Communicating and working with parents

Parents and guardians are any school’s strongest allies for helping students achieve and thrive to their fullest potential. Robust two-way communication with students’ families cultivates a relationship between the home and the school that puts the families squarely on the school’s team when working with students.

![Graph showing parent participation rates from 2001-02 to 2003-04.](image)

**Parent Participation Rates**

- **This school**
- **The state**
- **NA: Too few responses to report**

The percentage of students in the school whose parents responded to the SALT Survey.

What Parents Say

Percent who report they agree or strongly agree that:

- **This school views parents as important partners.**
- **The school and I have different goals for my child.**
- **My child is learning as much as he/she can at this school.**

![Bar chart showing what parents say.](image)

**What Parents Say**

Percent of parents who report that the school does well:

- **Contacts me if my child does something well or improves**
- **Contacts me if my child is having a problem**
- **Responds to my concerns and requests within a reasonable time**
- **Includes parents on school committees such as curriculum, budgets and school improvement**
- **Has a parent-teacher conference with me**
- **Asks me to volunteer at the school**

![Bar chart showing what teachers say.](image)

**What Teachers Say**

Percent who say that weekly or daily:

- **They meet with individual parents to solve problems and provide assistance.**
- **Teachers on their team or grade level maintain positive relationships with students’ parents.**
- **Two-way communication between home and school is essential to effective education.**

![Bar chart showing what teachers say.](image)

**What Teachers Say**

Percent who say they agree or strongly agree that:

- **The extent to which parents and the community are supportive of the school and its program.**

![Bar chart showing teacher practices and attitudes.](image)

**Teacher practices and attitudes**

- **This school**
- **The state**
- **NA: Too few responses to report**

They meet with individual parents to solve problems and provide assistance.