Engaging Families and Community

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**
  - The percentage of students in the school whose parents responded to the SALT Survey.
  - Graph showing participation rates for 2002-03, 2003-04, and 2004-05.

- **What Teachers Say**
  - Percent of teachers who agree or strongly agree:
    - Parental involvement in school governance is essential to effective education.
    - 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.
    - Has a parent-teacher conference with me.
    - Asks me to volunteer at the school.

- **What Parents Say**
  - Percent of parents who report that the school does well:
    - That the community supports this school.
    - The extent to which parents and the community are supportive of the school and its program.
    - They are home unsupervised 3 or more hours a day, 3 or more days a week.

- **Teacher practices and attitudes**
  - Percent who report that at least weekly:
    - 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.
    - They use parents as school resources or volunteers.

Information Works! School Year 2004-2005