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It's Happening Now... In a Project That Knows People

Are Important.

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### **ABSTRACT**

The Health Education Through Parent Participation project serves selected elementary schools primarily from the central city complex of Tucson, Arizona. Its principal goals are to implement a curriculum model that a) assesses the immediate and most pertinent health needs and interests of the school community; b) jointly involves parents, students, and teachers as participants in the decision-making process concerning health education; and c) develops an emerging health education curriculum that is most relevant to classroom participants. (Author/JB)

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH EDUCATION & WELFARE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

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The Health Education Through Parent Participation Project has been funded through Title III, E.S.E.A., and approved for a three year period, 1969-1972. The Project serves selected elementary schools primarily from the central city complex of Tucson, Arizona. The principal goals have been to implement a curriculum model which:

- (1) Assesses the immediate and most pertinent health needs and interests of the school community;
- (2) Jointly involves parents, students, and teachers as participants in the decision making process concerning health education;
- (3) Develops an emerging health education curriculum that is most relevant to classroom participants.

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IT'S HAPPENING NOW...



PARENT

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E D U C A T I O N



PARENT PARTICIPATION



WHERE PEOPLE (parents, students, and teachers) . . .

Health Education Through Parent Participation is an on-going Title III Project in Tucson District Number The funding of this innovative program concerns health education programs which are relevant to parents, pupils and educators. Projects were designed to further communication and involvement between the school and the community. The physical areas served during the year 1970-71 consisted of the Safford Junior High School complex and five feeder elementary s hools: Carrillo, Drachman, Ochoa and Safford Elementary. The population is generally defined as multi-lingual, multiethnic and economically disadvantaged. During 1970-71 the Project had directly involved approximately 450 school children, and indirectly the remaining portion of approximately 2,000 students in the target area.

The Project is at this time beginning a final year of operation. During the first year parent and student surveys were conducted to ascertain atcitudes relating to health needs in the school attendance areas. The second year was employed implementing health program preferences in the classroom. The established topical health priorities were expressed through the development and implementation of the following curricular concerns:

(1) Food and Nutrition, (2) Cleanliness and Grooming,

(3) Accident Prevention and First Aid, (4) Alcohol,
Drugs, Narcotics, and Tobacco, (5) Mental Health and
Personal Development, (6) Family Life, and (7) Growth and Development.



CONTRIBUTE COOPERATIVELY TO DEVELOP A RELEVANT HEALTH CURRICULUM . . .



WHERE THE IMMEDIATE INTERESTS AND NEEDS OF THOSE INVOLVED ARE BEING SERVED.





ITS HAPPENING NOW ...





THROUGH PARTICIPATION . . .







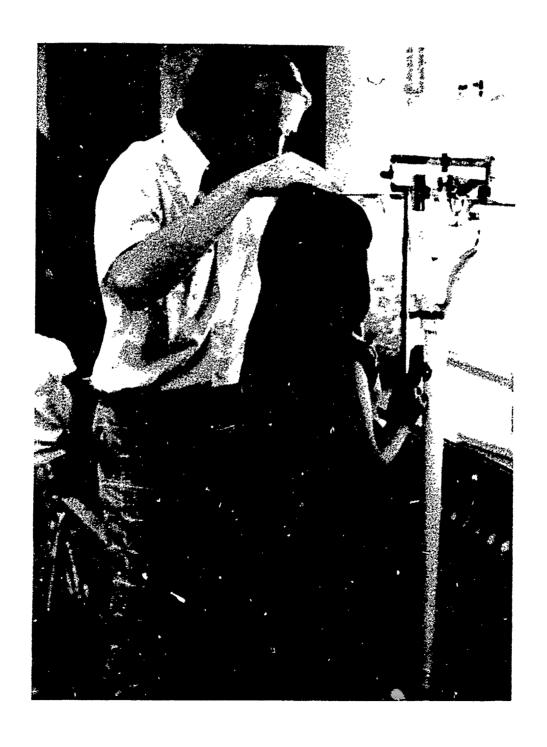
WHERE PARENTS, STUDENTS, AND TEACHERS ARE INVITED





Two or three teachers in each school were involved and committed to the Project. Each teacher received one half day per week released time to cooperatively plan with parent groups the development of health education curricula for a particular class. Additionally, parents were employed in each school attendance area as paid school community aides to work with teachers, contact parents and arrange or coordinate meetings which were of immediate concern to the health programs.

WHERE MUTUALLY EXPRESSED OBJECTIVES DETERMINE THE HEALTH CURRICULUM . . .





The evidence gathered during 1970-71 suggested alternatives for project programs in the ensuing These plans related to a more intensive implementation of the health curriculum development Two elementary and parent involvement techniques. school attendance areas were chosen; Carrillo, from within the central city complex representing a multiethnic and multi-lingual population, and Brichta, representing distinctly different demographic variables outside the central city complex. The basis for selecting and focusing upon these markedly different attendance areas concerned the need for gathering data from divergent populations to compare the curriculum products and the roles of paid and volunteer school community health aides.

During 1971-72, the Project involved teachers from each grade level in both target schools and included the principals, nurses, and librarians as supportive personnel. Paid released time was provided for all teachers involved in the Project regardless of the attendance area represented. School-community aides were employed to serve the attendance area within the central city complex. The school-community aides working in the area outside the central city complex served on a volunteer basis.



## WHERE HEALTH PROGRAMS ARE RESPONSIVE

The Project commitment to intensively involve personnel within each school sought to answer the following questions:

- (1) What will be the community reaction?
- (2) What innovations will be necessary to implement a massive attack on outmoded or non-existent health education curriculum?
- (3) How will the ultimate curriculum product differ from the fragmented parts now in existence?
- (4) What will be the impact of volunteer work upon previously supported areas of this program?
- (5) What will be the affect of a total involvement in health education upon other curriculum areas?

TO THE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY BEING SERVED.

The commitment of parents to active participation in the educational process is a principal innovation of this P ct Attempts to achieve this ideal have been realize to bugh the implementation of a health curriculum during the course of this endeavor. The results of this involvement have seen parents, students, and teachers mutually cooperate to determine educational needs.

A primary educational contribution of the Project concerns the development of a curriculum unit task model. This is a process which provides a decisionmaking sequence for the development of curriculum units based on parent-student needs relating to educational preferences. Parents and teachers acquire a basic knowledge of health education content to be included in specific teaching units through participation in health mini-course activities supported by the Project. Participation in Project activities indicates that parents, students, and teachers can solve evolving issues cooperatively.

The continued involvement of participants in cooperative decision making has produced a health program
which is responsive to the immediate needs of the
community being served. An implied result of this
participation has found additional support for other
current educational activities and programs. Group
participation of parents, students and teachers is a
factor contributing to the supportive climate within
the school. Thus, there is a continuing need to more
fully explore the contributions of the curriculum
building and parent involvement techniques developed by
the Project for other decision making activities.







The goals and objectives of the HETPP project have been consistent with recognized evaluation procedures and will continue to be so. The two external audits have shown the Project to be exemplary. Currently the Project staff is looking beyond the final limits of Title III funding to explore and seek additional resources to continue the Project beyond 1972.

IT'S HAPPENING NOW . . .

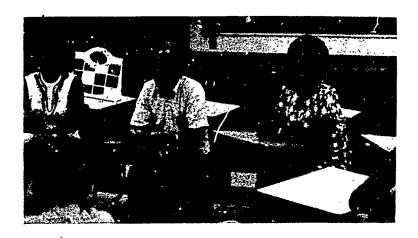
IN A PROJECT



THAT KNOWS

PEOPLE ARE IMPORTANT . . .







WHERE THEIR INVOLVEMENT

IN DECISION MAKING





REFLECTS THE HEALTH PROGRAM PREFERENCES OF THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY . . .

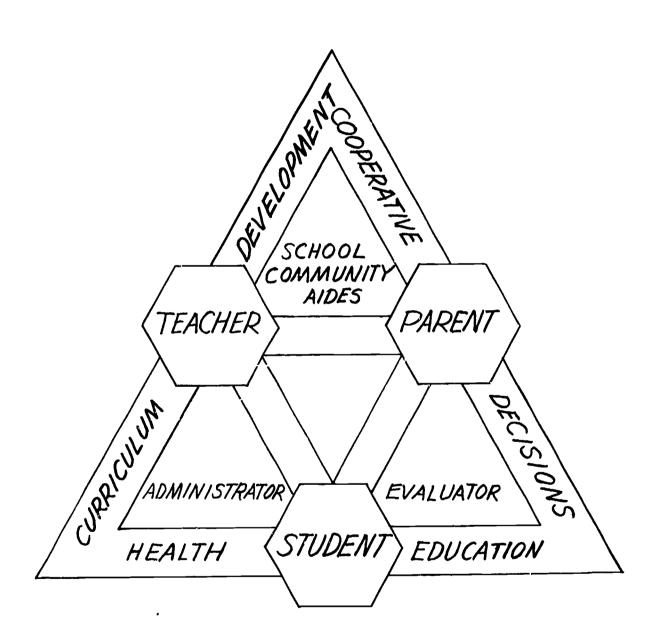


## WHERE INVOLVEMENT RESULTS IN CURRICULAR DECISIONS



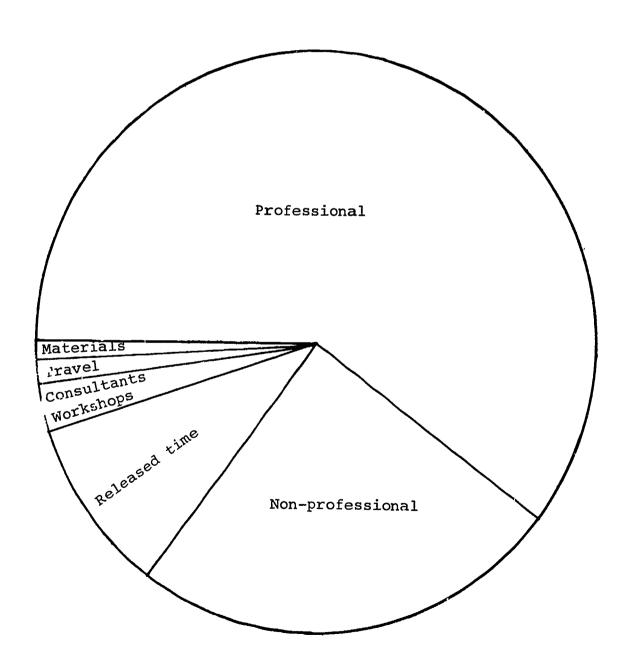
WHICH ARE IMPLEMENTED IN THE CLASSROOM.







# INSTRUCTIONAL EXPENDITURES FOR HEALTH PROJECT





Health Education Through Parent Participation funded under Title III, ESEA, granted to Tucson Public Schools, District One, Tucson, Arizona

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