COURSE SYLLABUS

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of Elementary, Early & Special Education   **Course No.** CE340
Course: Parent/School Collaborations in Elementary /   **New: Sp 99**
Early Childhood Education
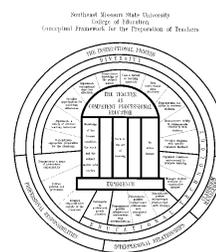
"The Teacher As Competent Professional Educator"

I.   Catalog Description and Credit Hours of Course:

Emphasizes teacher and school administrator role in the development of parent/school partnerships, and techniques and strategies of effective collaboration. (3)

II.   Prerequisite(s):

III.   Purposes or Objectives of the Course:

Upon completion of this course it is expected that the student will be able to

A.   express a comprehensive view of the importance of the parent/teacher/school administrator relationship to child success in school.

B.   discuss the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards pertaining to parent/teacher/school administrator relationships.

C.   demonstrate techniques for communicating assessment and pupil progress information reflected in the Missouri Show-Me-Standards to parents.

D.   formulate strategies for working effectively with school administrators in involving parents in the school decision-making process.

E.   demonstrate strategies for communicating school policies and procedures to families and members of the community.

F.   exhibit skills needed in working with parents of children with special needs and parents of children representing diverse populations.

G.   discuss international issues and strategies of parent/school partnerships.

IV.   Expectations of Students:

Students will

A.   attend class regularly, read assigned materials, and participate actively in class discussions.

B.   attend a parent meeting in local school. Prepare a written description/analysis of the program events; observable roles played by parents, teachers, administrator in the meeting; evidences of a spirit of collaboration among the groups, and effectiveness of the event.

C.   develop a table of contents for a parent/teacher handbook or a parent/teacher newsletter.

D.   prepare an annotated bibliography of 20 articles from professional journals related to the importance of parent/teacher/administrator collaborations in education.

E.   prepare a 5 page paper on an assigned topic related to parent/school collaborations.

V.   Course Content or Outline: **Hours**

A.   Beyond open houses, fund raisers, and room mothers: What research tells us about parent involvement in schools.   5

B.   Professional teaching standards pertaining to parent/teacher relationships   6
-National board of professional teaching standards: Standard VII
-Federal and State legislation
-Federal and State initiatives and programs

C.   Barriers and bridges to collaborations/partnerships   5
-District policies related to involvement of parents in school activities/decisions
-Impact of building principal on building partnerships/collaborations
-Negative parent attitudes toward school
-Negative teacher attitudes toward families and family involvement

D.   Sharing policies and procedures: Creating an effective parent handbook   6
-Characteristics of school handbooks
-Developing a handbook: A shared process

E.   Assessing and reporting pupil progress   6
-Assessment and evaluation information related to pupil performance
-Informing parents of the child's development and academic status
-Incorporating parent input into assessment and evaluation

F.   Planning and implementing effective parent conferences   5
-Parent views of parent/teacher conferences
-Parent-teacher-child conferences
-Parent-teacher-administrator conferences
-Transition and individualized education program (IEP) conferences

G.   Effective school models of family involvement   6
-Building a collaborative environment
-Use of technology to link families to the school
-Establishing family resource centers
-Learning from the parent partnership in Chicago and school reform

H.   Looking at parent/school partnerships internationally   6
-Commonalities in barriers and bridges
-Policies, support, and actions essential for effective partnerships
-Models of family involvement and school improvement

VI.   Textbook(s) and/other Required Materials and Equipment:

A.   Barclay, K. & Boone, E. (1995). *Building a three way partnership*. New York: Scholastic.

B.   Selected readings

VII.   Basis for Student Evaluation:

Grade for the course will be based on student performance on course assignments, papers, and exams.

VIII.   Knowledge Base:

Boutte, G.S., Keepler, D.L., Tyler, V.S., & Terry, B.Z. (1992). Effective techniques for involving difficult parents. *Young Children, 47*(3), 19-22.

Bowman, B.T. (1994). The challenge of diversity. *Phi Delta Kappan, 74*(3), 218-225.

Boyer, E.L. (1991). Ready to learn: A mandate for the nations. Lawrenceville, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Chandler, L.A. (1996). Changing children in a changing society. *Childhood Education, 74*(5), 294-5.

Clawson, B. (1992). Preparing for successful children. In L. Kaplan (Ed.) *Education and the Family* (pp. xix-xxii). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Coleman, M. (1997). Families and schools: In search of common ground. *Young Children, 52*(5), 14-21.

Delpit, L. (1994). *Other people's children: Cultural conflict in the classroom.* New York: New Press.

Duff, R.E. & Berry, E. (1993). Building pro-family schools: Collaboration is the key. *Journal.* The South Carolina School boards Association, Summer, 27-30.

Duff, R.E., Tompkins, M., & McClellan, S. (1995). Parent feedback: A critical element in program quality. *Child Care Information Exchange, 105,* 25-29.

Duff, R.E. (1995). Creating visions of success: The administrator, school and community. *Momentum:* The Journal of the National Catholic Education Association, 24(3), 52-54.

Epstein, J.E., & Sabders, M.G. (1998). What we learn from international studies of school-family-community partnerships. *Childhood Education, 74*(6), 392-94.

Finers, M., & Lewis, D. (1994). Why some parents don't come to school. *Educational Leadership, 51*(8), 50-54.

Haberman, M. (1992). Creating community contexts that educate. An agenda for improving education in inner cities. In L. Kaplan (Ed.) *Education and the Family* (pp. xix-xxii). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Jeub, C. (1994). Why parents choose home schooling. In L. Kaplan (Ed.) *Education and the Family* (pp. xix-xxiii). Boston: Allyn & Bacon.

Kagan, S.L. (1994). Readying schools for young children. *Phi Delta Kappan, 74*(3), 218-225.

McKenna, M. & Douglas, J.D. (1998). The challenge facing parent councils in Canada. *Childhood Education, 74*(6), 378-382.

Murphy, D.M. (1997). Parent and teacher plan for the child. *Young Children, 52*(4), 32-36.

Newman, R. (1995). The home-school connection. *Childhood Education, 71*(5), 296-297.

Noddings, N. (1992). *The challenge to care in schools: an alternative approach to education.* New York: Teachers College Press.

The 29 Annual Phi Delta Kappa/Gallup poll of the public's attitude toward the public schools. (1997). *Phi Delta Kappan, 79*(1), 41-56.

Ravn, B. (1998). Forman and informal parental involvement in school decision-making in Denmark. *Childhood Education, 74*(6), 375-377.

Rosenthal, M. & Sawyers, J.Y. (1996). Building successful home-school partnerships: Strategies for parent support and involvement. *Childhood Education, 72*(4), 194-200.

Sameroff, A., & McDonough, S.C. (1994). Educational implications of developmental transitions: Revisiting the 5- to 7-year shift. *Phi Delta Kappan, 74*(3), 188-193.

Snow, C.E., & Tabors, P.O. (1993). Home: where children get ready for school. *Children and Schooling, 37*(3), 7-9.

Van Scriver, J.H. & Fleetwood, L.M. (1997). Heading off first-grade retention. *Young Children, 52*(7), 16-18.

Workman, S.H. & Gage, J.A. (1997). Family-school partnerships: A family strengths approach. *Young Children, 52*(4), 10-14.

Selected Websites:

Rethinking Schools
http://www.rethinking schools.org/

Project P/Pride (Parents as Full Partners in the Education of their Children)
http://pride.soe.uaa.alaska.edu/www/pride/Parents/ParentInvolvment.html

Parent Involvement in Children' Education: Efforts by Public Elementary Schools
http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubinfo.asp?pubid=98032XXXXX