**Parent/Family Engagement and Partnerships for Student Success**

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It is important to have the open line of communication between home and school. We are also providing Joyce Epstein’s list of six types of parent involvement and have given practical tips of what each might look in a school setting.

Suggestions for the Beginning of the Year:

* Assign each student and family an Academic Advisor
* Include a “Parent Orientation” class available online
* Host a Back To School picnic
* Encourage Parent to contact the school with any concerns or questions.

**Joyce Epstein’s Six Types of Parent Involvement**

* This framework will assist in creating a partnership program from schools and families.
* We have shown how each of the six types of parent involvement might look in the cyber setting

**PARENTING**

* Help all families establish home environments to support children as students.
  + Parent education and training

*Practical Tips*

* Parent and Principal Virtual nights
  + Keeping parents informed on changes in educations
  + Sharing strategies on how they can help at home

**COMMUNICATION**

* Design effective forms of school-to-home and home-to-school communications about school programs and children's progress.

*Practical Tips*

* Each student is assigned an Academic Advisor that becomes part of the team to help the student be successful in school
* Active participant in Parent-Teacher conferences
* Advisor weekly emails and frequent phone calls for parents and teachers to update each other regarding the student’s performance
* Social Media, Messenger, and email to share upcoming events

**VOLUNTEERING**

* Recruit and organize parent help and support.

*Practical Tips*

* Become an active part of the PTO
* Attending field trips, community outreach events, and other school events

**LEARNING AT HOME**

* Provide information and ideas to families about how to help students at home with homework and other curriculum-related activities, decisions, and planning.

*Practical Tips*

* Academic advisor and parents collaborate to encourage students to complete schoolwork and be involved in extra-curricular activities
* Use social media to communicate special success of students

**DECISION MAKING**

* Include parents in school decisions, developing parent leaders and representatives.

*Practical Tips*

* Parent board members

**COLLABORATING WITH COMMUNITY**

* Identify and integrate resources and services from the community to strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning and development.

*Practical Tips*

* Help connect families with available resources in their area
* Monthly Events
* Work with organizations, such as the United Way and local libraries
* Encourage students to volunteer in their communities
* Participation of students in sports/dance/academic programs in communities.

**Resources**

Back to school: How parent involvement affects student achievement (full report). (n.d.).

Constantino, S. (2008). *101 ways to create real family engagement*. Galax, VA: ENGAGE! Press.

Henderson, A. (2007). *Beyond the bake sale: The essential guide to family-school partnerships*. New York: New Press.

Lightfoot, S. (2003). *The essential conversation: What parents and teachers can learn from each other*. New York: Random House.

National Standards for Family-School Partnerships. (n.d.).

New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family, and Community Connections on Student Achievement. (n.d.).

Tschannen-Moran, M. and Hoy, A. W. (2007). The differential antecedents of self-efficacy beliefs of novice and experienced teachers. *Teaching and Teacher Education, 23*(6), 944-956.