

NEWS RELEASE

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New Educational Leadership Opportunity Available to the Central Susquehanna Valley Community

(HARRISBURG) - Residents of the central Susquehanna Valley will have a new opportunity to learn about education issues and hone their personal leadership skills through a statewide program that will be available to the community for the first time this fall. The Institute for Community Leadership in Education (ICLE), sponsored by The Education Policy and Leadership Center, will commence at the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit on Wednesday, September 8, 2004.

The Institute is designed for current and emerging community leaders who want to increase their knowledge about important statewide and local education policy issues. Six interactive seminars will introduce participants to issues surrounding No Child Left Behind, education funding, school governance, what works to promote student achievement, and building school-community partnerships. Participants also will learn about the policymaking process in Pennsylvania and how they can become effective advocates for children.

Karen Samuels, a parent advocate and graduate of the Lehigh Valley ICLE, said, "If you want to learn about the most important educational issues of the moment, listen to panels of educators who represent all aspects of public education, meet fellow classmates who are just as determined as you to find the best solutions to the problems in our schools then you must attend the ICLE program."

The ICLE was first implemented in Pittsburgh in 2000 and has expanded to include regional sites in Harrisburg, the Lehigh Valley, and Berks County. The new Central Susquehanna program site is sponsored locally by the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit #16. For more information and an application, see www.eplc.org/icle.html.

The Education Policy and Leadership Center is an independent, non-partisan and not-for-profit organization established in 1998 and based in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. The mission of the Center is to encourage and support the use of more effective state-level education policies to improve student learning in grades K-12, increase the effective operation of schools, and enhance educational opportunities for citizens of all ages.

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