



Pairs Activity

Facilitators' Notes: Have participants work in pairs. Give them time to think about the questions below before they read the article.

Introduction: In their article “Leadership for Parent and Community Involvement: Lessons from Recent Research in Ontario” (*Education Today*, vol19, no1, 2007), Kugler and Flessa suggest that school boards need to look to successful literacy strategies, including significant funding, specific targets, and professional learning strategies, for ideas about how to help principals and trustees promote and nurture parental involvement and engagement in schools.

They pose two important questions:

1. How will boards and the province know if schools are indeed improving their connections between schools and parents?
2. How, if at all, will principals – particularly those who seem to see parents in such negative ways – learn the skills to work more effectively with parents?

Working collaboratively with the person next to you, answer the following questions:

- What accountability measures and tools could help school boards monitor improvements in parent and community involvement in their schools?



- What kinds of professional development could support principals in learning to see parent and community involvement in positive ways and working effectively with parents and community partners?

Select one idea for each question that you will share with another pair when you are given the signal.