
Recipe for a Parent Café

An opportunity for parents to engage in a *conversational process* with other parents and school staff about being a parent, school, and their children.

INGREDIENTS

9-30	Guests	3	Parent “Hosts”
1	Facilitator	3-4	Questions
3	Table cloths	9-30 cups	Coffee, tea
A bunch	Edible Treats	3-6	Large pieces of paper
9-30	Name Tags	12	Markers
1	Timer	A Dash	CREATIVITY!

DIRECTIONS

Weeks before...

1. Share your idea with existing parent groups and school staff for their input, buy in and **encourage everyone’s contribution!**
2. Get together a parent café planning committee THAT INCLUDES PARENTS!
3. Invite parents to your Parent Café - Be welcoming, be fun, be friendly. Create special invitations, invite in person, talk to parents about important issues or themes.
4. Have a planning committee meeting. **Set the context!**
 - Talk about needs and decide on an area of focus, theme or topic to be addressed in your Parent Café.
 - Determine 3 Big Questions related to your theme that everyone will respond to in the cafe. **Explore questions that matter!**
 - Determine 1 one on one question for a “warm up”
 - Assign next steps, roles and responsibilities (see following directions)
5. Find and “on-board” 3 hosts - (what you are doing, what their role is, the “agreements”)
6. Arrange a “pot luck” or plan for café style refreshments or treats.
7. Make follow-up calls to parents for RSVPs/invites.



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