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.

### Communicating and working with parents

**Parent Participation Rates**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001-02</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-03</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-04</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**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.

### Working with parents

**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
- 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

### Teacher practices and attitudes

**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.

Percent who say they are satisfied or very satisfied with:

- The extent to which parents and the community are supportive of the school and its program.