A Model for Creating Meaningful and Diverse Parent Involvement and Engagement at Your School

School Smarts is an award-winning, research-based program that is proven to:

• Foster parent engagement in schools
• Support parents as their children’s first teachers
• Develop future parent leaders
• Encourage parents to advocate for a complete education that includes the arts.

School Smarts includes:

• Professional training
• Customized marketing materials
• Professionally developed curriculum
• Technical assistance and support from California State PTA
• Offered in six languages.

Funding options can include:

• Title I
• English Learner Parent Involvement Funds
• LCFF/LCAP Funding

Course content is specifically designed to assist school districts with their state and federal family-engagement requirements and support LCAP implementation.

Want to bring School Smarts to your school?

Contact us at schoolsmarts@capta.org
(916) 440-1985
capta.org/schoolsmarts

School Smarts materials are currently available in Arabic, Chinese, English, Spanish, Tagalog and Vietnamese.
What Parents Learn

Session 1: Parent involvement
Parents’ role as their child’s first teacher and the types of parent involvement

Session 2: Preparing for a lifetime of learning
How children learn and the basics of college readiness

Session 3: Understanding our education system
The structure of California’s public school system, including academic standards, testing and local school funding

Session 4: Understanding our school
How schools are governed and decisions are made

Session 5: Becoming an effective communicator
The importance of communication between families, schools and other audiences

Session 6: Standing up for quality education
Becoming a leader and advocate on behalf of your child and all children

Session 7: Taking action
Creating personal and group-action plans

The Program Includes:

**A campus-wide engagement night**
A school-wide event designed to attract parents from all sectors of the school community to enjoy a social and educational evening, and learn more about the School Smarts program. Each event is planned and customized by the local school community with the goal of informing parents about their own school and how to maximize success for their children. The event also provides a chance for parents to meet school leaders and take part in an interactive arts activity with their children.

**Parent Academy**
Trained facilitators lead seven interactive sessions that are two hours in length. Class size typically ranges from 25-30 parent participants. The course includes a professionally developed curriculum, multimedia presentations, individual and group activities, art instructional activities, homework assignments and discussions. Childcare and refreshments are provided.

**Celebrating leadership and next-level engagement**
The Parent Academy culminates with a graduation celebration – many parent graduates then go on to serve on school and district committees, PTA boards and in other ways. Graduates often seek additional training to strengthen their overall engagement and their advocacy skills.

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**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

Source: 2016-2017 Pre- and Post-Academy Questionnaires

**Ethnicity**

- African American
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic/Latino
- White/Caucasian
- Other

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Capacity for Families</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parents feel “very well” or “fairly well” informed about…</td>
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<td>How to support my child’s learning at home</td>
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<td>What parents can do to make changes at my school</td>
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<td>Participate in a parent committee</td>
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