

## **What is a Parent Participation Nursery School?**

A parent participation, or cooperative, nursery school is a non-profit, non-sectarian, democratic organization where each family shares in the planning and operation of the school. Parents participate in the program on a rotating basis, serving as assistants to a professional nursery school teacher and staff. The efforts of parents and their direct involvement during the school day make parent participation nursery schools a unique educational endeavor.

## **How do Parent Participation Nursery Schools Benefit the Child, the Parents, and the Community?**

The *child* gains the ability to relate to and communicate with other children, as well as adults. The child experiences a variety of play equipment, expressive materials and media, resulting in a positive attitude towards learning. The child also gains self-esteem.

The *parents* gain an opportunity to learn and develop with their child as well as an increased awareness of the role of education in developing an effective, and satisfying family life.

The *community* gains children who are learning respect for others, and families with a sense of community responsibility.

## **What is California Council of Parent Participation Nursery Schools?**

*California Council, or CCPPNS, is a community of parents and educators committed to teaching and inspiring families through parent involvement and mutual support.*

We are the largest group of parent participation nursery schools in the world; our statewide organization consists of around 10,000 member families. Since 1948, we have served parents who want to share in their child's first school experience.

CCPPNS promotes desirable standards for programs, practices, and conditions in parent participation nursery schools, and encourages continuing education for parents, teachers, staff, and directors.

CCPPNS facilitates the exchange of information and ideas among member schools. We cooperate with adult education, family living, and early childhood organizations that are interested in effective service relationships with the parents of young children.

*The existence of CCPPNS as a statewide organization strengthens and extends parent participation in the education of young children.*

*CCPPNS supports the right of all parents to have adequate, safe care for their children which meets the highest standards.*

## **The History of the Parent Participation Movement**

In 1915, faculty wives at the University of Chicago started the first parent participation nursery school. They wanted to provide a social experience for their children and parent education for themselves.

The first parent participation nursery school in California was organized in 1929 in Berkeley and is still in operation today.

In order to communicate with similar schools, parent participation nursery schools joined together to form regional councils which, in turn, joined together to form the statewide umbrella group CCPPNS.

The organization is financed through dues paid by member schools and is run by parent and teacher volunteers.

CCPPNS is affiliated with Parent Cooperative Preschools International (PCPI), whose work supports parent participation nursery schools throughout the world. CCPPNS is also affiliated with the California Association of Cooperatives.

## **Committees**

Standing committees serve to accomplish our goals and purposes:

- Finance
- Resource
- Outreach
- In-House

## Services

CCPPNS strives to promote growth and interest in the parent participation movement. Our objectives are to:

- **Provide resources designed to enhance the quality of the daily program.**

Monthly meetings provide a forum for the discussion of current issues and the sharing of information that is vital to the growth of our member schools.

CCPPNS also provides handbooks on many aspects of running a school, such as fundraising, publicity, board organization, and job description manuals.

- **Provide financial assistance to our members.**

Grants and interest-free loans are available for program expansion as well as emergency assistance through difficult times.

Group insurance policies also provide a wide range of coverages at affordable rates to member schools.

- **Encourage growth in parent education.**

The CCPPNS Annual Convention provides a variety of practical, informative and challenging workshops designed to enlighten and encourage parents, directors, and teachers who attend.

- **Provide a platform for our schools to lobby politically.**

CCPPNS has IRS tax-exempt status of 501c(4) [unlike our schools which are 501c(3)].

## California Council of Parent Participation Nursery Schools has 15 Regional Councils located throughout California.

Northern California locations:

Central California  
Diablo Valley  
East Bay  
Marin County  
Sacramento Valley  
San Francisco  
San Mateo  
Santa Clara Valley

Southern California locations:

Long Beach  
Los Angeles  
Orange County  
San Fernando Valley  
San Gabriel Valley  
San Joaquin  
South Bay

For further information concerning parent participation nursery schools, please contact your nearest regional council or call:

CCPPNS member schools admit students of any race, color, nationality, or ethnic origin.

Resource Committee  
(10/96)

## CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF PARENT PARTICIPATION NURSERY SCHOOLS, INC.



Parent Participation Nursery Schools:  
Where Parents and Children  
Grow Together