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## Summit to cover education issues

Friday is the deadline to register for the public event.

By MICHELLE STARR  
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Oct 19, 2006 — This month's education summit aims to pull together community members, area leaders and educators to create an open dialogue about countywide issues.

More than 200 people are expected to attend the Oct. 26 and 27 summit at the York Expo Center, co-organizer Beth Gill-MacDonald said.

Attendees, organizers and speakers will discuss issues relative to education such as equitable funding, improving academic achievement, parental and community engagement, and countywide collaboration.

The event is a result of information compiled for YorkCounts, which is a group created about seven years ago to define the quality of life in York County and figure out how to improve it.

There is no limit to the number of people who can attend, but registration is required by Friday.

Emilie Lonardi, co-organizer of the summit and superintendent of West York Area School District, said the summit's lineup of speakers and topics offers a variety of views, which should interest most everyone.

Organizers hope the participants will listen to information and ask questions of panelists, but also speak freely throughout the event. They will have a chance to pinpoint areas of concern, brainstorm solutions and give organizers material to pass along to a community group that is ready to prioritize concerns.

Lonardi said Metro-York is already prepared to use the information generated.

This group - of 17 school board members, business and civic leaders, and superintendents - will review the information after it is compiled, said Eric Menzer, Metro-York co-chairman.

Menzer expects that group will sort through the information by May to identify top areas of concern.

"The idea here is that it really be an open forum," Menzer said.

## PARTICIPATE

**Education summit:** 7 to 9 p.m. Oct. 26 and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 27

**To register:** 771-4067 or <http://www.yk.psu.edu>.

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