How Unions and Districts Can Collaborate to Engage Families and Communities

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Unions and School Districts...

- ...can find resources from other organizations and form partnerships to benefit students (Community Partnerships)
- ...can help communities identify their needs and values related to education in order to focus their advocacy (Community Conversations)
- ...can sponsor programs that facilitate family community engagement (Parent Teacher Home Visit Project)
Priority Schools
Leading School Change:
Community Partnerships

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Priority Schools
Center for Great Public Schools
“What is a Priority School?”

• Priority schools is NEA’s name for a low-performing school. We believe improving their performance should be the nation’s priority.

• In most cases, these schools educate large numbers of racial and ethnic-minority students, students living in poverty, and students who are English language learners.
Research- and Evidence-Based Elements of Change

Leverage Community Assets

Improve Staff Capacity/Effectiveness

Improve Student Outcomes
- Access
- Performance
- Attainment

Develop Family and Community Partnerships

Improve District/Local Association Capacity and Collaboration

Adapted from the NEA Foundation

Great Public Schools for Every Student
Community Partnerships Process

- State and Local affiliates conduct a needs assessment
- NEA Community partners are matched with affiliate needs
- NEA provides technical assistance to the community partners and affiliates
The NEA Priority Schools
HBCUFDN and POD Partnership

Professional and Organizational Development Network in Higher Education

Great Public Schools for Every Student
Parent/Community Strategies

10 Strategies to Build Better Partnerships

Strategy #7 – Building one-to-one relationships between families and educators that are linked to learning: Taking time to have conversations and reach agreement on how best to collaborate in order to improve student achievement.
Resources

• Web: nea.org/prioritiyschools
  – Resources to Increase Staff Capacity and Student Success
  – Resources to Increase Affiliate and School Leadership Collaboration
  – Resources to Create Community Oriented, Family Focused Schools