

National Standards for Family-School Partnerships- focusing on Standard #6

<http://www.pta.org/programs/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3126&navItemNumber=3983>
These standards were endorsed by the Kansas State Board of Education in 2008

1. Welcoming all families
2. Communicating effectively
3. Supporting student success
4. Speaking up for every child
5. Sharing power
6. Collaborating with Community

Tips for Collaborating With the Community (from National PTA)

The sixth [National PTA Standard for Family-School Partnerships](#) is **Collaborating With Community**. Many schools are opening their doors to their communities, becoming one-stop resource centers for families and other residents in an effort to strengthen the school and build a more family-friendly community. Partnerships that connect a school with local businesses, social services, youth organizations and other groups can turn a neighborhood into a thriving place to live, work and raise a family.

Collaborating With Community: Our Vision

Families and school staff collaborate with community members to connect students, families and staff to expanded learning opportunities, community services and civic participation.

What It Looks Like: Your school building is open to children and families before and after school hours to provide a range of activities and support services. These activities might include adult literacy, ESL or GED classes; activities such as recreation league sports, book clubs or boy/girl scout meetings; or mobile health screenings. The school also has a comfortable, inviting family resource center that offers assistance in health, education and social services. Information about community resources is regularly featured at school meetings and events, on bulletin boards throughout the school and on school and PTA websites and publications. Local business partners provide resources to enhance the school's curriculum, and community members are welcomed to volunteer at the school in a variety of capacities. In turn, your school works with community partners to host a Day of Service, where students engage in volunteer projects throughout their community.

Resources to Help You Make This Vision a Reality

The following are some of the resources available from National PTA to support you in collaborating with your community:

- National PTA's [Power of Partnerships](#) booklet offers ideas and inspiration for increasing community involvement at your school
- [National PTA's Three for Me](#) (<http://www.pta.org/programs/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3274>) program challenges family and community members to find three opportunities to volunteer at your school during the year
- National PTA's [Connect for Respect](#) (<http://www.pta.org/programs/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3003>) bullying prevention program encourages PTAs across the country to lead conversations about bullying

Information from National PTA
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