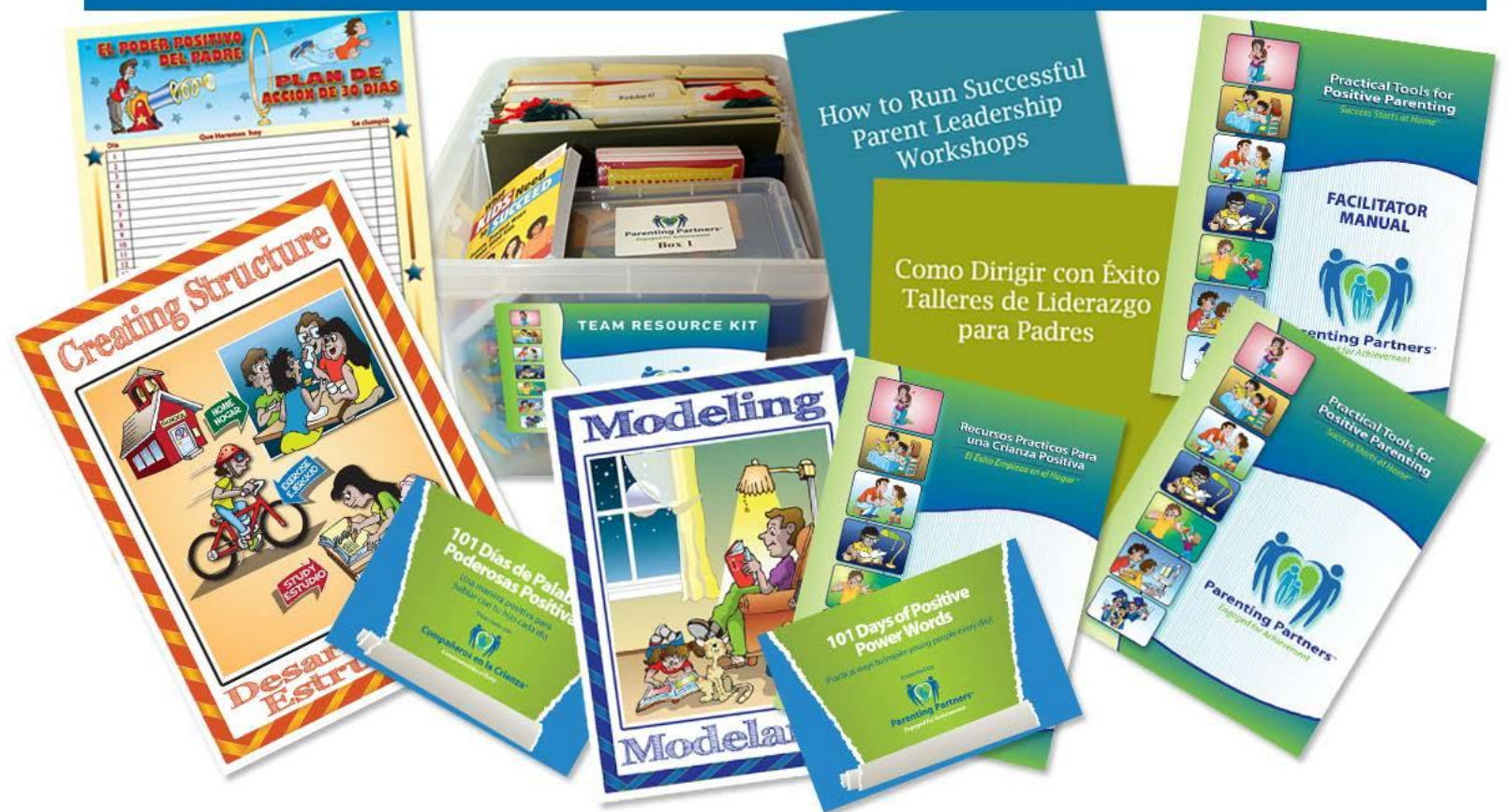
At the close of training, teams have everything they need.

- *Competence, Confidence, Certification*
 - *Complete team plan for strong attendance*
 - *Coach for ongoing support & tracking results*
- *Comprehensive Team Resource Kit*



Team Resources

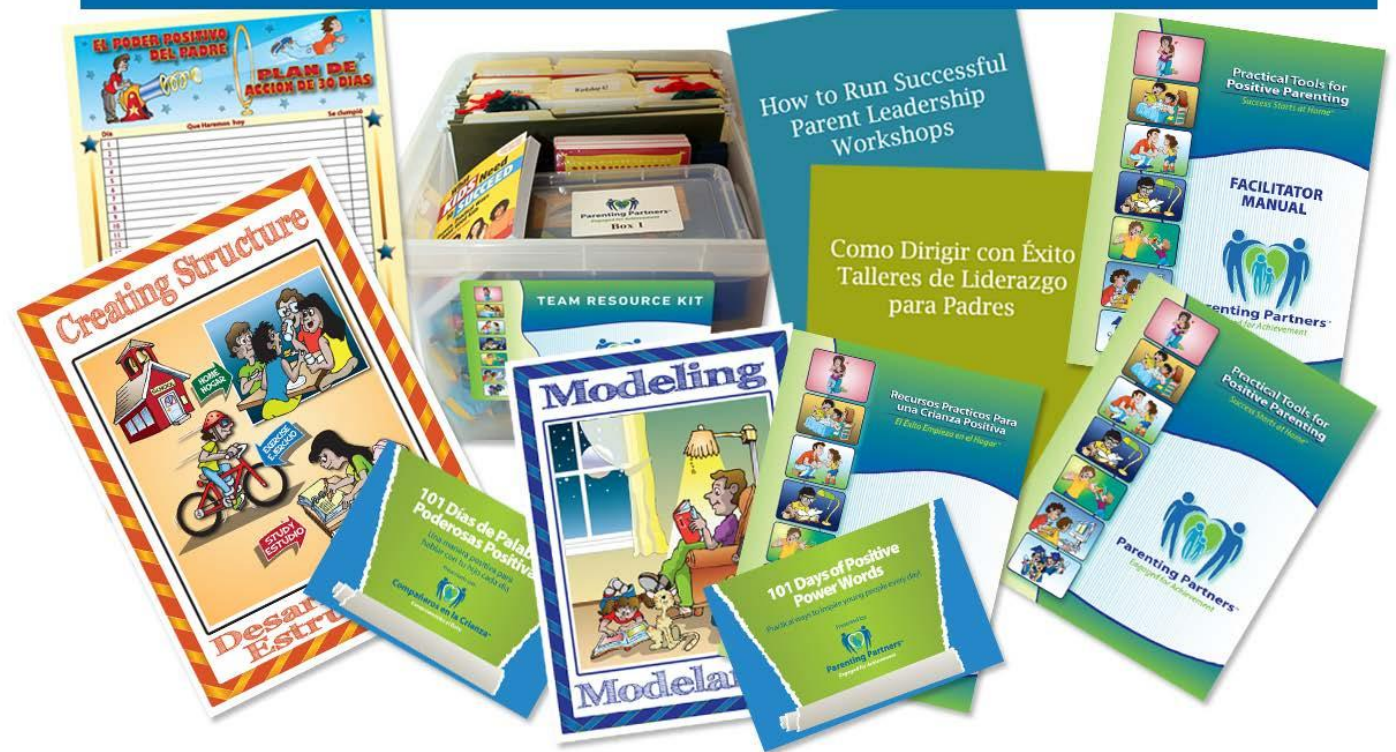
Parenting Partners™ Training Materials



Parenting Partners Team Resources include:

- *Facilitator Manuals in English & Spanish*
- *40 Parent Workbooks*
- *Parent Marketing & Organizing Book*
- *30 Day Action Plan Posters*
- *Online Resources, Books and Posters*
- *PowerPoint and DVDs*
- *Interactive Presentation Tools*
- *Evaluation Tools & Reports*

Parenting Partners™ Training Materials



4

Teams now lead the 8-week workshop series at their school.

Teams can offer the workshops multiple times throughout the year.



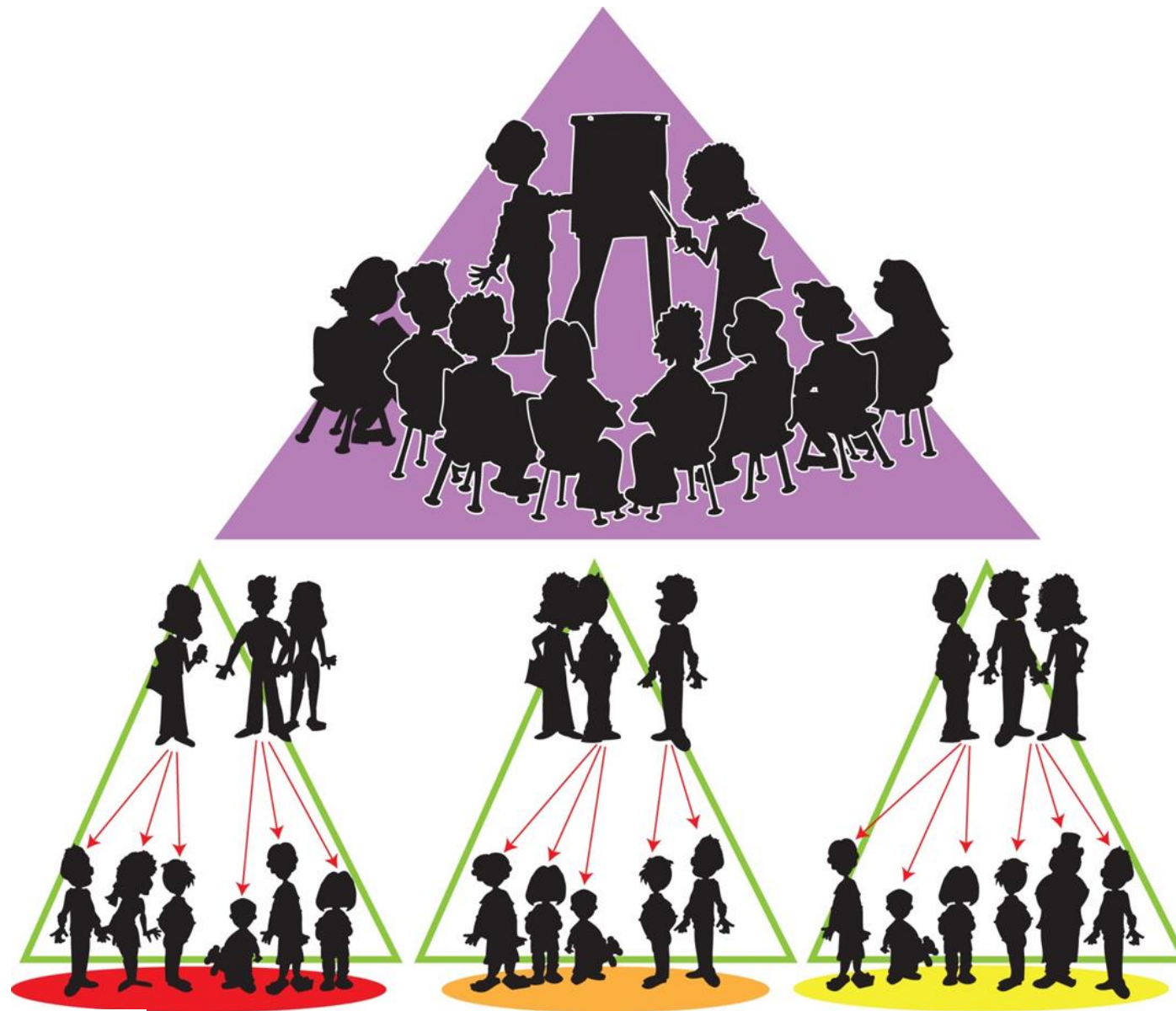


Join the Parenting Partners Team.



Multiply Family Engagement!

Your Leadership Will Benefit More Parents and Children!



Outcomes

Students
increase
their
reading
time
at home.

Reading
scores
improve.

Students
are better
prepared
for the
school day.

ADA
Attendance
improves.

Students'
Behavior
Improves.

Outcomes

Increased
Academic
Achievement

Parents
Engaged
for Student
Success

Increased
Parent
Leadership
Capacity



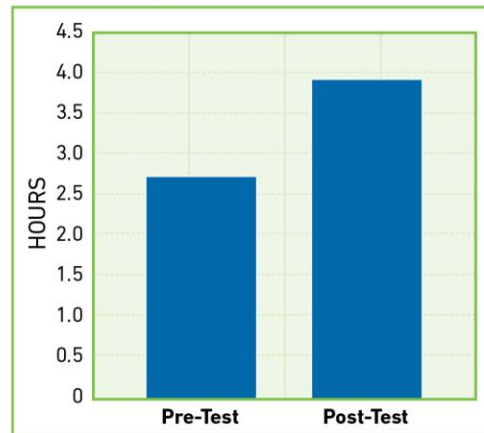
Pre-Survey and Post-Survey Report

Parenting Partners provides each school and district with real time data to track the progress of parents and their children. Team leaders on each school team give parents pre and post questionnaires through their choice of an online version or hardcopy of the questionnaire. We compile data, and the school and district receive a 12 page report on outcomes.

The Team Support Specialists on our Parenting Partners staff make sure the process is easy! The Team Support Specialists will provide you with the direct link and generate a report for your school. You just have to make sure parents fill out both a pre and post questionnaire. Samples from the district report are provided below.

Parent Involvement

**Average Number of Hours
Spent Reading with Children per Week**



Pre-Test
Average number of hours spent reading with children per week:..... **2.67**

Post-Test
Average number of hours spent reading with children per week:..... **3.89**

**Average Number of Hours
Spent Volunteering at School**



Pre-Test
Average number of hours spent volunteering at work:..... **1.51**

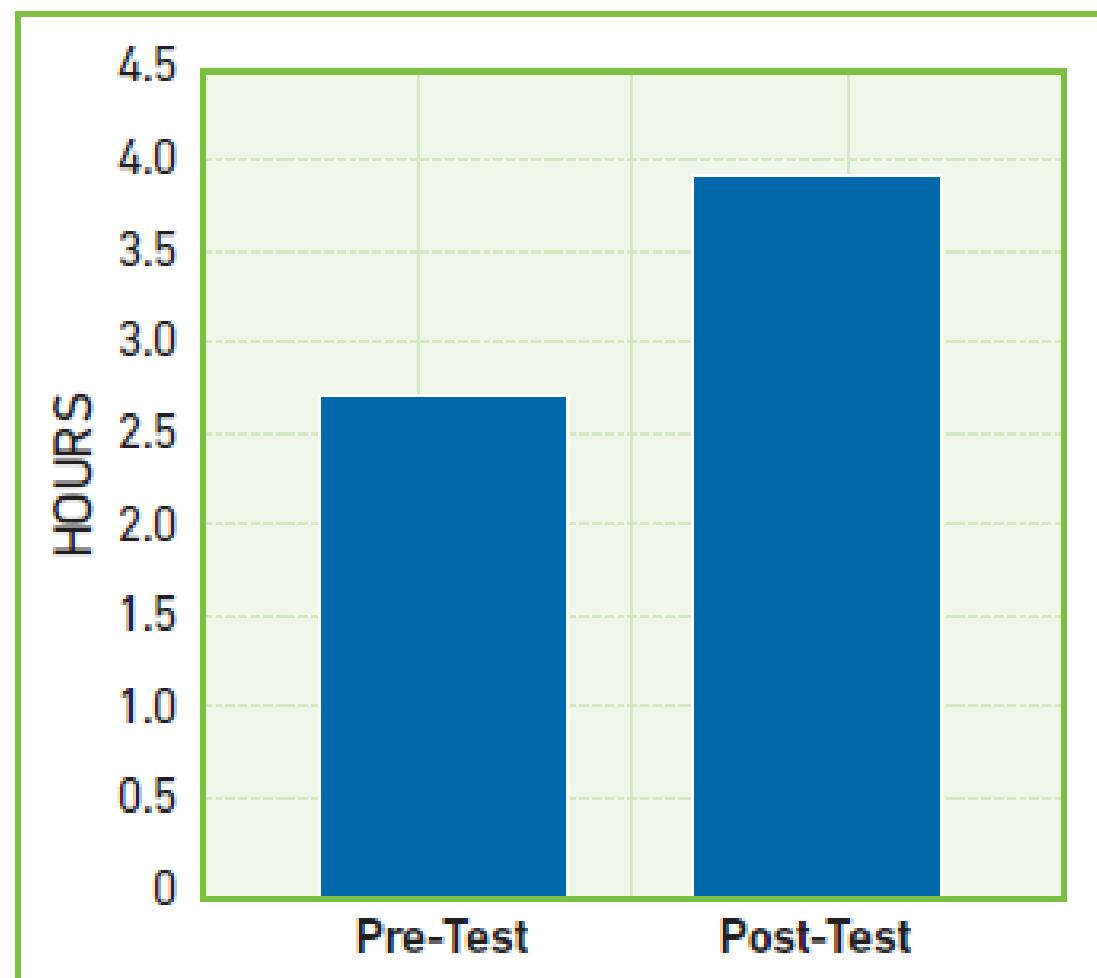
Post-Test
Average number of hours spent volunteering at work:..... **1.66**

Survey Report Summary

**Average Number of Hours
Spent Reading with Children per Week**

Pre-Test
Average number of hours spent
reading with children per week:..... **2.67**

Post-Test
Average number of hours spent
reading with children per week:..... **3.89**



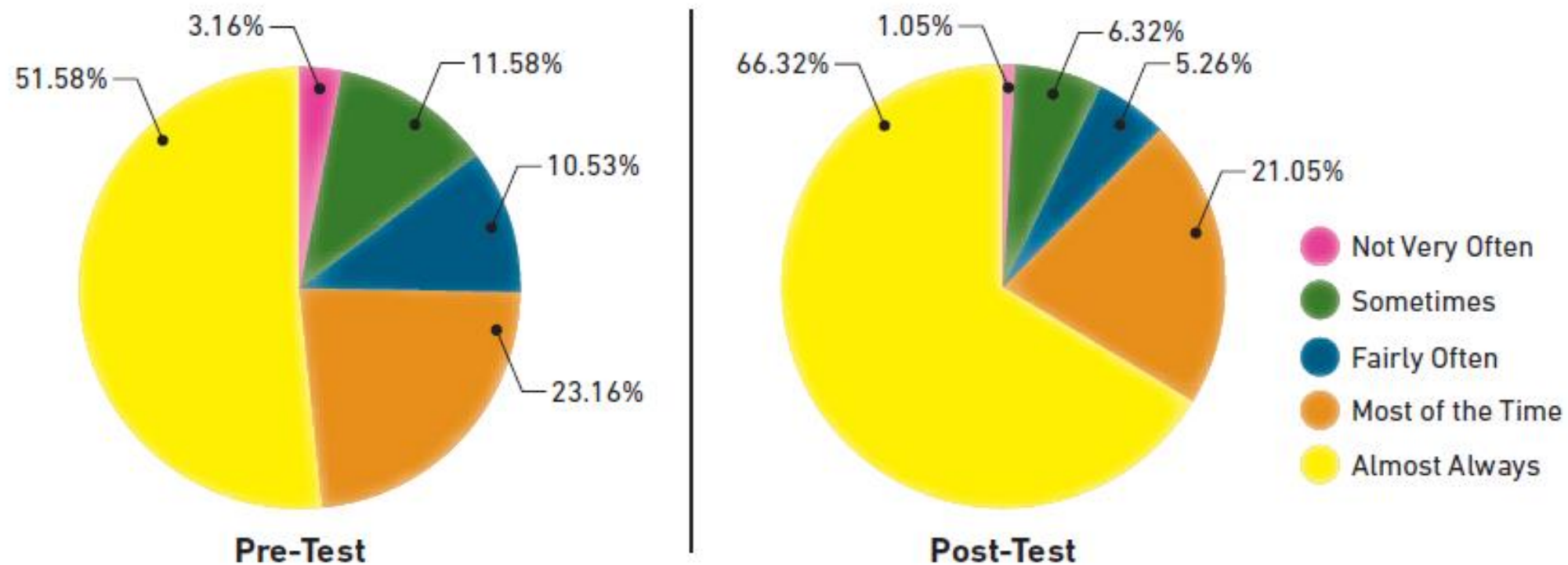
Parents
increase in the
amount of
time they
spend reading
with their
children each
week.



Survey Report Summary

Question #12: Notice that the percentage of parents checking their child's homework increased after they completed the Parenting Partner workshops.

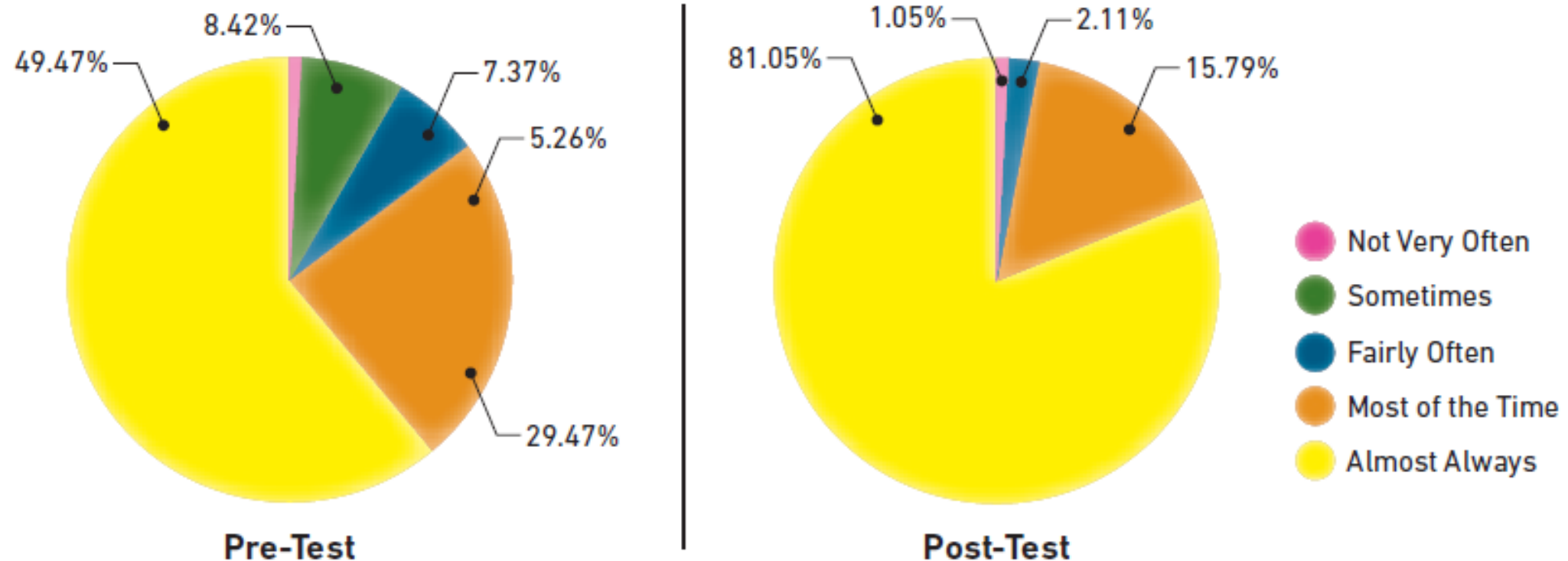
12. I check my child(rens) homework after they complete it.



Survey Report Summary

Question #14: Notice that the percentage of children arriving on time to school significantly increased after parents completed the Parenting Partners workshop.

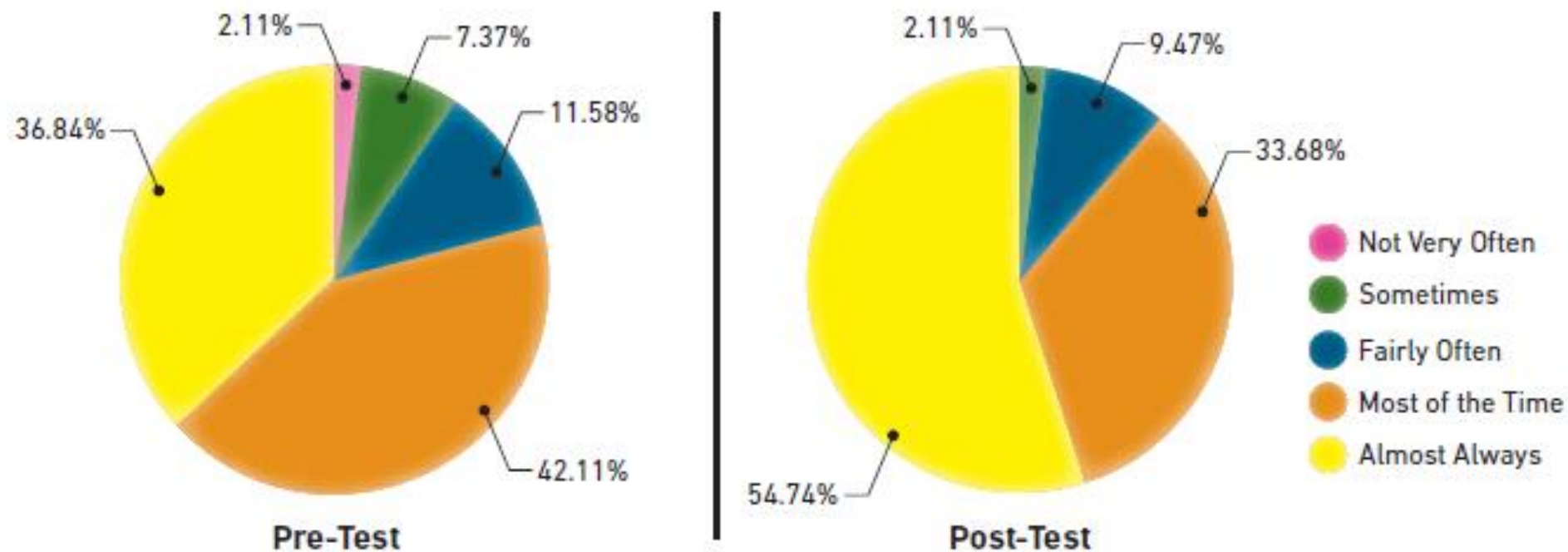
14. My child(ren) is/are always on time to school.



Survey Report Summary

Question #27: Notice that the percentage of parents providing consistent structure at home increased after the parents completed the Parenting Partners workshop.

27. As a parent, I provide consistent structure in our home on a daily basis.



Selecting Best Practice Programs: A Checklist

- ✓ Builds Key Parent Roles
- ✓ Best Practice – Research/Outcomes based
- ✓ Practical and Relational
- ✓ Develops Parents' Skills & Capacity
- ✓ Partnership for Achievement
- ✓ Builds Parent Leadership
- ✓ Sustainable – Ongoing support





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