

**ISLLC Standard #4:**

A school administrator is an educational leader who promotes the success of all students by collaborating with families and community members, responding to diverse community interests and needs, and mobilizing community resources.

**Title:**

Diversity Day

**Key Questions:**

- How can administrators celebrate the diversity within their school in a way that educates the community?
- In what ways can an administrator encourage community involvement in school events?

**Discussion:**

At Mountain Elementary School, the student body is comprised of 67% African American students, 16% Hispanic students, 11% Caucasian students and the remaining 6% are of Asian descent. Mrs. Belding, the school's principal, institutes a "Diversity Day" where she asks members of the community to speak to the student body about their different family traditions. Every year, the students of Mountain Elementary look forward to all of the fun and excitement that comes with Diversity Day.

This year, Mrs. Belding wants to improve Diversity Day by encouraging more participation from the families and business partners who populate the area around Mountain Elementary. She has asked that the 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers work with their students on writing an article for the local paper to publicize the events that will take place that day. Letters will go home with each student and the partners in education for Mountain Elementary will be mailed information about the event.

**Answers:**

- **Diversity** can be celebrated in many ways. Mrs. Belding has decided to hold a "Diversity Day" where students, their families and local businesses can celebrate the different traditions carried out by families of different backgrounds.

- Using the local newspaper and other community advertising is an effective way to notify those around the school of special events. Other ways could include signage and letters home to parents.

**Case Study/Administrator Evaluation:**

This administrator is demonstrating a concern for the diversity of her school and is using the cultural traits of the families involved in the school to promote awareness of cultural differences. Involving the community ensures a greater turnout and greater support for those cultures that are a minority within the school. The actions of this principal demonstrate a proficient example of this standard.