



Service for World Class Schools

# VALUING PARENTS IN EDUCATION

# NCLB Title I Requirement

- School personnel on Title I campuses must be trained in “Valuing Parents in Education”.
- The campus principal needs to set a deadline for completing training on Valuing Parents before the end of the school year.
- The completion of this training is documented on the compliance report that is submitted to TEA.
- This information is subject to validation by TEA.



# Parent Involvement

**Parent/Family involvement** is the participation of parents in every facet of the education and development of children from birth to adulthood, recognizing that parents are the primary influence in their children's lives.

**Effective parent involvement takes many forms:**

- Communication
- Parenting
- Student Learning
- School decision making and advocacy
- Collaborating with the community



# No Child Left Behind

Parental involvement is defined by NCLB as participation of parents in **regular, two-way, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities.**

NCLB is built on four common-sense pillars:

1. Increased accountability for results
2. An emphasis on doing what works based upon scientific research
3. Expanded parental options
4. Expanded local control and flexibility



# Research Findings on Parent/Family Involvement

## Higher Student Achievement

- Students achieve more, regardless of socioeconomic status, ethnic/racial background, or the parents' education level.
- Students have higher test grades and test scores, better attendance, and complete homework more consistently.
- Students have higher graduation rates and greater enrollment rates in postsecondary education.
- Student achievement for disadvantaged students improves dramatically.



# Research Findings on Parent/Family Involvement: Student Behavior

- Students exhibit more positive attitude and behavior.
- Students have more self-confidence and feel school is more important.
- Student behaviors such as alcohol use, violence, and other undesirable behaviors decrease.



# Research Findings on AGE

- Parent involvement clearly benefits students in the early years, but continued parental involvement shows significant gains at all ages and all grade levels.
- Middle school and high school students make better transitions, maintain the quality of their work, and develop realistic plans for the future.



# Research Findings on School Quality

- Schools with parent-teacher organizations have higher student achievement.
- Improved teacher morale and higher ratings of teachers by parents.
- Schools have more support from families and more respect in the community.





# Research Findings on School Quality continued

- When schools are held accountable, school districts make positive changes in policy and practice, improve school leadership and staffing, secure resources and funding to improve the curriculum and provide after school and family support programs.
- Schools make greater gains on state tests.



# Seven Good Practices for Families

1. Find the time to **learn together** with your children.
2. Commit yourself and your children to **challenging standards**—help children reach their **full potential**.
3. **Limit TV** viewing to no more than two hours on school nights.
4. **Read together**. It's the starting point of all learning.



# Seven Good Practices for Families continued

5. Encourage your children to **take the tougher courses** at school and **check their homework** every day.
6. Make sure your children **go to school every day** and support community efforts to keep children **safe and off the streets late at night**.
7. **Set a good example** for your children, and talk directly to them about the dangers of drugs and alcohol and the values you want them to have.



# Key Stakeholders In A Successful Parent Involvement Program

- School Administrators
- Teachers
- Parents and Family Members
- Community Members



## Ten Things **Parents Wish Teachers** Would Do

1. Build students' self-esteem
2. Get to know each child's needs
3. Communicate often and openly with parents
4. Regularly assign homework that helps children learn
5. Set high academic standards
6. Care about children
7. Treat all children fairly
8. Enforce a positive discipline code
9. Be aware of students' different learning styles
10. Encourage parent participation



## Ten Things **Teachers Wish Parents** Would Do

1. Be involved in their children's education.
2. Provide resources at home for reading and learning.
3. Set a good example.
4. Encourage children to do their best in school.
5. Academics should be a primary concern.
6. Support school rules and goals.
7. Use pressure positively.
8. Call teachers as soon as a problem becomes apparent.
9. Exercise parental responsibility.
10. Understand that alcohol, tobacco, bullying, and violence are problems as serious as drug abuse.



# What You Can Do To Help Your Child

- **At Home**

- Send your child to school every day, well rested and fed.
- Be positive and encourage your child daily.
- Take an active interest in your child's education and let your child know how much you care.
- Learn as much as you can about being an effective parent.
- Be sure a variety of interesting reading materials are available.
- Let your child see you spend time reading and writing.
- Take your child to the library.
- Provide a place for your child to keep their school things and go to study each day.
- Set a family quiet time.
- Show pride in your child's work.
- Monitor homework.
- Help your child to see the connection between things learned in school and their use in daily life.



# What You Can Do To Help Your Child

- **At School**

- Establish a good relationship with your child's teacher.
- Never miss a parent-teacher conference.
- Be sure that communication flows two ways, both from home to school and from school to home.
- Ask questions and voice concerns when necessary.
- Remember that teachers' jobs can be difficult.
- Take every opportunity to let school staff know when they are doing a good job.
- Ask for ways that you can work with your child at home to reinforce what has been done in class.
- Volunteer to help on school projects, events, and field trips, etc.
- Become an active member of parents' organization.
- Serve on the site-based decision-making committee.





# Developing a Family-School Partnership

- ✓ Create a school climate that is open, helpful and friendly
- ✓ Communicate clearly and frequently with parents
- ✓ Treat parents as partners
- ✓ Encourage parents, formally and informally, to comment on school policies and to share in some of the decision making



# Developing a Family-School Partnership

- ✓ Get every family involved
- ✓ The principal and other school administrators actively express and promote the philosophy of partnership
- ✓ Encourage volunteer participation from parents and other members of the community



# Benefits of Parent Involvement

- For Students
  - Higher grades, test scores, and graduation rates
  - Better school attendance
  - Greater enrollment in postsecondary institutions
- For Teachers and Administrators
  - Higher morale
  - Increased effectiveness
  - Greater job satisfaction
- For Parents
  - Improved communication with teachers
  - Increased education skills
  - Improved attitude toward school and school personnel



# Volunteering

- ✓ Volunteers become your advocates
- ✓ Get volunteers involved in tutoring, recreation supervision, field trip coordination
- ✓ Survey the interests and talents of community residents. Let them suggest ways in which they would like to work with the school.



When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more.

