

The Secrets to Head Start Success



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The Secrets to Head Start Success

➔ Performance Standards

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➔ Parent Participation

➔ Team Building

Agenda

- Milestones
- Performance Standards
- Parents Participation
- Teams

Head Start Mission

To promote school readiness by enhancing the social and cognitive development of children through education, health, nutrition, social and other services for children and families.



Since it's 1965 launch, Head Start has enrolled 30 million children



Head Start Program Fact Sheet Fiscal Year 2010

Make Your **OWN** Billboard!



Head Start Milestones

- 1964: Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Economic Opportunity Act, (War on Poverty)
- 1965-1966: Project Head Start launched a 8 week summer program
- 1972: 10% budget set aside to serve children with disabilities

Head Start Milestones

- 1977 Bilingual and bicultural programs initiated in 21 states
- 1995 First Early Head Start program grants distributed
- 1998 Head Start reauthorized to expand to full day and full year services

Head Start is the only federally funded program that empowers parents with rights, roles & responsibilities



Performance Standards

- To bring best practices into classrooms
- To promote continuous improvement & innovation at ground level
- To provide training to teachers & directors
- To help teachers & directors improve classroom instruction
- To provide peer-to-peer technical assistance

Helping all children realize their dreams and potential will help us build tomorrow's workforce, strengthen our economy & fulfill America's promise."

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, September 22 2010

What do parents mean at YOUR Head Start facility?

Making a Billboard

- Imagine what your billboard would say
- How it would look
- What image it would convey
- How do you want Head Start to be seen by the outside world?
- Which of Head Start magnificent qualities could you display?
- How can you summarize Head Start offerings in a snapshot that will grab drivers going 60 miles per hour and hold the attention of commuters stuck in traffic as well?

Making a Billboard

- Now it's your turn
- Take out a blank sheet of paper & write down a concise headline for your billboard & draft an image
- Also write any other brief message you'd like to add, possibly to get people who are driving by to take a desired action
- Here is a recap of the information you'll need to capture:

Let's hear from you!
Questions, Comments, Feedback





Parental Influences

We Know that:

Parents are the single most important influence on children's decisions

Students with involved parents – no matter what their income or background – are more likely to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more

Parental Influences

We also know that:

When parents are involved, children succeed in school

The earlier in a child's life parents become involve the bigger the impact

Successful Children

Have Parents Who:

Are more knowledgeable about child rearing practices and child development.

Are more confident in their parenting skills.

Engage in more language-and literacy- promoting behaviors with their children.

Are more involved in their children's schooling.

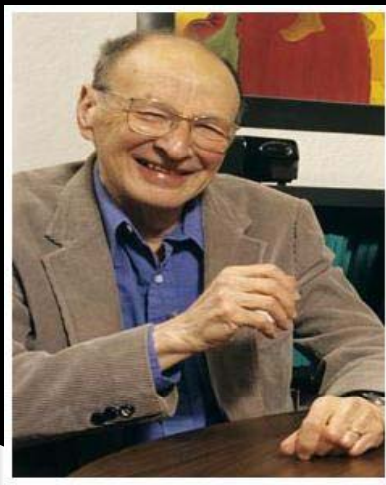
Parenting

Challenge

Provide information to all families who want or need it, not just to the few who attend workshops or meetings at the program site

Redefinition

Workshop is not only a meeting on a topic held at the school building at a particular time, but also the content of a topic to be viewed, heard, or read at convenient times and varied locations.



"Having parents become captivated by their own children, supportive of their education, and irrationally committed to the idea that their children mattered."

Urie Bronfenbrenner, "Father of Head Start program" and Human Ecologist

How can parents be empowered by
YOUR Head Start program?



What are the ways parents are
empowered to be involved with YOUR
Head Start program?



"Why Teams"

GROUP VS TEAM

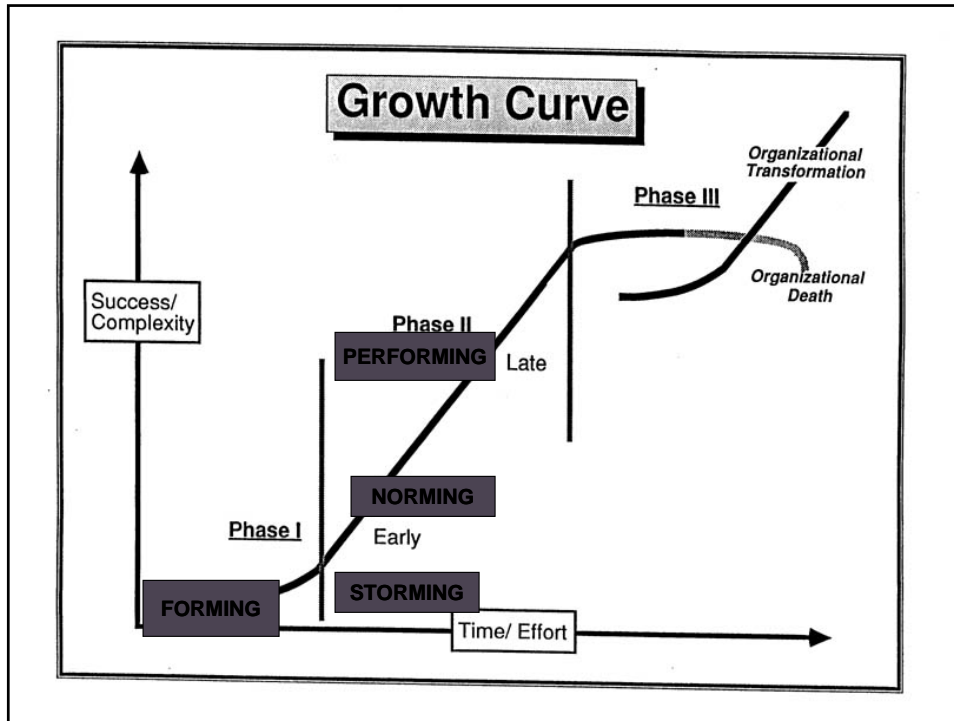
Group - a collection of individuals together in a unit to accomplish individual tasks

Team - a group with a common purpose, committed to working together interdependently, and who are accountable as a unit within an organization



TEAM APPROACH

A distinctive style of work aimed at harnessing the collective talents and energy of people



Keep Them Informed

Challenge your team with fresh facts
 New information causes a team to redefine
 Enrich its understanding of the objectives
 Help the team to set clearer goals.

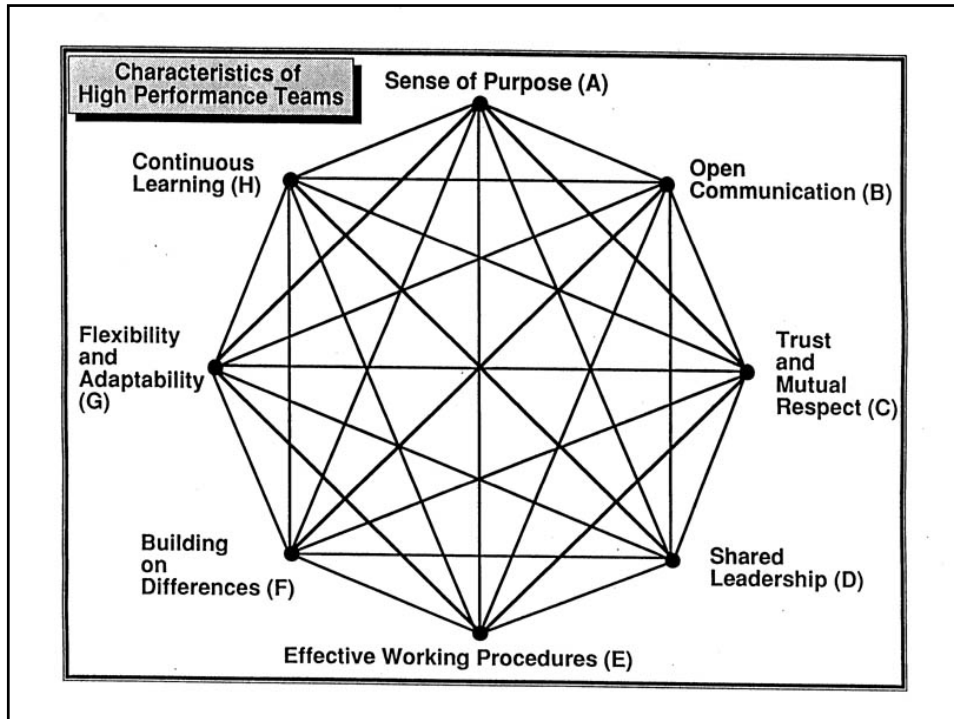
Team Elements

Teams learn and demonstrate behaviors
Your team will not normally form on its own
Some point in time the ownership of the team
needs to shift to the other members as a whole.

Productive participation

This has four levels:

- Contributing data and knowledge
- Sharing in the decision making process and reaching consensus
- Making the decision
- Making an imposed decision work



ADVANTAGE

- Responsibilities are shared
- Others provide support
- New and fresh ideas from other team members
- Variety of skills and backgrounds
- Provision of relief when one member is overloaded
- Sense of accomplishment

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HALLMARKS

Produce outstanding results and
succeed despite difficulties
Members believe they are responsible
for the output of their team and act to
clear difficulties standing in their way

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