



# Parent-Teacher Partnership

St. Louis, Missouri  
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## Project Summary

### Topic: Parent-Teacher Partnership (PTP)

- Restructuring the organization to meet the needs of the parents and the school's mission.

### Importance:

- The activities and structure of the organization need to be realigned to meet the vision for the organization.

### Goals:

- Restore PTP to a more academic and family-related focus, and to allow the teachers to play a more integral part and be viewed as experts through presenting educational topics to parents.
- Rewrite By-Laws and Constitution, including definitions of leaders' spiritual, organizational, and behavioral expectations.

### Process:

- On-line survey to parents
- Summarize data and share with parents and teachers
- Call for parent volunteers for leadership
- Gather samples of other schools' PTO By-Laws and Constitution
- Rewrite our school's PTP By-Laws and Constitution

## Project Results

### Process:

- Research—via survey. 78 of 143 families responded.
- Review—survey results and other school's models
- Rewrite—Constitution and By-Laws
- Regroup—Based on lack of parent-driven passion for leadership of the PTP, yet a new direction must be developed

### Major issues based on survey results:

- Need to redefine the constitution / by-laws, including responsibilities of leader positions
- Plan fewer small events
- Hold more major events, including educational-themed topics for parents
- Need to communicate better
- Train the classroom liaisons to be more effective
- Allow limited fund raising for items outside the school budget

### Abiding Savior Lutheran School,

established in 1984, is located in south suburban St. Louis, Missouri. Our Early Childhood Ministry serves 140 students ages 2-5. The elementary school serves an enrollment of nearly 200 K- 8 students. It is the largest ministry of Abiding Savior Lutheran Church.



## What We Have Learned

### Successes

- Parents expressed interest and value having a Parent-Teacher Partnership
- Even without a formal PTP in place this year, momentum kept parents moving forward in running the regular major events

### Challenges

Need parents with strong leadership skills to step up when using a traditional leadership model of a parent organization. Many parents volunteer in different areas; not all are leadership material. This challenge halted the progress of this project as planned.

### Recommendations

- Do away with the traditional leadership model and replace with committees that report directly to the principal. Examples:
  - Educational Events (teacher-led)
  - Mom's Club
  - Special Events/Fellowship
  - New Family Mentors
  - Special Fund Raisers

