



# Public Engagement **TOOLKIT**

## At The Board Table

### Reflection Questions: How Connected Is Our Community?

Is your community a partner in learning? Have you involved members of the public in meaningful activities and goal setting, or have you relegated them to the sidelines? Use the following questions to help you gauge the strength of your connection to the community.

1. Are our district's goals, standards, and levels of student performance in sync with the community's values, needs, and expectations? How do you know?

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2. Does our school board have a mechanism for discussing student achievement with various segments of the community or the community as a whole? How effective is that mechanism?

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3. Does the quality of the education and skills learned in our schools contribute to the economic vitality of our community? Does our school system attract the kind of business growth the community desires? With whom has our school board talked to determine that?

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4. What are the major public agencies and civic organizations in our community that address the needs of children? Do these groups work with the school system? Do they incorporate or reinforce our district's student achievement goals in the services they provide? If so, how well do they do so?

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5. What do parents, the business sector, elected leaders, the media, and others know about our district's mission, goals, standards, student performance levels, and accountability systems?

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6. Have we convened a broad cross section of the public before? If so, what was the process and what were the results?

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7. Is our community generally involved in civic or school activities?

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8. How would size, diversity, and possible conflict among constituents affect our public engagement process?

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