

Good Schools Pennsylvania

October 14, 2009

Good Schools Pennsylvania, Education Law Center, Pittsburgh NAACP to co-host Education Action Summit



WHAT: You are invited to join parents, educators, community/business leaders, policy makers and others from Western Pennsylvania who will gather to examine opportunities for all children to learn. The goal of the summit, *Strengthening Resource Equity and "Opportunities to Learn" For All Students in Public Schools*, is to lay the groundwork for community conversations and positive action around issues affecting learning. Pennsylvania has made historic strides in recent years by beginning to address the education inequities experienced by students and communities. But have we done nearly enough? What are the educational elements that have the most impact on students? How can scarce resources be used effectively to benefit all students? Who are the local and state leaders and decision-makers with control over the elements influencing educational quality? Do all students really have the same opportunity to learn?

WHO: The keynote speaker will be David Parker, Ed.D., an internationally recognized entertainer, motivator, consultant, and author-dedicated to improving the school environment to impact student success by focusing on relationships, empowerment, parental involvement, environment, and leadership. He has won many awards including the "Distinguished Service Award of the National Council on Communicative Disorders." A veteran of television and theater, David extends an invitation to everyone to open their minds and try something new.

Dr. Ed Maritz will moderate a respondent panel of education experts which includes Dr. Marilyn Barnett, principal, Imani School and education chair, Pittsburgh NAACP; Ron Cowell, president, The Education Policy and Leadership Center; Rosalie Dibert, program coordinator, National Board Certification support program at Duquesne University; Cindy Duch, parent and community activist; Michelle Figlar, executive director, Pittsburgh Association for the Education of Young Children; and Dr. Stan Herman, vice president, University of Pittsburgh.

WHEN: Monday, October 19, 6:00-8:00 pm; light refreshments will be served from 5:00-6:00 pm.

WHERE: Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers, 10 South 19th Street at the River, Pittsburgh, PA 15053. Free parking is available.

Space is limited; please reserve your spot at the summit by [contacting](#) Good Schools Pennsylvania's western Pennsylvania organizer, Mary Jo Needham.