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 with parents**

- **Parent Participation Rates**
  - 2001-02: [Graph showing participation rates]
  - 2002-03: [Graph showing participation rates]
  - 2003-04: [Graph showing participation rates]

- **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.