

**NEWS RELEASE -**

Contact:

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### **Institute Promotes Community Leadership for Education**

(Harrisburg) - The Institute for Community Leadership in Education begins its 2003-2004 program in south central Pennsylvania on Wednesday, October 29, 2003, at the Capital Area Intermediate Unit, Summerdale.

The Institute, which is sponsored by The Education Policy and Leadership Center (EPLC), currently has sites in Harrisburg, Pittsburgh and the Lehigh Valley. A new site in Berks County will commence this fall. According to Ron Cowell, EPLC President, "The Institute is designed for current and emerging community leaders who want to increase their knowledge about important statewide and local education policy issues." Applications are encouraged from a broad range of citizens, including parents of school-age children, business and professional persons, educators, civic leaders, local elected officials, prospective school board candidates and others.

"This institute was fantastic. To me the best part of this was having teachers, board members, union representatives, community leaders and youth coordinators in the same room listening to the same educational problems and information," said Bill O'Sick, Educator and Youth Coordinator for the Workforce Investment Board's South Central Region and a 2003-04 graduate of the Harrisburg ICLE.

South central regional partners supporting the Harrisburg area Institute for Community Leadership in Education are the Council for Public Education of Greater Harrisburg, the Capital Area Intermediate Unit #15 and the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit #16.

The Institute program consists of nine sessions, beginning on Wednesday, October 29, 2003, and continuing through Wednesday, May 19, 2004. Topics include Governance of Public Education; Standards, Assessment and Accountability; Engaging Parents and Community; K-16 Partnerships; School Finance; Early Childhood Education and School Readiness; School Leadership; Education Options and Innovations; Technology in the Schools; and a Day at the State Capitol. Monthly sessions will be held at the Capital Area Intermediate Unit, 55 Miller Street, Summerdale, PA. All sessions, except the opening session and the Day at the State Capitol, are from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. The tuition for the program, paid either by the individual or by a sponsor, is \$499.

For more information and an application, contact The Education Policy and Leadership Center at 717-260-9900 or see [www.eplc.org/leadership.html](http://www.eplc.org/leadership.html).

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