

# HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

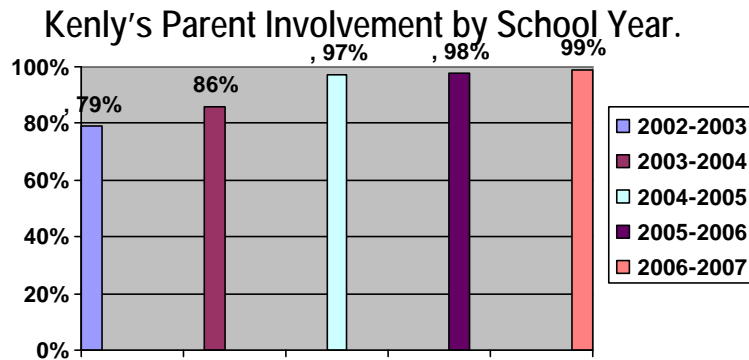
## SCHOOL COUNSELING PROGRAM ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT CARD (SPARC)

School: Kenly Elementary  
 Enrollment: 486  
 Principal: Shirlean Cobb  
 Counselor: Mary Melvin

### Principal's Comments

Parental involvement is truly vital in a school's success. Visibility of the parent produces a positive attitude for the child. The more involved parents we have at school equals the more successful students. We will continue to find ways to get parents involved in areas where there has been less involvement and incentives to encourage higher involvement and applaud those that give of their time and energy.

### Results



### School Improvement Issues

Research shows that when parents are positively involved with the school, children have more of an incentive to excel in class. Parent involvement helps improve school attendance, self concepts and achievement of the students. By keeping parent involvement high, we are impacting the learning of their children.

### Critical Data Element(s):

Increase Kenly's parent involvement from 98% to 99% to improve student learning

In the seven years the counselor has been working with parent involvement and business/community partners the parent involvement has increased. This is a vital link to the success of the students.

#### Systemic Changes, Interim Data Results

1. Increased the opportunities for parent involvement by offering Game On! Night, Reading and Math Nights, and a Family Picnic.
2. Congratulated parents for students with perfect attendance with post cards to applaud success.
3. Sent home monthly newsletters, flyers and stickers on students to inform them of conference nights, events, etc.
4. Worked with SAC, P.T.A., businesses and community organizations to provide incentives for parent involvement at events.

## Stakeholders

**Counselor:** Coordinated and monitored all strategies throughout the year

**Administrator:** Encouraged parent involvement and has an "Open Door" policy at the school

**Teachers:** Called and wrote invitations for parents to come to events and conferences. Wrote in planners to parents daily.

**Funding Agents:** Action for Healthy Kids funded the Game On! event and furnished refreshments for other events, through a grant written by the counselor, that promoted parent involvement.

**Business/Community Partners:** Provided incentives to help motivate parents to attend school events

**School Advisory Council:** Provided funding for Positive Parent Post Cards and sponsored Game On! and Family Picnic events that were new this year.

## The Human Faces Behind The Data Anecdotal Outcomes

- One mother was so delighted with the Game On! night that she decided to start volunteering at the school. She has put in over 200 hours helping with the students in Head Start and First Grade.
- When Santa did not arrive for the Head Start party, as was planned, She put on the costume and took on the duties of Santa Clause. The students never knew that it was a woman, or their friend who was usually in their class every morning.
- She was recognized as the runner-up for the county volunteer parent of the year from Hillsborough County and was crying with joy as she floated to the stage to receive her three foot tall trophy. She was heard to say that it was the best thing that had happened to her, to be involved with the school and feel that she was useful! It has been five years without working outside the home and she was afraid to go back to work. She is now ready to take on a new job, and the world, because she knows she can do what it takes to be a success.
- Her sons are learning from their mother that volunteering helps the school, but it helps the volunteer more. They beam with pride when asked about their mother. They were so proud of her for being recognized by the county for her involvement.

SPARC is adapted from a document by the California Department of Education and Los Angeles County Office of Education.