

Fayette County residents complete parent leadership training

Eighteen parents from Lexington recently completed the Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership, which helps people become more effective advocates for their children's education.

They participated in three two-day training sessions designed to increase their understanding of school performance and of how to improve it.

Each parent will conduct a follow-up project aimed at accelerating the academic achievement of students at his or her child's school and at involving more parents in the effort.

The Fayette County training, funded by a grant from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, included seven parents whose children attend schools that have been identified for support under the One Community, One Voice program. The program, developed in 2002 by a group of educators, parents and government and business leaders, recommended ways to improve the academic achievement of students of color and of those from lower-income neighborhoods. Thirteen Fayette County have been identified as One Community, One Voice schools.

Listed below are the recent CIPL parent graduates and the schools where they are involved. (If two schools are listed, the one where their projects will be conducted is cited first.)

Devon Adams, Booker T. Washington Academy*, Tates Creek Middle

Mary Arthur, Bryan Station High, Bryan Station Middle

Mike Bratcher, School for the Creative and Performing Arts

Garland Bryant, Cassidy Elementary

Mary Beth Carter, Stonewall Elementary

Stacey Casey, Dixie Elementary

Leslie Cole, Rosa Parks Elementary

Janice Derrickson, Rosa Parks Elementary, Henry Clay High

Teresa Forbes-Lopez, Maxwell Elementary

Cynthia Kay, Booker T. Washington Academy*

Melissa Lairson, Johnson Elementary*, Lexington Traditional Magnet School

Amariah Leasor, J.R. Ewan Elementary

Tammy Liles, Southern Middle

Karen Lozano, Squires Elementary*

Natasha Murray, Millcreek Elementary*

Rick Passmore, Millcreek Elementary*, Maxwell Elementary

Monique Richard, Lexington Traditional Magnet School, Lafayette High

Natalie Young, Millcreek Elementary*

* indicates a One Community, One Voice school

Since it was established in 1997, the Commonwealth Institute for Parent Leadership, an initiative of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, has trained more than 1,500 Kentucky parents as education advocates. For more information or to find out how to register for the next session, visit www.cipl.org or call (859) 233-9849, ext. 231.