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.

### Communicating and Working with Parents

#### Parent Participation Rates

- 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.

#### Working with Parents

- 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.

#### Teacher Practices and Attitudes

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

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**Information Works! School Year 2003-2004**