

## Preparing to Engage Parents

### ***Directions:***

#### Option 1:

- 1) Individually, list the different characteristics of parents associated with your school's population (consider such things as culture and ethnicity, educational background, SES, interests, motivation, etc.). With these in mind, as a small group, generate a list of motivators and obstacles that apply to one or more groups. There is no need to categorize these by parent characteristic. The exercise is simply intended to raise awareness of potential issues and to broaden (rather than restrict) your thinking as you approach additional practice activities associated with this module.
- 2) As a group, brainstorm ways of communicating with – and extending invitations to – parents that might be particularly effective given your school's population.
- 3) As a group, brainstorm/share a comprehensive list of ways parents could get involved. Be sure to consider the full range of contexts, experience levels, and scheduling options

#### Option 2:

Utilize the “*Increasing Volunteerism*” professional development module and associated worksheets developed by the Center for the Education and Study of Diverse Populations to more thoroughly walk through this topic. These materials consist of a PowerPoint document and a pdf document.