

Parent Involvement Resources, Upcoming Meetings, & Trainings

NFL Players Want to Recruit Dad to Your School

Get dads more involved at your school through the All Pro Dad program! All Pro Dad, an initiative of NFL players headed up by Indianapolis Colts' Head Coach Tony Dungy, encourages men to become better fathers. Log on to www.AllProDad.com for more information.

One of All Pro Dad's initiatives is a monthly breakfast before school hours where fathers and their children meet with other dads and kids. They hear great speakers on a wide range of family topics, spend time together and are equipped with resources to strengthen their relationship. Additional options include a dads and kids movie night, board game night etc. The best part of all, the resources are provided at **no charge!** Send away for a complimentary DVD on starting an All Pro Dad chapter by e-mailing the director Bryan Davis at: Bryan@AllProDad.com



The National Community Education Association's Annual Conference: "Community Education: Gateway to Strong Diverse Communities" *Celebrating 40 Years of Excellence*
December 7–10, 2005,
Renaissance Grand Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri

If you work to improve education, health and services, and cultural and recreational opportunities for all members of your community — from infants to seniors — this two- and-a-half day conference is for you. This conference is a national gathering of community educators in a forum is designed to help you create comprehensive community programs, including community schools, for the 21st century. Whether you're a newcomer or a veteran, experts in the field will fill you in on the latest issues, model programs, best practices, services and products to support you efforts. Come to learn about community education management and professional development, community education programming, after-school programs and the opportunity to explore how community education can create unity in diverse communities.

Keynote speakers on the program include:

- **Wendy D. Puriefoy**, President of the Public Education Network, a national organization of local education funds and individuals working to improve public schools and build the public's support for public education. Her organization has helped many communities establish community schools.
- **Joy Dryfoos**, author of the "Inside the Full Service Community School" and "Community Schools in Action" books. She is known for her leadership in campaigning for full service schools.
- **Eileen Kugler** a mother who shares her experiences in her children growing up in a very diverse high school. She is the author of "Debunking the Myth: Why Diverse Schools are Good for All Kids".
- **Jorge Cardoso**, the new director of the Institute for Responsive Education, brings a rich background developed by working in working with families of students in the bilingual programs in schools in the Boston area. In working on his doctorate at Boston University he studied under Don Davies, a longtime leading advocate for increasing the voice of families and communities in the education of their children.
- **Warlene Gary**, the Chief Executive Officer of the 6 million member National PTA draws from her more than two decades of advocacy for children and families to further National PTA's mission to be a powerful voice for children, a relevant resource for parents, and a strong advocate for public education. She is also a great supporter of community schools and Community Education. Warlene will address Community Education as the underutilized resource for schools to connect families and communities to their schools.

Attendance at the NCEA National Conference will provide you with excellent professional development opportunities, allow you to renew old friendships and make new ones, all the while enjoying the best St. Louis has to offer. **To register on-line visit <http://www.ncea.com/conferences/index.cfm> or call 703-359-8973.**

The 2006 Reading Recovery & K-6 Classroom Literacy Conference

The 21st annual National Reading Recovery & K-6 Classroom Literacy Conference will take place February 4-7, 2006, in Columbus, Ohio. The Conference theme is "*Changing the World One Child at a Time Through Reading.*" Literacy advocates from all levels will experience high quality professional development as they attend sessions by leading experts in the areas of Reading Recovery and K-6 classroom literacy. Please note this year's addition to the Conference — new children's literature sessions including many author sessions.



The Reading Recovery Council of North America, Inc. is a not-for-profit association of Reading Recovery professionals, advocates, and partners. The Council provides a network of opportunities for leadership and professional development. It is an advocate for Reading Recovery throughout North America. Nearly 11,000 individuals have become members of the Council since its establishment in 1995.

For additional information about the conference or to register, visit: www.readingrecovery.org

New Resource from FINE Makes Finding Information about Family Involvement Online Less Overwhelming

The Harvard Family Research Project has come up with a solution to searching for the latest information on family involvement. "*Taking a Closer Look: A Guide to Online Resources on Family Involvement*" is a guide that contains information about what national organizations are currently doing in family involvement and home-school partnerships. It contains Web links to research, information, programs, and tools about parenting practices to support children's learning and development, home-school relationships, parent leadership development, and collective engagement for school improvement and reform. The resource guide can be used to find out what's new in the field, locate national organizations that support family involvement, and inspire new ideas. You can access it at: <http://www.gse.harvard.edu/hfrp/projects/fine/resources/guide>

NCPIE's December Meeting and Presentation

The last NCPIE meeting of 2005 will be Wednesday, December 14th. Our guest speakers are Linda Peterson, Vice President, Institute for Responsive Education (IRE) and Michele Brooks, Consultant and School Committee Member with Boston Public Schools. As many of you know, The Institute for Responsive Education has been working with the DC Public Schools, facilitating the process to design five neighborhood parent resource centers. IRE staff has spoken to more than 200 parents, community members and organizations, and DC Public School staff over the past few months. The goal of the conversations and focus groups was to gather information on: 1) What supports do parents need to help their children succeed in school, and 2) what are the priorities for staffing, services and information for the centers. The preliminary findings and recommendations for the basic operations of the centers will be discussed with Superintendent Janey in mid-November and shared with us at the NCPIE meeting. Please join us on the 14th, 9:00 to 12:00 at NEA, 1201 16th Street NW, Washington DC.