

IDRA Parent Leadership in Education Model

IDRA's goal is bigger than parent involvement in education, rather it is parent leadership. This model is a vision of all parents as advocates of excellent neighborhood public schools. We consider leadership the culminating set of activities in a spectrum of parent participation. The characteristics we support in the development of leadership are in contrast to some traditional parent leadership models that emphasize individual assertiveness and charismatic advocacy. Our process supports parents in learning to work in groups, planning and carrying out activities, speaking in front of groups, and developing other personal skills and traits that develop the individual. But, our emphasis is on collective action, listening to peers, and revolving tasks and leadership roles.

Parents as Teachers

Acknowledging families for what they have already contributed to the education of their children. Parents are validated for the informal ways they instruct their children in the home and pass on family values and wisdom.

Parents as Resources

Recognizing that the prime asset that parents bring to school is the knowledge and understanding of the child. Parents and primary caretakers are the experts on their children. Families are supported to contribute in the classroom in a variety of ways, including assisting with instructional support.

Parents as Decision Makers

Facilitating opportunities for parents to participate in groups, making decisions for the improvement and well-being of the school. Parents are supported in learning, planning, assessing options and arriving at collective solutions.

Parents as Leaders and Trainers

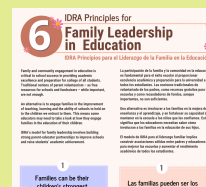
Supporting leaders as they begin to emerge. A leader is one who brings two or more others to a school conversation, meeting or event is a leader. Leadership is reflected in disseminating information, gathering others on school issues and participating in collective action to improve the school.

IDRA Model of Parent Leadership



Learn about IDRA's Education CAFE model

<http://budurl.com/IDRAedCAFE>



See our 6 Principles for Family Leadership in Education

<https://idra.news/6PrinciplesFamLeadership>

The Intercultural Development Research Association is an independent, non-profit organization. Our mission is to achieve equal educational opportunity for every child through strong public schools that prepare all students to access and succeed in college.

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