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. (Only students in 4th grade and above take the SALT survey.)

### Community support

#### This school
- **Parent Participation Rates**
  - The percentage of students in the school whose parents responded to the SALT Survey

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2002-03</th>
<th>2003-04</th>
<th>2004-05</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### R.I. elementary schools
- Percent of parents who report that the school does well:
  - 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 Teachers Say

#### Percent of teachers who agree or strongly agree:
- Parental involvement in school governance is essential to effective education.

### 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

#### This school
- 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.

#### R.I. elementary schools
- Percent who use parents as school resources or volunteers.