



Seeking K-1 Teachers for Federally-Funded Family Engagement Program

Families and Schools Together® (FAST®) seeks teachers as partners in 30 Elementary Schools

K-1 Teachers and school leaders have a special opportunity to improve classroom-school learning environments and school-home relationships.

The **Philadelphia FAST®-i3 project** is a collaborative family engagement program currently offered to kindergarten and first grade families in 30 elementary schools. This prestigious \$15 million effort, funded through an Investing in Innovation (i3), U.S. Department of Education grant, is led by Turning Points for Children, the School District of Philadelphia, the nonprofit Families and Schools Together, Inc., the Wisconsin Center for Education Research, and the American Institutes for Research.

The evidence-based FAST® program has worked for 25 years to empower families and build bridges between home and school. When families become more connected to teachers, principals, and other families, children experience positive impacts, shown in **improved behavior, increased confidence, and deeper learning. Risks for substance abuse and absenteeism also are reduced.** Through FAST, parents often reassess their opportunities and choose to pursue continuing education and new career paths.

Extra BENEFITS for Teachers

This year K-1 teachers who participate in the program on teams will receive substantive professional development training. All K-1 teachers are eligible for bonuses (in the form of gift cards), ranging from \$5 per attending family to an extra \$100 if 60% or more of their classroom families attend four or more of the 8 FAST sessions. These bonuses recognize the reality that classroom teachers—in addition to principals—have significant influence on whether families participate in FAST.

Committed teachers will also earn a Certificate (in Recognition of Exemplary Efforts to Improve School Climate) from the i3 partners. A letter describing a teacher's efforts will accompany the certificate. Both may find a place in professional portfolios.

To participate in the FAST program at your school, please email or call Turning Points for Children: FastForKindergarten@tp4c.org, 267/236-1540; or The School District of Philadelphia, Juanita Rodrigues Romu, Program Coordinator, jromu@philasd.org; 215/400-6716. To protect your privacy, the information will only be shared with the FAST coordinators of your school.



Elementary Schools

Alexander Adaire
Ethan Allen
Mary Mcleod Bethune
Jay Cooke
William Cramp
William Dick
Ellwood
Louis H. Farrell
Thomas K. Finletter
Benjamin Franklin
Edward Gideon
Samuel Gompers
Horatio B. Hackett
John F. Hartranft
William D. Kelley

Robert E. Lamberton
Anna L. Lingelbach
Mayfair
John F. McCloskey
William Mckinley
Olney
Robert B. Pollock
Isaac A. Sheppard
Allen M. Stearne
Edward Steel
John H. Taggart
Bayard Taylor
Laura W. Waring
John Welsh
William H. Ziegler

i3 PARTNERS



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