



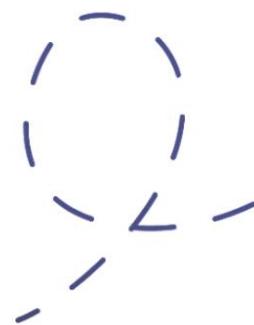
**The Prichard Committee**

Building a Groundswell for a Big, Bold Future



# PT3

**Parents &  
Teachers  
Talking  
Together!**



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# STEP 1

## What do we want for our students?

List some wishes for our students (use NOUNS). Your facilitator should record your wishes on the flip chart



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## **STEP 2**

# **How do we get what we want?**

**These should be action words (VERBS). What can you DO to get what you want?**



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## STEP 3

### Consolidation

We are now all back together. We will look at the first list, What do we want for our students? The facilitators will read each group's list, and we will consolidate (combine) the like items.

Several rules for consolidation:

- ❖ Not everything on the list has to be consolidated. Some things will and should stand alone
- ❖ If one person objects to something being combined, then it won't be.
- ❖ We ask for clarification, if we don't understand an item.

Once the lists are combined, ask "are you surprised by how much the two groups have in common?"

## STEP 4



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## Straw Polling

You will now be given 14 colored dots. The teachers will get one color and the parents another. Decide how important these items are to you. Place your dots on any items that are important to you. (You may put one dot on each of 14 different items, 14 dots on one item, or any combination.)

After everyone has placed their dots:

What do you notice about the placement of the teachers' and parents' dots? Is the placement similar or different? What items do both groups find important? Is there anything one group feels strongly about that the other doesn't? Jot some of these items down below.



We will break for dinner at this point...

## STEP 5



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# Consolidation Again!

I hope everyone enjoyed their break...

We are now going to look at the second list, How do we get what we want?

Once again, facilitators will read each group's list, and we will combine like items.

Remember the rules:

- ❖ Not everything on the list has to be consolidated. Some things will and should stand alone
- ❖ If one person objects to something being combined, then it won't be combined.
- ❖ We ask for clarification, if we don't understand an item.

## STEP 6 Straw Polling Round 2



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Once again, you will be given 14 colored dots. You should have the same color as last time. As before, place your dots on any items that are important to you. (You may put one dot on each of 14 different items, 14 dots on one item, or any combination.)

After everyone has placed their dots:

The facilitators tally the dots to determine the top priority for Parents:



Teachers:



## STEP 7

### The Action Plan



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**Look at each group's priorities. What do they have in common?**

**Who had the most control over these items?**



**Which issue could students in your school benefit most from, if it were addressed?**



**What can THIS group do about this item?**



## **NOTES**



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# Facilitator Tips



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**Facilitate:** to ease or assist a process

**Facilitator:** One who assists or helps a process to occur

**Facilitator's Golden Rule:**

**“I will remain neutral at all times, avoid potential conflict, and refrain from sharing my opinions or taking sides; for I don’t have a dog in this fight.”**

**Facilitator's Duties:**

- I. Preparation
  - a. Identify organizer
  - b. Prepare agenda, ground rules, desires outcomes, etc.
  - c. Arrive 30-45 minutes early to set up meeting rooms
- II. Keep meeting and conversation on task
  - a. Be alert for distractions and side conversations about a different or negative topic. Put those topics on your pre-prepared “Rich Topics for Further Discussion” poster.
  - b. Remind group, if necessary, of the ground rules
- III. Make certain everyone has the opportunity to participate
  - a. Be alert for those who aren’t talking. Call on them gently and ask if they have an idea or thought to add.
  - b. Be alert for those who monopolize the conversation. If this happens, ask the group to raise their hands to speak. This way everyone can be recognized and share their ideas.
- IV. Observe and honor time lines
  - a. Start on time and end on time

**Parents and Teachers Talking Together (PT3) brings together the adults who deal most directly with students to express**



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aspirations for the students and way to improve education. Sessions involve no more than 30 participants each and are held in local community centers, schools, churches, and private homes. Local groups such as PTA's, Family Resource Centers, or school councils serve as sponsors of these events.

The Center for Parent Leadership at The Prichard Committee provides training for facilitators.

**The PT3 programs is:**

- ❖ approved by KDE for professional development
- ❖ appropriate for Title 1
- ❖ helpful in providing excellent data for school improvement plans



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