

AMERICA
GOES BACK
TO SCHOOL

Challenge Our Students and they will SOAR

PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION



PHOTOCOPY
PRESERVATION

This year more than ever is cause to celebrate as *America Goes Back to School*. More students than ever are returning to our classrooms and will help usher in the 21st century. The 1999-2000 school year promises to be an exciting time for all of us and the perfect opportunity to redouble our efforts to improve our schools. Students today must not only have a solid foundation in the basics but also the opportunity to develop new skills that will prepare them for future success. I challenge parents, families, businesses and communities nationwide to celebrate the spirit of the 21st century and get involved in education.

Richard W. Riley
U.S. Secretary of Education



AMERICA GOES BACK TO SCHOOL



PARTNERSHIP
for Family
Involvement
in Education

You can help!

For more information about
family involvement in education,
call the U.S. Department
of Education at

1.800.
USA
LEARN

agbts@ed.gov

www.ed.gov



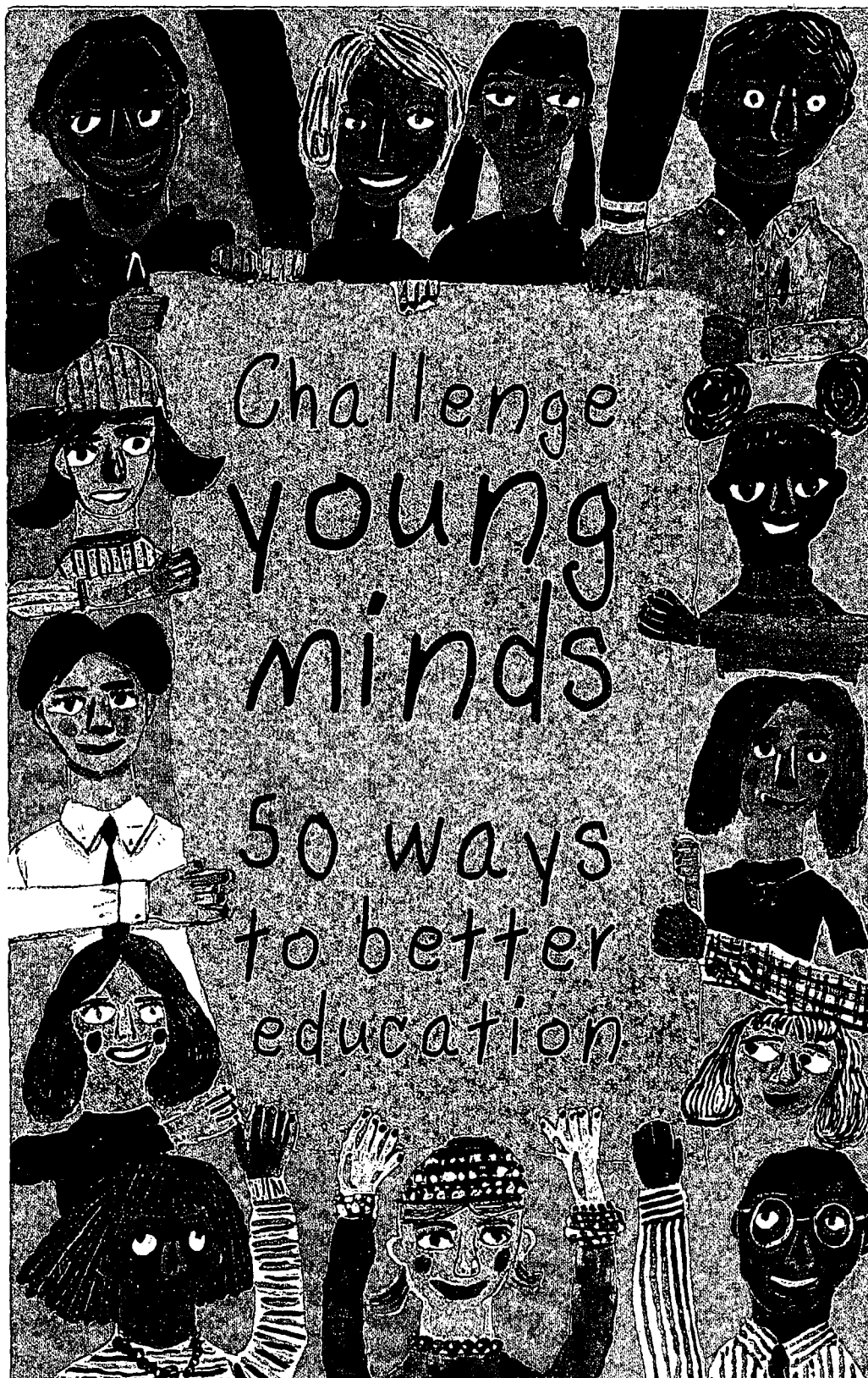


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AMERICA
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TO SCHOOL

America Goes Back to School

Organizer's Guide



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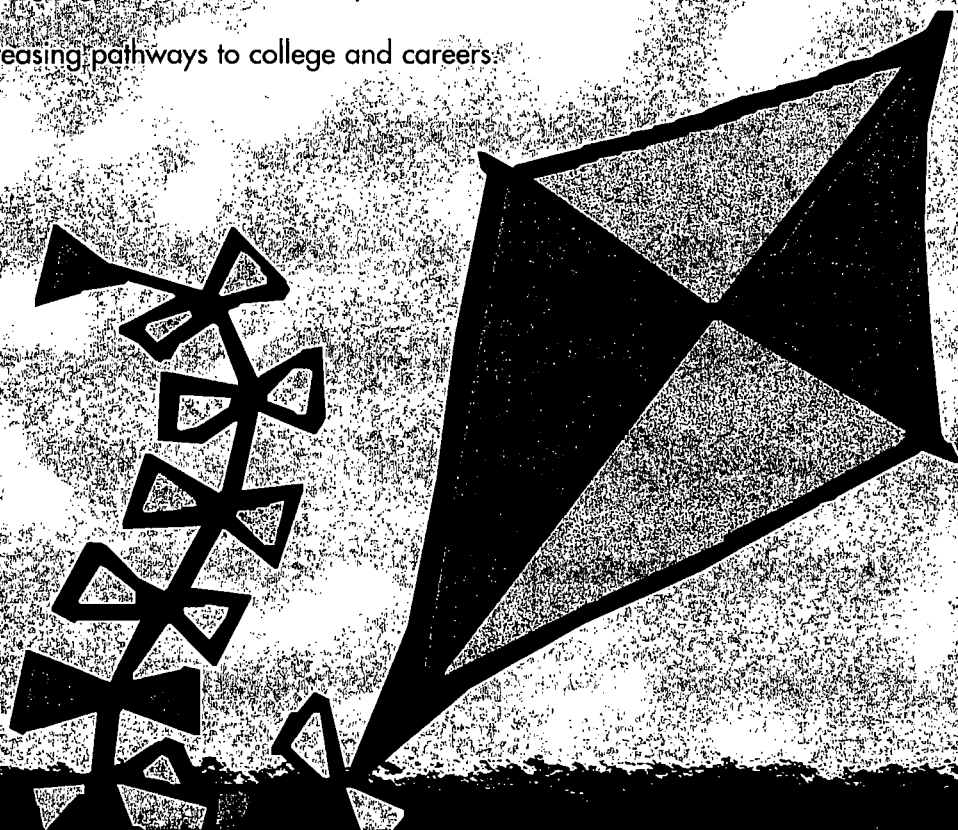
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Preparing Our Students for the 21st Century: Key Areas in Education

As we approach the 21st century, American students must be prepared for an increasingly global job market. Family, business, and community involvement in education can make a significant difference in preparing our children to succeed and get on the right track.

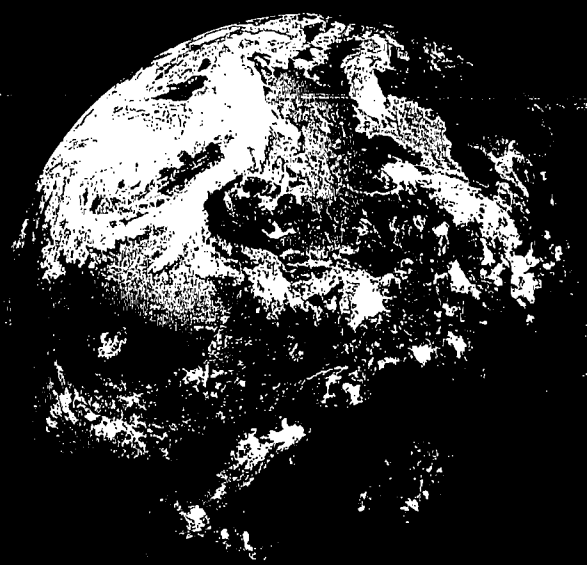
This pamphlet outlines six priority educational action areas on which you could focus your *America Goes Back to School* event or long-term project:

- Making schools safe and drug-free;
- Recruiting and preparing quality teachers;
- Modernizing schools;
- Expanding after-school programs;
- Getting high standards into every classroom; and
- Increasing pathways to college and careers.



PICTURE THE FUTURE

A NATIONAL ARTS, SCIENCES, TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION INITIATIVE



THE MARS MILLENNIUM

BLUEPRINT FOR TOMORROW

The countdown to a new century provides a unique opportunity to engage America's youth in charting a course for the future. The Mars Millennium Project, an official White House Millennium Council youth initiative, challenges students across the nation to design a community yet to be imagined – for the planet Mars. The project carries out the national millennium theme of "Honor the Past, Imagine the Future."

This interdisciplinary learning project will engage kindergarten through high-school students in classrooms and youth groups throughout the United States. Working in teams and with educators, community leaders and professionals in many fields, hundreds of thousands of young people will weave the arts, sciences and humanities into an exploration of their own communities. They will then take the best of the past and present, and apply what they learn to the future. The result: a new community – one that is scientifically sound and offers a high quality of life – and one in which they would be proud to live.

Guiding the Mars Millennium Project are the U.S. Department of Education, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and its Jet Propulsion Laboratory, the National Endowment for the Arts and the J. Paul Getty Trust. A host of public and private organizations along with some of the nation's leading corporations and businesses will also take part, making this project a true "community" effort.

HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

Complete and mail the attached form or contact the U.S. Department of Education Publications Center at 877.4ED.PUBS (877.433.7827) and request a Mars Millennium Project Participation Kit. You can also register on-line on the project's Web site at www.mars2030.net.

APPLICATION FORM

Yes, please send a Mars Millennium Project participation kit to:

Name

Title

School/Organization

Address

City

State

ZIP

Phone

Fax

E-mail

Please indicate grade level or area of interest:

☐ Primary (K-2) EK0107K

☐ Elementary (3-5) EK0108K

☐ Middle School (6-8) EK0109K

☐ High School (9-12) EK0110K

☐ Community Organization EK0111K (mixed grade levels)

Please enclose in an envelope and return to:

Mars Millennium Project
C/O U.S. Department of Education
Publications Center (ED PUBS)
P.O. Box 1398
Jessup, MD 20794-1398
E-mail: edpubs@inet.ed.gov
Fax: 301.470.1244
TTY/TDD: 877.576.7734



National Aeronautics and
Space Administration
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology
Pasadena, California



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TRUST

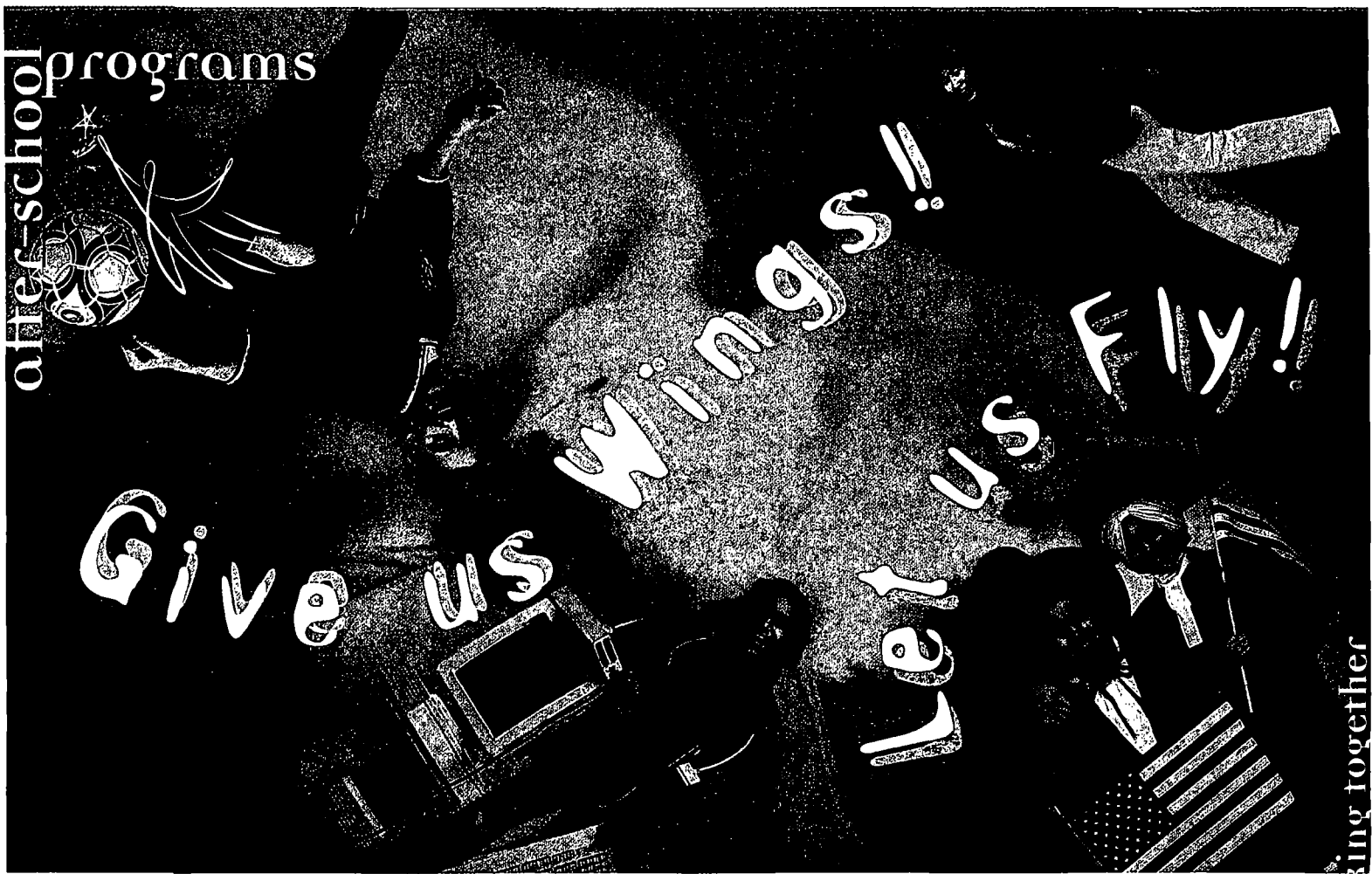


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MILLENNIUM COUNCIL
Honor the Past, Imagine the Future

IIUM PROJECT

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC 20202

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after-school programs

Name: _____
 organization (if applicable): _____
 Address: _____
 city: _____ state: _____
 zip: _____ phone: _____
 e-mail address: _____

I would like more information about after-school programs. I am a:

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ parent | ☐ community volunteer |
| ☐ teacher | ☐ community leader |
| ☐ principal | ☐ after-school program staff |
| ☐ school administrator | ☐ member or volunteer |
| ☐ member of a community organization or agency | ☐ business leader |
| | ☐ other |

working together

communities and schools

U.S. Department of Education

Phone: (800) USA-LEARN. Web site: www.ed.gov

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation

Publications: (800) 645-1766. Web site: www.mott.org

National Center for Community Education

Phone: (810) 238-0463. Web site: www.nccenet.org

Fight Crime: Invest In Kids

Phone: (202) 638-0690. Web site: www.fightcrime.org

American Business Collaboration

Phone: (617) 278-4000.

Web site: www.amerbuscollaboration.com

National Institute on Out-of-School Time

Wellesley College Center for Research on Women.

Phone: (781) 283-2547. Web site: www.wellesley.edu

Kids Campaign/Benton Foundation

Phone (202) 638-5770.

Web site: www.benton.org

McREL: The Mid-continent

Regional Educational Laboratory

Phone: (303) 337-0990. Web site: www.mcrel.org

Families and Work Institute

Phone: (212) 465-2044. Web site: www.familiesandwork.org



Funded by the Mott Foundation, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Education

in America and millions of working parents glance uneasily at the clock. Time to call home and make sure everything is OK. Remind the kids not to go out, not to open the door.

Nearly 28 million school-age children have working parents; an estimated 7 million of them receive no adult supervision after school. Millions of impressionable and vulnerable children whose parents cannot ferry them to a crazy-quilt arrangement of soccer, dance, piano and other expensive activities are left alone or, worse, caring for younger siblings until a parent gets home. As we near the 21st century, schools are being called upon to help bring communities together beyond the traditional school day. In many communities, the expression, "We've never done it that way before," is being replaced with "Together, we can." If your community does not offer after-school enrichment programs, it is time to find out why, and then build the necessary partnerships to create them. Many public and private funders are making after-school programs a priority. New resources are available. The U.S. Department of Education is expanding its 21st Century Community Learning Centers program, and state and local governments are developing similar initiatives. The need for safe, drug-free and enriching after-school activities has never been greater. Communities across America are creating them, helping their children to grow and develop into strong, responsible individuals.

This guide will introduce you to the benefits of after-school enrichment programs, what you should look for in them, examples of programs that work and, finally, how you can get involved in your own community.



School in McAllen, Texas created an after-school enrichment program that provides job training and career development to more than half the school's 520 students. Test scores are up 20 percent and more youngsters are showing an interest in college, even though many of their parents barely finished high school. 

 The YMCA of Greater New York, along with the New York City schools and the United Way of New York City, is bringing extended school services to 10,000 students in 200 of the city's under-served public schools. The Virtual Y's serve children in grades 2-4 from 3 to 6 p.m. Students take part in the Y's traditional curriculum - the spirit, mind and body triangle - but also in literacy-building activities such as a book club. In addition to professional staff, the program uses college students and AmeriCorps volunteers. 

 From karate and dance to math and science, students in the Lighthouse Program's 11 participating schools are keeping busy after school

and all summer. The program, which serves students in grades K-12, is staffed by volunteers, including parents, who teach classes, read with children, organize car pools

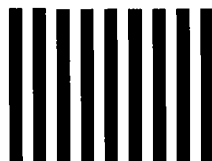
and help with homework. Each site coordinator is a teacher in the school. Police credit the program with a drop in juvenile crime throughout the city. Lighthouse children also performed better on standardized reading and math tests, and their attendance rates are up. 

 *Elementary Title I Program.* An extended learning program created by the principal, teachers and parents in the Carmen-Ainsworth School District is serving 280 students in grades 4-6 who are at risk of dropping out of school. A tutor-supervised computer lab is open before and after school and one evening a week. During the summer, students attend workshops in reading, science, math and social studies led by teachers, a Title I assistant, the principal and parent volunteers. Funding comes from a mix of federal, state and local sources. Local businesses donate snacks. Test scores at the school are in the 80th percentile - well above the state average.

programs making a difference



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AFTER-SCHOOL PUBLICATION

U S DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PO BOX 1398

JESSUP MD 20797-9400



 *Talk to parents and non-parents.* Most parents already believe there aren't enough quality after-school programs.  *Talk to your friends and neighbors* about what they're looking for in after-school activities and what they're willing to do to help. Your neighbors may be looking for meaningful ways to share their time and skills.  *Take your message to the public.* Write a call-to-action letter to the editor of your local newspaper.

here's what you can do

Set up a meeting with your principal, school board or city council member. Bring up the issue at your school's next PTA or PTO meeting, or with your town's business or law enforcement leaders.  *Talk to heads of local churches, other faith-based organizations and community nonprofits, such as the United Way.* Ask to talk about after-school programs at the next school staff meeting. Always go armed with facts, discuss your research and stress that there are many other parents and residents who share your views.

After-school programs help children soar beyond expectations by celebrating their individual skills and talents. Specifically, they:

Improve academic achievement. Quality after-school programs provide an excellent opportunity to increase learning, improve grades and attendance, and reduce dropout rates.

According to a three-year evaluation, students in LA's

BEST after-school program made academic gains way beyond

those of students who did not attend the program. Keep

kids safe. About 29 percent of all juvenile offenses occur on school

days between 2 p.m. - when young people begin to get out of school

- and 8 p.m. Children also are at a much greater risk of being the

victim of violence after-school. Quality after-school programs help

minimize this threat by providing responsible adult supervision during non-

school hours in a safe setting. In Waco, Texas, juvenile crime has dropped 10

percent since middle school students in that city began participating in the

Lighted Schools program. Keep kids out of trouble. After-school

programs provide young people with positive alternatives to drug, alcohol and

tobacco use, and other high-risk behaviors. A study in the journal *Pediatrics*

found eighth-graders who were unsupervised for 11 or more hours per week

were twice as likely to abuse drugs or alcohol as those under adult supervision.

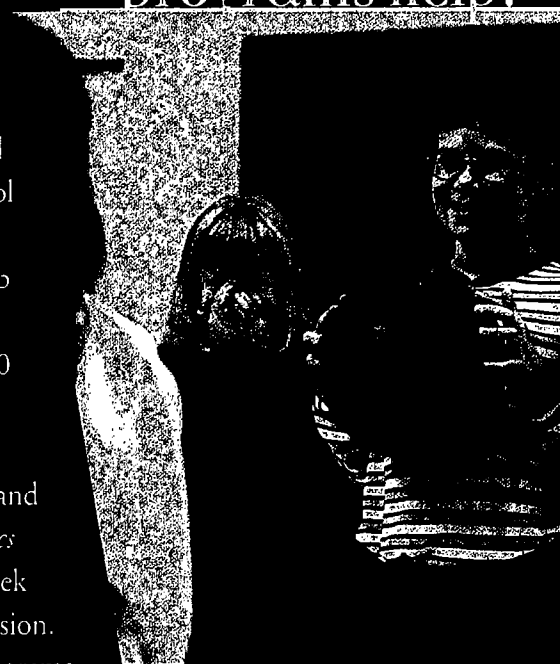
Build self-confidence. Children who participate in after-school programs

have the opportunity to master new skills, get excited about learning and develop a sense of belonging. Research

shows that these youth behave better, handle conflict more easily, and improve their social skills. They also benefit

from the increased attention of caring adults.

how do after-school programs help?



working together



Schools.



Nonprofit youth organizations.



Churches or other faith-based organizations.

where can i find after-school programs?

what to look for in a quality after-school program:

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-
-
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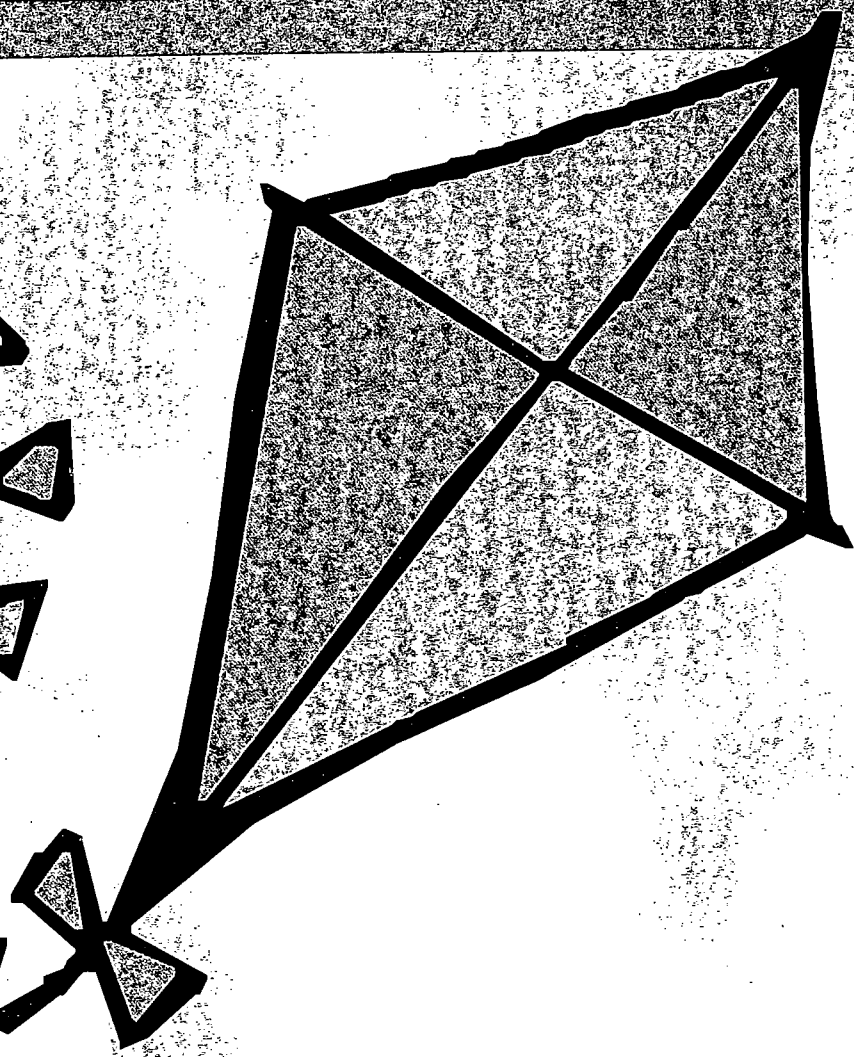


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America Goes Back to School
1999-2000 Activity Calendar

Challenge
Our
Students
and they will
soar

America Goes Back to School

How Are You Getting Involved? Tell Us!

The information you provide may be made available by the U.S. Department of Education on the Web, and, in any event, is subject to the Freedom of Information Act, and will be made available to requestors upon request.

Name of School/Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contact _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

Email _____

Web Address _____

Title of Event _____

Description of your event to promote family involvement in education _____

Date of Event _____ Time of Event _____

Location of Event _____

Are any officials/celebrities/VIPs participating? _____

Please mail to: U.S. Department of Education
Partnership for Family Involvement in Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-8173

OMB Number: 1860-0505
Expiration Date: 10/31/2001

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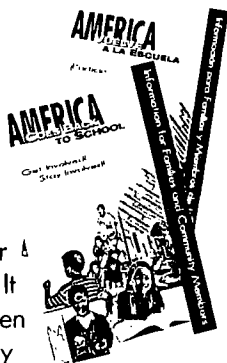
Resources for America Goes Back to School Events

The following list of publications is designed to help families, community members, and businesses get involved in education. Published by the U.S. Department of Education and partnering organizations, these great resources are free of charge and available for distribution at your America Goes Back to School event!

America Goes Back to School: Information for Families and Community Members

This publication is designed for families, schools and communities around the country that are gearing up for another year of back-to-school activities. It offers tips on helping children read well and independently by the end of third grade, helping children meet high math and science standards and take challenging math and science courses, and helping children start early to prepare for college and careers. 1998. Foldout brochure.

Order No. EE 0288B. Available on the Internet in both English and Spanish at:
<http://www.ed.gov/Family/agbts/pubs.html>
[Also available in Spanish. Order No. EE 0313B.] Maximum order quantity 100.



Strengthening Your Child's Academic Future

Highlighting the importance of higher academic standards, this publication provides sample questions for parents to ask teachers and administrators to find out about academic expectations in their children's schools. 1998. 14pp.

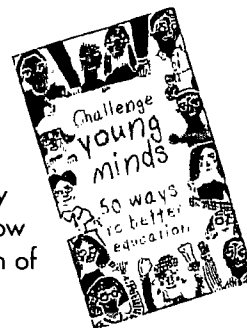
Order No. EK 0004P. Available on the Internet at:
<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/Strengthen/> [Also available in Spanish. Order No. EK 0113B.] Maximum order quantity 100.



Challenge Young Minds: 50 Ways to Better Education

This booklet provides parents, employers, teachers, and community members with everyday ideas on how they can help improve the education of children they know. 1998. 17pp.

Order No. EK 0117P. [Also available in Spanish. Order No. EK 0136P.] Maximum order quantity 100.



Questions Parents Ask About Schools

This booklet presents questions commonly asked by parents and provides answers about starting school, schoolwork, homework, career preparation, safety, and family expectations. 1998. 15pp.

Order No. EE 0314B. Available on the Internet in both English and Spanish at:
<http://www.ed.gov/Family/agbts/pubs.html> [Also available in Spanish. Order No. EE 0315B.] Maximum order quantity 100.



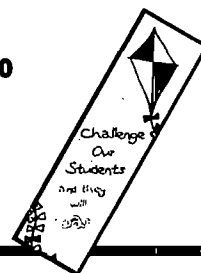
Schools and Students Together Reaching High Academic Standards

As society changes, schools must also change. This booklet provides ideas about what school board members, superintendents, principals, and teachers can do to change schools to help students reach high academic standards. Also included are ideas for building public understanding and increasing parental involvement to develop community support for these changes.

Order No. EK 0137P. Maximum order quantity 50.

America Goes Back to School Bookmark

Order No. EK 0135M.
Maximum order quantity 500.



How Do I Get Copies of Publications for My America Goes Back to School Event?

Contact the U.S. Department of Education's Publications Center (ED Pubs) to order any of the publications listed here or to find out what other educational resources and products are available. Publications can be ordered in the following ways:

Toll-Free Phone Calls

1-877-4ED-Pubs (1-877-433-7827)*
TTY/TDD: 1-877-576-7734*

English- and Spanish-speaking customer service representatives are available 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. You can also call after hours and leave a message, or call anytime to request selected short publications using ED Pubs' fax-on-demand service.

Publications can be provided upon request in alternate formats such as braille and large-print publications, computer disks, and captioned videotapes.

Mail

ED Pubs
Education Publications Center
U.S. Department of Education
P.O. Box 1398
Jessup, Maryland 20794-1398

In addition to the title(s), order number(s), and number of copies of the publication(s) you are requesting, please include your full name, mailing address, and phone number with area code.

Fax

301-470-1244

In your fax request, include the publication and contact information indicated on the form below.

E-Mail

Edpubs@inet.ed.gov

In addition to the information about the publication(s) you are requesting, please include your full name and mailing address if you would like material mailed to you. You may also request the Internet address (URL) of a publication.

Internet

<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html>

Through this ED Pubs Online Ordering System on the Department's Web site, you can place an order or locate publications that meet your needs.

To order any of the publications listed here, fill out the information below and fax to: 301-470-1244

Please allow approximately two weeks to receive your publication(s). To pay for faster shipping, please call Ed Pubs toll free at 1-877-4ED-Pubs (1-877-433-7827)*

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Order Number	Quantity

* If 877 is not yet available in your area, call 1-800-USA LEARN (1800-872-5327)
TTY/TDD call 1-800-437-0833



PARTNERSHIP FOR FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

Partner Registration

To join and receive your Partnership Promise Certificate, enter the information requested below and mail or fax to: Partnership for Family Involvement in Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20202-8173. Fax: 202-205-9133.

The registration must include a contact person and phone number in order to be processed. The information you provide may be made available by the U.S. Department of Education on the web, and, in any event, is subject to the Freedom of Information Act, and will be made available to requestors upon request.

We would like to become a member of the Partnership for Family Involvement in Education.

*We commit to family-friendly practices and will work with others
to form partnerships that support children's learning.*

Name of Partner group or school: _____

Address line 1: _____

Address line 2: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Contact Information:

Head of Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____ E-mail: _____

Is your organization a(n) (Please check one):

- ☐ Family-School Partner
☐ Community Organization

- ☐ Employer for Learning
☐ Religious Group

OMB Number: 1860-0505

Expiration Date: 10/31/2001

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✳ As a ***Family-School Partner***, our school will be welcoming to families; offer challenging courses; create safe and drug-free learning environments; organize tutoring and other opportunities to improve student learning; and support the inclusion of families in the school decision-making process.

Our families will monitor student attendance, homework completion and television watching; take time with and listen to their children; become acquainted with teachers, administrators and the school staff; read with younger children and share a good book with a teen; volunteer in school when possible; and participate in the school decision-making process. ***We pledge to --***

- Share responsibility at school and at home to give students a better education and a good start in life.
- Promote effective two-way communication between families and schools, by schools reducing educational jargon and breaking down cultural and language barriers and by families staying in touch with the school.
- Provide opportunities for families to learn how to help their children succeed in school and for the school staff members to work with families.
- Support family-school efforts to improve student learning by reviewing progress regularly and strengthening cooperative actions.

✳ As ***Employers for Learning Partner***, we recognize that a strong and vigorous economy, for our businesses and our nation, depends upon an educated, skilled, and competent citizenry. Today's students are tomorrow's citizens and our long-term investments for the future. ***We pledge to --***

- Identify a contact person, authorized to explore and develop options for company involvement in our family-school-community initiatives.
- Take action to implement programs.
- Share best practices after evaluating programs annually.
- Form partnerships to promote, implement, and improve family-friendly policies and practices.

✳ As a ***Community-based Organization Partner***, we support family-school compacts and affirm the importance of family-community involvement in students learning. ***We pledge to --***

- Make safe schools/safe neighborhoods a priority.
- Combat alcohol, drugs, and violence in and around schools and neighborhoods.
- Reinforce parenting skills using community institutions to provide family and literacy training and referral services.
- Provide mentoring and homework help programs so that children may be assured of tutoring and guidance from knowledgeable and responsible adults.
- Come together to coordinate delivery of services and to eliminate duplication of efforts.
- Help develop and sponsor affordable and quality learning, cultural and recreational activities after school, on weekends and during the summer.
- Support school improvement efforts in the local community.
- Support and become informed about school governance issues.
- Encourage schools to be involved in the life of the community, through co-sponsorship of community outreach activities of partner organizations.

✳ As a ***Religious Communities Partner***, we affirm the vital and enduring role of families in the education of children. We have always regarded families--and parents in particular--as the primary teachers of children. Encouraged by Secretary of Education Richard Riley's concern for all children and his commitment to the role of families in educating children, we call upon all people of good will to stand as one with us in support of families' participation in children's learning.



PARTNERSHIP
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