



North Carolina Parent Information and Resource Center (NC PIRC)
Parent Partners E-PIC
September 2008

Research shows that parental involvement is the most important factor determining a student's success in school. As you prepare to welcome families this school year, NC PIRC would like to share some information from *RMC Research*, a national leader in research on parent involvement...

Ten Truths of Parent Involvement

- 1. All parents have hopes and goals for their children**
 - *They differ in how they support their children's efforts to achieve those goals.*
- 2. The home is one of several spheres that simultaneously influence a child**
 - *The school must work with other spheres for the child's benefit, not push them apart.*
- 3. The parent is the central contributor to a child's education.**
 - *School can either co-opt the role or recognize the potential of the parent.*
- 4. Parent involvement must be a legitimate element of education.**
 - *It deserves equal emphasis with elements such as program improvement and evaluation.*
- 5. Parent involvement is a process, not a program of activities.**
 - *It requires ongoing energy and effort.*
- 6. Parent involvement requires a vision, policy, and frame work.**
 - *A consensus of understanding is important.*
- 7. Parents' interaction with their own children is the cornerstone of involvement**
 - *A program must recognize the value, diversity and difficulty of this role.*
- 8. Most barriers to parent involvement are found within school practices.**
 - *They are not found within parents.*
- 9. Any parent can be "hard to reach."**
 - *Parents can be identified and approached individually. They are not defined by gender, ethnicity, family situations, education or income.*
- 10. Successful parent involvement nurtures relationships and partnerships.**
 - *It strengthens bonds between home and school, parent and educator, parent and child, school and community.*

Can we assist with your school's parent involvement?

Effective School Partnerships as Easy as 1,2,3... is a workshop that we provide *free* to families. To schedule our workshop, please call NC PIRC at 1-800-962-6817 and ask for Rita at extension 39 or you may email us at parentpartners@ecacmail.org. Also, don't forget to visit our website: www.ecac-parentcenter.org and click on Parent Partners, a Parent Information and Resource Center (PIRC) to find more information on our services. We look forward to hearing from you!