Recruiting Community Volunteers

Communities are made up of individuals with many interests and talents. Sometimes those individuals are in a position to spend time in classrooms, provide resources and materials, or sponsor informational events that will complement and enhance student learning. The Investigating Your Community’s Resources Tool (Listed under Strategy #3, found in Section I: Knowing Families) was designed to help you gather information about a variety of community resources and brainstorm potential connections to your curriculum:

- local agencies
- Federal government agencies
- bureaus
- centers
- chamber of commerce
- clubs and organizations
- outdoor education programs
- community nature areas
- non-profit agencies
- retirement communities
- museums and galleries
- cultural and historical societies
- libraries
- laboratories
- professional offices
- industries
- transportation services

Once you know more about these resources, you may decide to create a Community Involvement Survey to distribute to targeted locations.

The sample survey on the next page can be adapted to your grade level, subject matter and school context.
Making Connections: Community Involvement Survey

Dear Community Members,

I am a [grade level] teacher at [school] and am interested in promoting community involvement in my classroom. Please take a few minutes to fill out the survey below. The results of the survey will help me learn more about community resources and organize opportunities for community involvement.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.
Sincerely,
[your name, address, school phone, e-mail]

Working with students in the classroom: I would like to...

- __help with classroom celebrations__
- __help with projects__
- __tutor or help with make-up work__
- __read books__
- __make books__
- __assist with writing__
- __share information about my background__
- __share information about my work: ________

Other ideas: __________________________________________

Assisting teachers in classroom or grade level: I would like to...

- __find library books or other resource materials__
- __provide food for class events__
- __provide materials for class projects__
- __make materials at home or school__
- __make books on tape__
- __help supervise lunch or recess__
- __assist with field trips__

Other ideas: __________________________________________

Getting together with parents:

- __discussion group__
- __support group for parents__
- __social events__
- __other: ________

Topics that interest me:

- __[subject matter] in [grade level]__
- __parenting__
- __student development in [grade level]__
- __community resources__

Your Name: _________________________ Organization: ___________________________

Best day/time to contact me: ________________________________

Phone: ________ E-mail: __________