

Kentucky Communities and Leaders,

Welcome back to school! Maybe back to school isn't necessarily on your radar if you aren't closely connected to the school district in your community. We would like to encourage you to consider that you play a significant role in the education of Kentucky students. Research supports families, communities, and schools working together to improve student outcomes. We want to offer suggestions to strengthen your relationship within Kentucky schools.

- **Joining the [Groundswell Initiative](#)**-This network is available to Kentuckians who wish to take action for student success. Joining the Groundswell will give you access to community profiles, action examples across the state and up to date information about education topics in Kentucky. Members will learn how to host a community conversation, increase engagement strategies, and mobilize communities to invest time and talent to improve education at the local level.
- **Serve on the Equity Coalition**- Join the Equity Coalition where we focus on identifying solutions to equity issues within our state and communities. [Join here](#).
- **Become a Community Based Organization Representative for the Statewide Family Advisory Council**-Join the Statewide Family Advisory Council as a Community Based Organization or Leader. Help lead projects aimed at increasing family and community engagement in schools. If you are interested in joining email brooke.gill@prichardcommittee.org
- **Become Family Friendly School Certified**- In March, the [Family Friendly School Certification](#) for Kentucky schools and early care centers was launched. Research shows that when families are meaningfully engaged in their children's learning and development, it promotes overall success in academic achievement, social-emotional well-being, and family-teacher relationships. We encourage you to support your school in obtaining Family Friendly Certification this year.
- Increase community engagement through the [Groundswell Initiative](#). This network is a gathering hub for community profiles, actions that improve student outcomes, and mobilization of communities to invest their time and talent to improve education at the local level.

We encourage you to visit www.prichardcommittee.org for toolboxes with information including bright spot schools, current research, and blog posts on education topics. We want to uplift and applaud the innovative work being done in Kentucky and ask you [to share](#) with us the notable examples of this work unfolding in the upcoming school year. Thank you, for your hard work and dedication to families, their students, your communities, and our future!



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