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 with parents

#### Parent Participation Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>This school</th>
<th>The state</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

#### 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

### Teacher practices and attitudes

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

Information Works! School Year 2003-2004

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