# BUILDING PARENT ENGAGEMENT

## TO CLOSE THE Achievement Gap



Nationally recognized model

Longterm track record of results

**Cost-effective solution** 



## HOW DOES IT WORK

- 1. Community organizations partner with local schools to **recruit and train 8-20 parents** per school to assist teachers two hours every day
- 2. Parents are assigned to a classroom (not of their own child's) where they **work one-on-one and in small groups** with children. After reaching 100 volunteer hours, parent mentors receive a small stipend.
- One day per week, parent mentors receive extra training around academic instruction, professional development, community engagement and leadership skills.



### **PROVEN OUTCOMES**

#### Nationally recognized model

The program's successes have been featured in: -A Cord of Three Strands (Harvard Edu. Press, 2011) -A Match on Dry Grass (Oxford University Press, 2011) -NBC Education Nation (2012)

#### Improved School Test Scores

Schools with the Parent Mentor Program saw an **increase of 35%** of students that meet or exceed on the ISAT in 10 years

#### **Increased Long Term Graduation Rates**

Between 1990 and 2009, the dropout rate for youth age 16-19 **decreased 61%** in classes with parent mentors in their early grades

#### Strengthened Social Capital

Parent mentors more than doubled the network of teachers and parents with whom they communicate regularly.



Maria Marquez, parent mentor graduate

#### "Once you get through the first door, the doors just keep on opening"

Maria is a longtime parent mentor coordinator. The program inspired her to pursue her own education. She graduated top of her class in 2012 at Northeastern University with a degree in bilingual education.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION



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