

# NATIONAL PIRC COORDINATION CENTER

## What is a PIRC?

### PIRC = Parental Information and Resource Center

#### The Parental Information and Resource Centers are

- Federally funded under Title V of No Child Left Behind.
- A national network of 60 statewide PIRCs across the United States.
- Funded for five more years (2006 through 2011).
- Work hand-in-hand with State and Federal Programs to provide information and resources on early childhood through high school parent involvement.

#### The purpose of the PIRC program is to

- Help implement successful and effective parental involvement policies, programs, and activities that lead to improvements in student academic achievement.
- Strengthen partnerships among parents, teachers, principals, administrators, and other school personnel in meeting the educational needs of children.

#### PIRC Priorities and New Directions

- Collaborate with State and local educational agencies to foster the implementation of the parental involvement requirements of Title I
- Provide assistance to schools and districts to address the parental involvement requirements of Title I
- Provide accurate, timely, and understandable information regarding key NCLB provisions
- Provide Statewide services

## PIRC Activities

### **The PIRC program supports school-based and school-linked parental information and resource centers that**

- Help implement effective parental involvement policies, programs, and activities that will improve children's academic achievement;
- Develop and strengthen partnerships among parents (including parents of children from birth through age five), teachers, principals, administrators, and other school personnel in meeting the educational needs of children;
- Develop and strengthen the relationship between parents and their children's school;
- Further the developmental progress of children assisted under the program;
- Coordinate activities funded under the program with parental involvement initiatives funded under section 1118 and other provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended (ESEA); and
- Provide a comprehensive approach to improving student learning, through coordination and integration of Federal, State, and local services and programs.

### **How do these PIRC activities contribute to the academic success of all students?**

- Efforts to establish, expand, or early childhood parent education programs
- Technical assistance activities designed to improve student academic achievement, including helping parents to understand
  - Data that accountability programs make available to parents
  - Significance of that data for such things as opportunities for supplemental services and public school choice,
- Projects to assist parents to communicate effectively with teachers, principals, counselors, administrators, and other school personnel
- Efforts to help parent become active participants in the development, implementation, and review of school improvement plans

## PIRC Funding

### Why have PIRCs been funded?

To provide a structure that helps ensure that every child is successful in school.

1. to reach out to parents and assist them in engaging in their children's education
2. to reach out to schools, districts, and other education groups to engage them in efforts to involve parents in their children's education

### Who do the PIRCs serve?

- Rural and Urban areas
- Parents of low-income, minority, and limited English proficient (LEP) children

### How are the PIRC funds to be used? Each PIRC must....

- Allocate at least half of the funds to areas with high concentrations of low-income children
- Allocate at 30 percent of their funds for early childhood programs

### However, funds may be used to

- 1) Assist parents in helping their children to meet state and local standards
- 2) Help parents obtain information about the range of programs, services, and resources available nationally and locally
- 3) Help parents use technology to support their children's education
- 4) Coordinate and organize structures that help link parents to other programs of support
- 5) Provide support to state and local educational personnel if their participation will contribute to the goals of the PIRC
- 6) Coordinate and integrate early childhood programs with programs for school-aged children