Book Review

Adoption and the Schools
Resources for Parents and Teachers
Edited by Nancy Ng and Lansing Wood
Published by FAIR (Families Adopting In Response)

Powerful advocacy for adopted school age kids, this manual gives parents real tools as well as advice about how to influence their children’s schools to use and understand adoption-supportive reflections, language and insight. Includes sections on curriculum, homework, attitudes of teachers and administrators, challenges for adopted kids and more. Spiral bound so handouts can be reproduced and distributed to schools and teachers.

Highly recommended for the home library of every parent of an adopted child and every school library should have at least one copy as a reference guide for teachers and administrators. A great book to help parents consciously address their school community.

Adoption and the Schools is the most complete and useful reference guide we have seen. They have covered many topics and given real concrete and insightful suggestions for almost every issue likely to come up for adoptive families in their children’s school experiences.

Highlights Include:
- Lessons for the Heart: Adoption Means...
- An Assignment Loses its Value If It Hurts Even One Child
- What Adoptive Parents Would Like Educators to Know
- Speaking Positively: Respectful Adoption Language
- Adopt-a Confusion: Using Adoption to Catch Attention
- Understanding Adoption: Preschool Years: Ages 3-5
- Understanding Adoption: Ages 6-10
- Understanding Adoption: Young Adolescent Years: Ages 11-15
- Understanding Adoption: Older Adolescent Years: Ages 16-22+
- The Adolescent Storm
- “Can We Talk?” Parent-Teacher Communication
- All Families Are Different
- Meeting Special Needs With Proactive Communication
- Openness About Open Adoption: When is Too Much Too Much?
- “I Can’t Do It” Problematic Assignments, Activities, and Occasions
- A Forest of Family Trees
- Family Histories That Fit the Bill
- Troublesome Occasions
- First Hand Accounts of Coping With Confusion (Lansing Wood)
- Beginnings and Endings: What to Do When Transitions Are Tough
- Including Adoption in Everyday Teaching Situations
- Honoring Differences: How to Make Sure All Your Students Feel Included
- In the Spotlight: Presentations For Schools and Classrooms
- How I Explained Adoption to the First Grade
- Teaching Teens About Adoption: Middle and High School Adoption Awareness Presentations
- Cultural Celebrations at School (Nancy Ng)
- National Adoption Awareness Month (Nancy Ng)
- I’m Famous, I’m Adopted (–)
- Adoption in the School Library (Nancy Ng)
- Teachers’ Staff Development Meeting on Adoption Awareness
- “Is That Your Mom?” Transcultural Considerations
- Multicultural Education
- Ten Ways to Help School-Agers Handle Racism
- International Adoption in the Classroom

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