

Parent Involvement

Here are some tips for parents to be partners for their children's success:

Remain involved in your children's lives as they get older:

- Know what they are doing
- Know who he or she is with
- Know where he or she is going
- Check on your child to see if they are where they say they are

Adapted from: <http://www.parent-involvement-in-schools.com/Parent-Invovlement-Thinkagain.html>

Work as a partner with your child's school:

- Create a stress free morning for your child before school.
- Create a predictable ritual for your child after school.
- Provide healthy meals and snacks for your child.
- Assume that your child has homework, or at least studying, every night and ask to see what they need to do.
- Ask if your student understands their homework and do a few samples if they do not. If you are unable to assist them and do not have a family member to assist, have them call a friend for help. If it continues to be a problem, contact their teacher. Many schools provide homework assistance or tutoring.
- Provide a quiet, calm place for your child to do homework. Contrary to what many children say, television and loud music are a distraction.
- Check your child's homework when they have completed it. Remember that it is their work and let them make any corrections or revisions.
- Praise your child for doing well on their school work and provide assistance when they do not.
- Help your child remain organized by reviewing their homework calendar and a calendar of their home activities.
- Stay in touch with your child's teachers using the following guidelines:
 - Identify the reason for your meeting
 - Phone, email or write a note to the teacher letting him or her know you would like to meet and why
 - Share your schedule and suggest that the conference be arranged at the teacher's convenience
 - Plan for the conference by writing out clear and specific questions you would like to ask
 - Make a specific plan to deal with your concerns and follow through with the plan after the conference
 - Thank the teacher for talking with you and keep them informed with any progress or any further issues that may arise

Adapted from: "10 Ways to Help Teachers", by Mimi Doe, http://www.pta.org/archive_article_details_1118086988656.html
And "How to Help Your Child Succeed", National PTA/ Building Successful Partnerships, Workshop 2 Handout