

ADI is the Parent Information and Resource Center (PIRC) for Illinois, as designated by the U.S. Department of Education.

ADI administers a field-research project with the Laboratory for Student Success.



Academic Development Institute



Mission and Vision

The Academic Development Institute (ADI) works with families, schools, and communities so that all children may become self-directed learners, avid readers, and responsible citizens, respecting themselves and those around them. ADI's vision is of an American landscape filled with distinct school communities reflecting the hopes and dreams of the people intimately attached to them. When the school functions as a community rather than in a community, its constituents (students, parents, teachers, staff) associate with one another and share common values about the education of children. To this image of the school as a community, ADI is devoted.

Research and Development

One of ADI's central purposes is to stand between researchers and practitioners, converting research into procedural knowledge so that schools and families will be served with sound, effective, research-based programs and practices. ADI sponsors research and development projects in areas of interest, develops and tests program models, publishes the research of scholars in its School Community Journal, and bases its training and technical assistance on research.

Publishing

ADI's regular publications include the School Community Journal, Families & Schools newsletter, and the www.adi.org website. ADI also publishes occasional research reports and books. ADI publishes resource manuals for teachers on a variety of topics, curricula for courses for parents, and planning guides for school administrators. A growing medium for ADI's publication department is DVD and web-based training material.

Training and Technical Assistance

Training, consulting, technical assistance, and professional development constitute ADI's third area of activity. ADI provides training and assistance to teachers, administrators, and parents on a host of topics through stand-alone workshops (with follow-up implementation plans), program models, and its Professional Development Academy.



research

publishing

training



Academic Development Institute

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Assisting families, schools, and communities with children's academic and personal development.

about us



Academic Development Institute





Birth to 5 **Parents as Teachers**

A child's first teacher

Parents as Teachers (PAT) is an international early childhood parent education and family support program serving families throughout pregnancy until their child enters kindergarten, usually age 5. The program is designed to enhance child development and school achievement through universally accessible parent education. It is a national model, but a local program, adaptable to fit community needs. ADI serves as the state leader for the PAT program in Illinois. It is part of a national statewide affiliation network committed to excellence in delivering PAT services to families. ADI acts as the primary point of contact for PAT in Illinois and coordinates training and technical assistance for local programs.

Special Education **Champions Together™**

United in purpose for each child's success

Children with disabilities are best served when their families and their school are working in unison and each sees the other as a constructive partner for the child's benefit. Champions Together includes training for Family Liaisons, para-professionals who help parents understand special education processes and provide support for them. Champions Together also provides curricula for courses for parents of children in special education.

Engaging Parents in Children's Learning **Solid Foundation®**

Reading, self-directed learning and responsibility

Solid Foundation is a blueprint to build a school community, engaging parents in the learning lives of their children. Reading, self-directed learning, and responsible behavior are Solid Foundation's focal points. The school's Support Team tailors the Solid Foundation components to the school's particular vision and circumstances. ADI provides training, consulting support, technical assistance, materials and proven techniques over a two-year period. After this period the Support Team is well-equipped to continue and enhance the parent-engagement initiatives.



Continuous School Improvement **Alliance for Achievement®**

A school community devoted to each student's success

Alliance for Achievement (AfA) is a research-based model for continuous school improvement. AfA focuses on each student's success within a supportive school community. The school's chosen curriculum is standards-based and enhanced with rich content. Instruction is direct, personal, and adaptive. Student responsibility for learning is emphasized, and student learning skills and habits are purposefully built. Shared leadership is central to AfA, as evidenced in the Leadership Team, Support Team, and Instructional Teams. The decisions of teams and of individual teachers are guided by student learning data through AfA's data and documentation process. Parents are provided ample information about their children's progress. This model recognizes that learning occurs in environments outside the school, and that conditions for learning must be established at home and in the community. Academic learning is a seamless companion of social and emotional learning, and parents are full partners in supporting their children's success. Alliance for Achievement helps all students learn, including those children who are faced with challenging circumstances. A thorough professional development process underlies the implementation of Alliance for Achievement's sound educational practices.

Academic Development Institute
programs

www.adi.org

