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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community support</th>
<th>2002-03</th>
<th>2003-04</th>
<th>2004-05</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This school</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R.I. high schools</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The percentage of students in the school whose parents responded to the SALT Survey.

### 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.