



## **FACT SHEET**

### **What is the Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy?**

The Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy (PLA), a program of the Center for Parent Leadership at the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, helps Oklahoma parents become more involved in improving public schools to enhance academic achievement for all students.

### **What are the mission and goals of the Oklahoma GEAR UP Parent Leadership Academy?**

Mission: To develop a network of skilled confident parents who will partner with local school sites to significantly increase the number of students who are prepared to enter and succeed in post-secondary education.

Goals: Graduates of the PLA will be able to: (1) provide leadership in parent-school-community partnerships that enhance student achievement in preparation for entrance and success in postsecondary education, (2) design and implement school-wide or district-wide processes that promote a high performance learning culture, and (3) encourage historically under-involved parents to engage in a strong community-school partnership.

### **How many parents will participate?**

The Academy will train 30 parents in 2012 throughout Oklahoma. These parents will engage other parents through projects and activities in their local schools and communities.

### **Who will participate?**

The Academy will accept nominations from school districts/sites after they have participated in the GEAR UP LOGIC sequence of professional learning workshops. Participants must have an interest in the improvement of Oklahoma student achievement.

### **What will participants in the Academy be trained to do?**

Participants will be trained in leadership and communications skills, given information, including achievement data, and provided an explanation of Oklahoma's public education system.

Training will enable them to work more effectively with other parents in their communities to improve local schools and increase student achievement by designing and completing a project in their school or district.

### **Where will the institute sessions be held?**

To be determined.

### **How much do the sessions cost?**

The Academy is free to all participants; all expenses including lodging, meals, and materials will be provided.

**For more information regarding the Prichard Committee and the Center for Parent Leadership Institute, check this website: <http://www.centerforparentleadership.org>.**