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.

Parent Participation Rates

![Graph showing Parent Participation Rates for 2001-02, 2002-03, and 2003-04.](image)

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.

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 has 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.

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.

Teacher practices and attitudes

- 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.