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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>This School</th>
<th>R.I. Middle Schools</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2004-05</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005-06</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006-07</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>70%</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.
- They use parents as school resources or volunteers.
- Two-way communication between home and school is essential to effective education.

### 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.
- Has a parent-teacher conference with me.
- Asks me to volunteer at the school.

### 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.

**Percent who report that at least monthly:**
- They use parents as school resources or volunteers.