



Resource 3

Rate Your School

“Parents and educators depend on shared authority in decision making systems to foster parental trust, public confidence and mutual support of each other’s efforts in helping students succeed. The involvement of parents, as individuals or as representative of others, is crucial in the collaborative decision making process on the issues ranging from curriculum and course selection to discipline policies and overall school reform measures.” (National PTA, 2002)

Use this checklist to rate your school on how it involves families in the decision making process. Share the results with the PTA/PTO or other parent groups.

Rating Scale	
Excellent	Activity occurs each year and is consistently implemented throughout the school year
Good	Activity occurs sometimes during the school year, but is not consistently practiced
Fair	Activity occurs rarely during the school year
Poor	Activity does not occur at the school

Does the school:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Poor
1. Provide workshops for parents that teach them to influence decisions, raise issues or concerns and resolve problems?	_____	_____	_____	_____
2. Encourage PTA/PTO or other parent groups that respond to issues of interest to parents?	_____	_____	_____	_____
3. Include and give equal representation to parents on decision making and advisory committees?	_____	_____	_____	_____
4. Provide parents with current information regarding school policies, practices and both student and school performance data?	_____	_____	_____	_____
5. Encourage and facilitate active parent participation in the decisions that affect students (e.g. student placement, course selection and individualized education programs [IEPs])?	_____	_____	_____	_____
6. Treat parent concerns with respect?	_____	_____	_____	_____
7. Promote parent participation on school, district, state and national committees that focus on education issues?	_____	_____	_____	_____
8. Provide training for staff and parents in how to be collaborative partners and share decision making in areas such as policy, budget, school reform, safety and hiring personnel?	_____	_____	_____	_____
9. Provide parents with an opportunity to participate in professional development activities (e.g., workshops, or technology training)?	_____	_____	_____	_____