



Did you know that Missouri Parents as Teachers:

- **Increases school readiness, school achievement and parental involvement in education**
 - A study of more than 7,700 Missouri children showed that PAT helps **close the academic achievement gap** for low-income children.
 - Children in PAT are more ready to learn and **score higher** on academic achievement tests, including higher scores on the third grade MAP.
 - Participating **parents are more involved** in children's school activities and engage their children more in home learning activities, especially literacy-related activities.
- **Saves Missouri taxpayer dollars**
 - Through its early childhood screenings, PAT helps **detect possible delays**...delays which can often be corrected before kindergarten, allowing the child to enter kindergarten on track with other children.
 - For every dollar spent on a school-aged student enrolled in special education, only 60 cents is spent on a student not receiving special education services. Participation in PAT helps to reduce the likelihood of children needing special education when they enter school.
- **Is Required by Missouri State Law**

Missouri statute **requires school districts to provide Parents as Teachers** services (referred to as “parent education” in the statute). Section 178.693 of the Missouri state code states:

“....If a school district fails or is unable to offer an approved program of parent education, the district shall enter into a contract which meets the requirements under section 178.697, with another district, public agency or state approved not-for-profit agency offering an approved program for such services. If the district finds that no approved program is available in another district, public agency, or through a state approved not-for-profit agency, it shall request the state department of elementary and secondary education to assist it in obtaining from an approved program, services at the reimbursable rate.”
- **Is supported by DESE**
 - In an email to superintendents dated 2/22/2010, on behalf of the Commissioner, Stan Johnson reminds school administrators to “remember the purpose of this program and **the impact it has** on our future generations. Assisting parents in their role as a child's first teacher is **important work that has benefits** for years to come.”
- **Maintains significant general revenue funding in the DESE budget**
 - Even if Governor Nixon’s proposed \$4.1 million funding cut to Parents as Teachers is enacted by the legislature, Parents as Teachers funding for FY11 will remain near **\$27 million**.