

## Parent Involvement: Keys to Success

*A podcast series from the Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center*

### Parents as Mentors: Help Parents Support Student Success Listener's Guide

Key idea: Parents can serve as mentors to guide other parents—to help them build capacity for the kind of ongoing parent involvement that leads to improved student achievement.

Key Information	Notes
<p>Roles of a parent mentor</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Greet other parents at school events.</li><li>• Serve as a parent buddy to help new parents become familiar with the school.</li><li>• Share unique talents and skills with others.</li><li>• Share knowledge and enthusiasm for involvement in children's education with other parents.</li><li>• Support other parents as they increase their involvement in children's education.</li></ul>	
<p>Strategies for educators</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish clear expectations for parent mentors.</li><li>• Plan ways for successful volunteer parents to share their knowledge and skills with other parents.</li><li>• Provide training to help parents learn the skills they need to be successful mentors.</li><li>• Provide the resources that mentors need to accomplish their tasks.</li></ul>	
<p>Strategies for SEAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provide professional development resources to district and school leaders to help them learn the strategies and methods for training parent mentors.</li><li>• Provide forums for schools that have strong parent mentoring programs to share their ideas with other schools.</li><li>• Provide links to outside agencies that offer resources to schools on parent training.</li></ul>	