

## **STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS AND RELATIONSHIPS**

The school has the understanding, commitment, and support of stakeholders. School personnel actively promote and provide regular, systematic opportunities for collaboration and shared leadership among stakeholders to help students learn and advance improvement efforts and can demonstrate a high level of meaningful participation by most stakeholder groups

### **6. STAKEHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS AND RELATIONSHIPS**

**The school fosters effective communications and relationships with and among its stakeholders.**

Quality School Indicators - *In fulfillment of this standard, the school:*

- 6.1** Fosters collaboration with community stakeholders to support student learning
- 6.2** Has formal channels to listen to and communicate with stakeholders
- 6.3** Solicits the knowledge and skills of stakeholders to enhance the work of the school
- 6.4** Communicates the expectations for student learning and goals for improvement to all stakeholders
- 6.5** Provides information about students, their performance, and school effectiveness that is meaningful and useful to stakeholders

Observations from a recent review team visit included the following comments:

Patrick Henry High School places a high priority on nurturing strong relationships with the community. Staff members, community members, parents, and students describe PHHS as a family. The school establishes and maintains a wide range of resources to support effective communication with and among community stakeholders. Print communications such as the student handbook, newsletters, calendars, brochures are of high quality. An automated telephone message system provides families with announcements about school activities. Information about expectations of students, day-to-day operations and emergency procedures are communicated clearly to staff and students. The Parent Involvement Liaison facilitates the collaborative partnership between parents, students, school and community in order to enhance the educational climate and learning environment at Patrick Henry.

The school's comprehensive website provides an acknowledged centerpiece for communications, both as a key information source and as a means to solicit feedback from the community. Updated daily by the parent liaison, the website was familiar to and used to an extraordinary level by all persons interviewed during the review team visit. The website offers an extraordinary range of links helpful to community members.

Students benefit from a broad range of partnerships established with community organizations to support success in the areas of academic and career planning, tutoring, mentoring, employment opportunities, gender and ethnic group concerns, leadership training and health needs.

Stakeholders connect with the school through a variety of parent organizations, a booster club, membership in the North Side Initiative, an annual community fair and many partnerships with community businesses and organizations.

The Patrick Henry High School Foundation is a unique and valued member of the school community. An independent non-profit organization, the PHHSF provides further support for strong relationships among stakeholders, and advocates for the school within the broader community.

### **Strengths**

Patrick Henry is recognized as an essential, engaged member of the neighborhood community. The school nurtures strong relationships with the community and the work of the parent liaison is highly valued by the school and community partners.

The school does an excellent job of communicating with its stakeholders. The school website is of high quality, always current, and used as the keystone for communications and connections with the school community.

### **Opportunities:**

All stakeholders interviewed reported they used the school website for information about the school. However, care should be taken to continue other means of communicating with stakeholders who may not have Internet access.