



# Georgia PIC Network Region 3



**Get the *facts*...get *connected*...GET *INVOLVED!***

***November 3, 2010***

*"We will lead the nation in improving student achievement."*

# GaDOE Strategic Goals



<b>Goal 1</b> Increase high school graduation rate, decrease drop out rate, and increase post-secondary enrollment rate.	<b>Status</b> 10 6 33
<b>Goal 2</b> Strengthen teacher quality, recruitment, and retention.	<b>Status</b> 5 8 7
<b>Goal 3</b> Improve workforce readiness skills.	<b>Status</b> 1 2 15
<b>Goal 4</b> Develop strong education leaders, particularly at the building level.	<b>Status</b> 2 2 12
<b>Goal 5</b> Improve the SAT, ACT, and the achievement scores of Georgia students.	<b>Status</b> 17 19 44
<b>Goal 6</b> Make polices that ensure maximum academic and financial accountability.	<b>Status</b> 8 4 20

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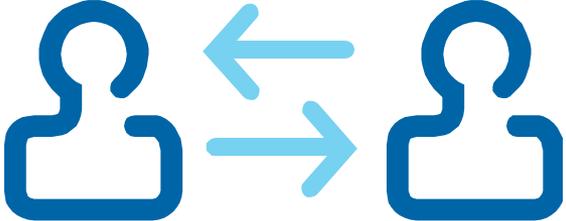
# GaDOE Strategic Goals



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# Introduction Activity

## “Pair Share”

1. Identify a negative situation that you have experienced with a parent. 
2. Thinking back, how could you have turned that negative situation into a positive one?
3. Identify one positive parent experience.
4. Describe the strategies used to gain that outcome.
5. Share your experience with your neighbor

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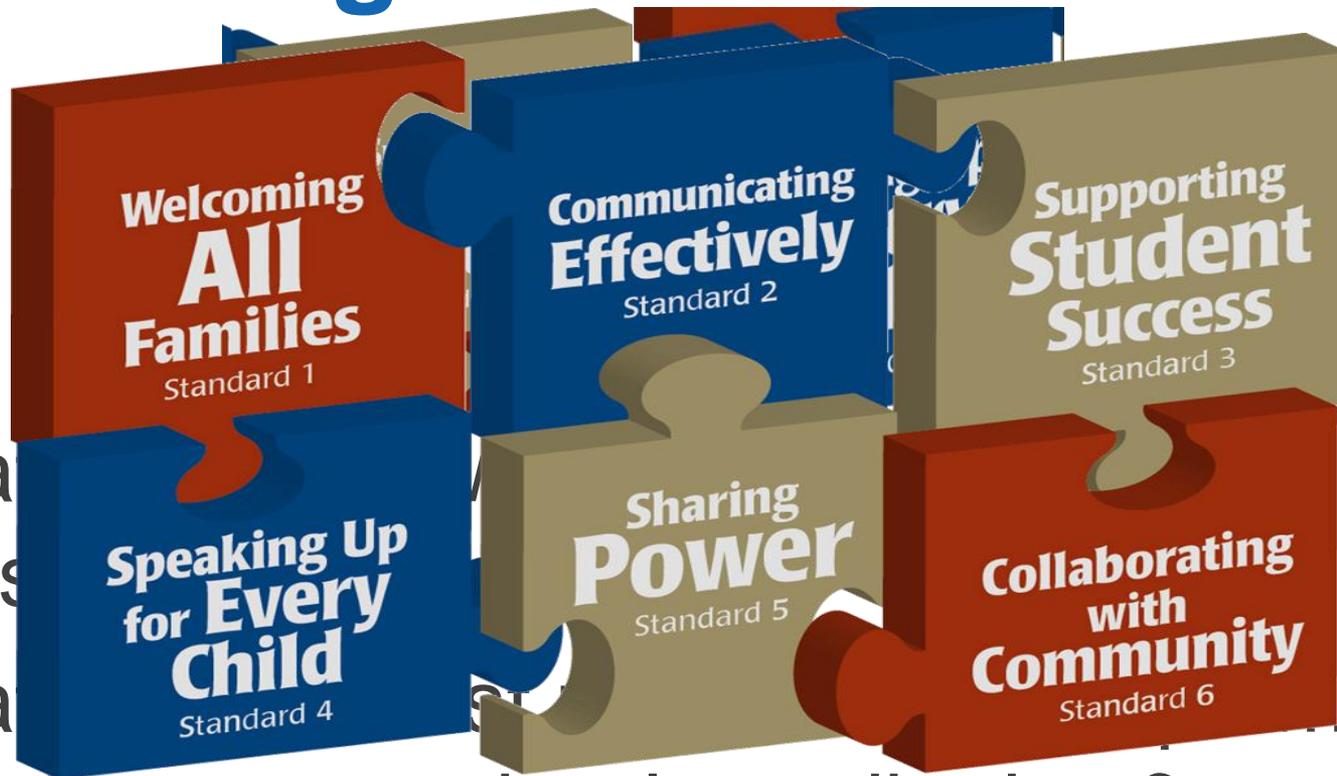


# Learning From Each Other: Muscogee County PIC Presentation



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# Networking Conversation Activity



- What for
  - What for
- your s
- these into your schools or districts?

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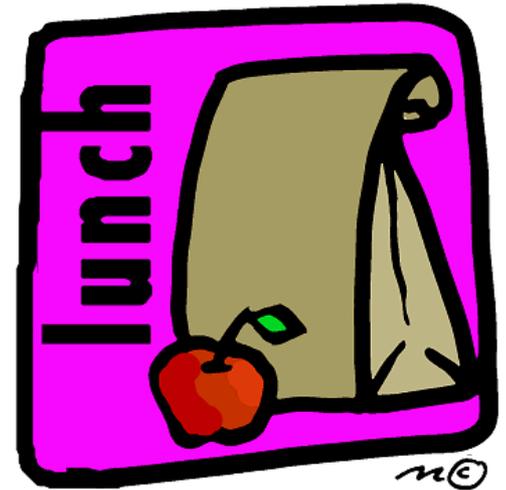
**PREVIEW!**

# Working Lunch

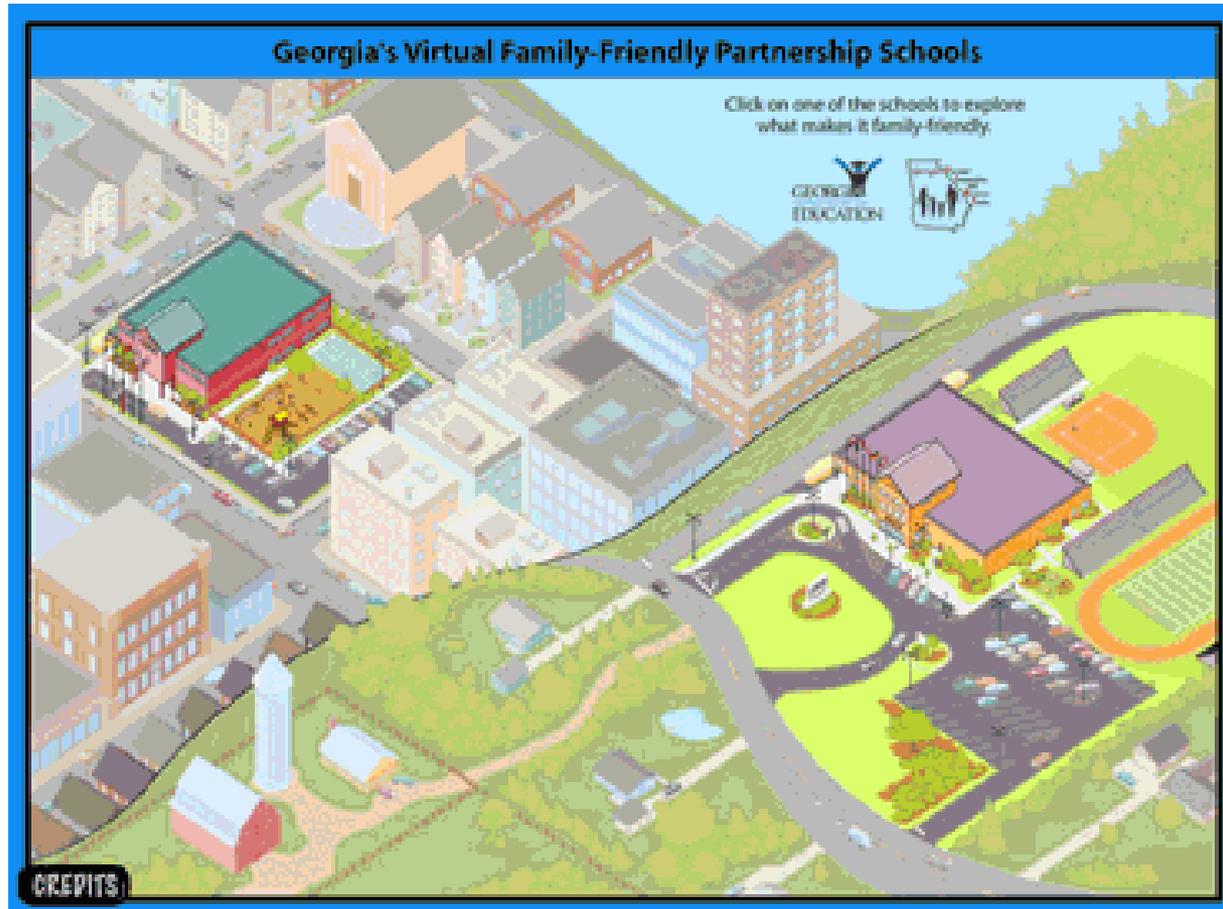
After picking up your lunch, please review the Draft Parent Engagement Resolution in your folder.

Discuss the Resolution over lunch.

**What do you think about it?**



# Georgia's Family-Friendly Partnership Schools



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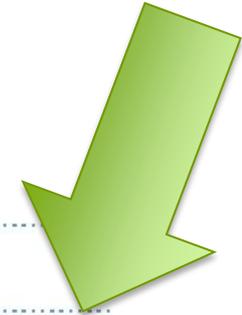
# It's On the Website...



The screenshot shows the Georgia Department of Education website. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links: Home, About GaDOE, State Board of Ed., School Improvement, Curriculum, and Data Reporting. Below the navigation is a banner with the Georgia Department of Education logo on the left, the slogan "Shaping brighter futures. Georgia Department of Education" in the center, and a photo of Brad Bryant on the right. Below the banner is an "ALERTS" section with a link to "Bullying Prevention Toolkit Updated" and an "AskDOE" search bar. The main content area is divided into three columns. The left column has "HOT TOPICS" with links to "About the GaDOE" (including Georgia's Race to the Top, Superintendent Brad Bryant, Strategic Plan, GaDOESource Newsletter, AskDOE, Stimulus Funding, and Proposed Rulemakings), "Careers" (Working at GaDOE, Teaching in Georgia, Troops to Teachers), and "Testing" (CRCT, Graduation Tests (GHSQT), GHSQT Waivers and Variances, GHSQT Online Test Prep, Writing Tests). The middle column features a "2010 AYP Adequate Yearly Progress" banner with the text "Find 2010 AYP Reports Now Available" and a "Site Index by Subject" dropdown menu. The dropdown menu is open, showing "Parent Engagement" selected. The right column has a "STATE SUPERINTENDENT" section with a photo of Brad Bryant, his name, and a link to "Learn More About William Bradley Bryant". Below this is a "Brad Bryant on Facebook" section with a "Become a Fan" button. At the bottom right is a "SCHOOL REPORTS" section with a map of Georgia and a white arrow pointing to the right. The "CCGPS" logo is visible at the bottom center of the page.

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# It's On the Website...



[Home](#) / [About GaDOE](#) / [Office of Education Support and Improvement](#) / [Title I Programs](#) / [Parent Engagement](#)



## Education Support Services Title Programs

Administering programs that are part of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

### DIVISIONS

- [School Improvement](#)
- [Education Support](#)

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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[Staff Contact List](#)

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### RESOURCES

- [Elementary and Secondary Education Act](#)
- [Title I, Part A- Parent Involvement](#)
- [US DOE - Parent Involvement](#)

## Parent Engagement Program



Parent Engagement is an ongoing process that increases active participation, communication, and collaboration between parents, schools, and communities with the goal of educating

### FEATURE



### PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

- [Parent Advisory Council](#)
- [P.A.C. Minutes 10-6-2010](#)
- [P.A.C. Minutes 5-6-2010](#)
- [P.A.C. Minutes 2-25-2010](#)

### FOR PARENTS

- [GaDOE Parent Website](#)
- [Get Involved Brochure](#)
- [Get Involved Handout](#)
- [Fall 2010 Newsletter \(English\)](#)

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# It's On the Website...

Home » [About GaDOE](#) » [Office of Education Support and Improvement](#) » [Title I Programs](#) » [Parent Engagement](#) » Family-Friendly Partnership

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 **Education Support Services** **Title Programs**  
Administering programs that are part of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001.

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## Georgia's Family-Friendly Partnership School Initiative

*A partnership between Georgia Department of Education and Georgia Parental Information and Resource Center (GA PIRC)*

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

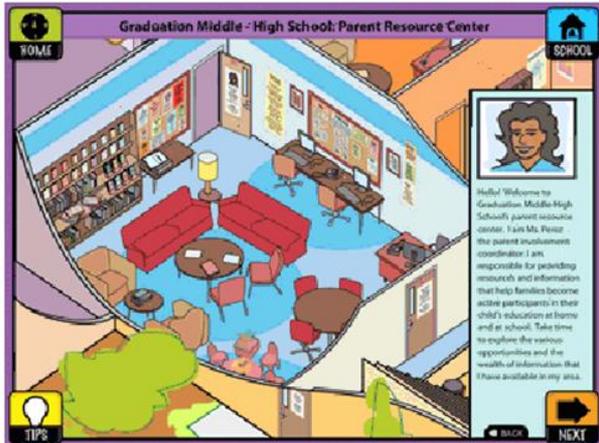
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**HANDOUTS**

- [Welcome Letter](#)
- [Workshop Handout](#)
- [Workshop Survey](#)
- [Parent Survey](#)
- [Walk-Through Exercise](#)
- [Elementary Scenarios](#)
- [Middle-High Scenarios](#)



**Why Create A Family-Friendly Partnership School?**

According to the book *Beyond the Bake Sale: The Essential Guide for Family-School Partnerships* by Anne Henderson, Karen Mann, Vivian Johnson, and Don Davies (2007) welcoming environments provide



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# **“Communicating With Parents”**

## **Training Module 1**

### **For Teachers and Administrators**

**Lakeita Servance**

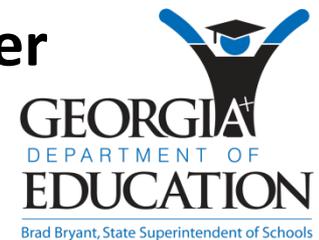
**Parent Engagement Specialist**

**Michelle Tarbutton**

**Parent Engagement Program Manager**

Brad Bryant, State Superintendent of Schools

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# Barriers to Effective Communication with Parents

- **Economic and Time Constraints**
- **Lack of Technology**
- **Education Lingo**
- **“Know it all” Approach**
- **Pre-Judging**
- **Frequent Negative Reports**
- **Unwelcoming Environments**



# Why is the *Right Talk* Important?

## Family Engagement Research says:

- Communication with parents is the key to bridging the gap in home-school relationships which can ultimately lead to higher student achievement
- Open dialogue enhances the school culture which will include gains in the support of parents
- Building a positive relationship with parents from day one solidifies the foundation each student needs to succeed

# 5 Keys to Successfully Communicate with Parents

1. Be available
2. Choose your words carefully
3. Develop trust
4. Assure parents that you will make contact if a concern arises
5. Make frequent positive contact



# Be Available



**Set aside specific times you will be available each week to talk with parents.**



# DEVELOP

T R U S T

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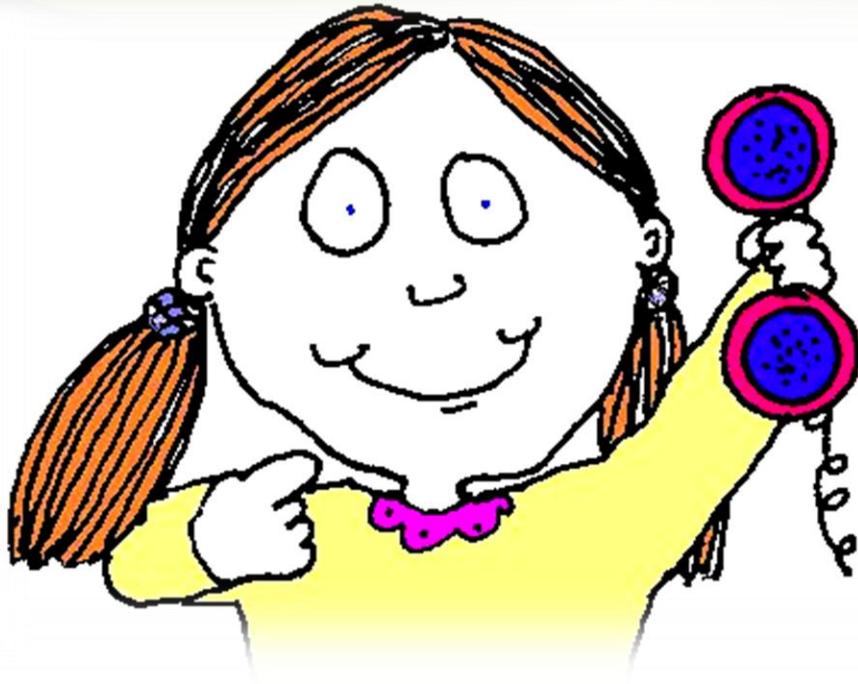
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# Assure Parents That You Will Contact Them

*Parents fear they will find out about  
teacher concerns too late*



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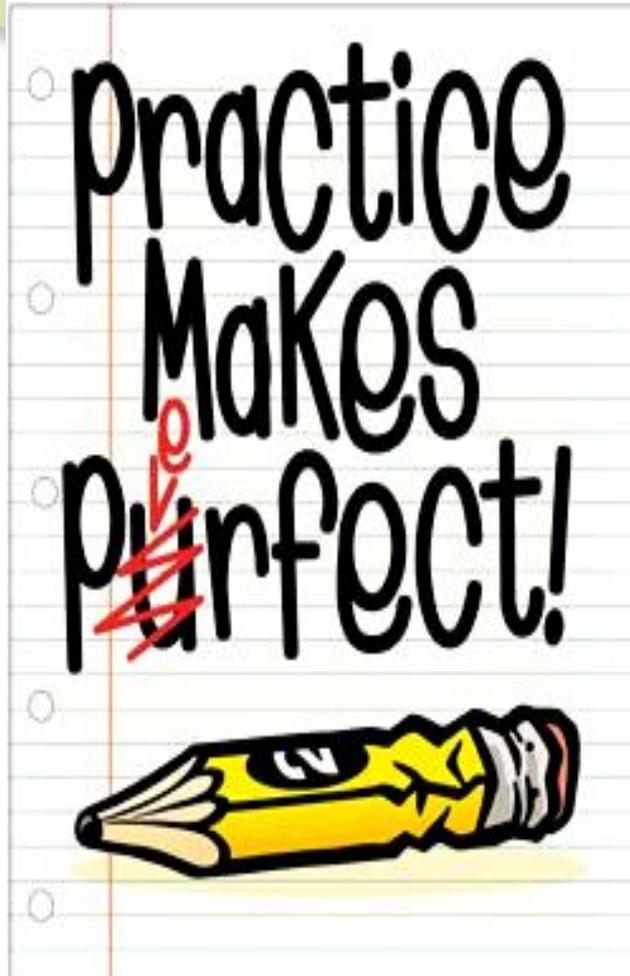


# Make Frequent Positive Contact

Parents are elated when they receive a *positive* phone call from a teacher

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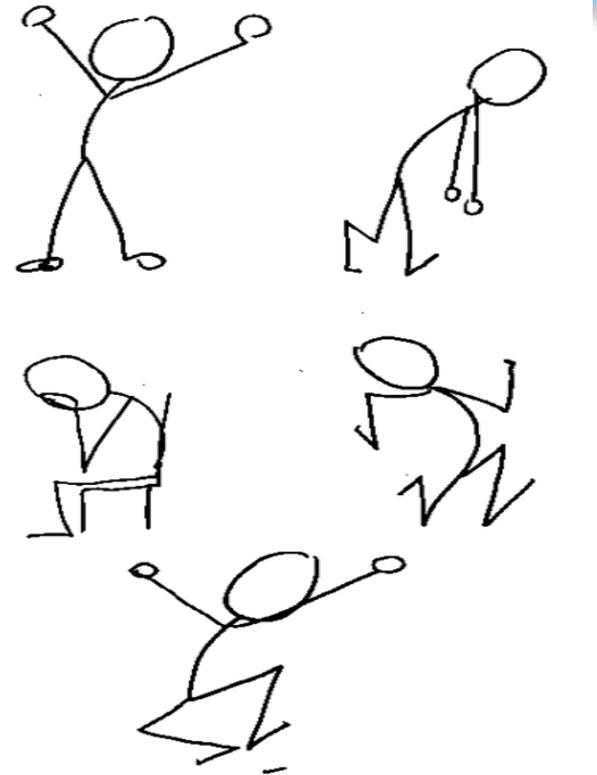
# Five Keys to Successful Communication

*Let's Put them into  
Practice!*

# Communication Methods

- **Reflective Listening:** Seeking to understand an idea, then offering the information back to the speaker, to confirm that the message was understood correctly.
- **Paraphrasing:** Re-stating the facts in another way.
- **Empathy:** Consciously sharing the sadness or happiness of another person

- **Body language** is a form of nonverbal communication using gestures, facial expressions and eye movement.



- **Summarizing** means putting the main ideas into your own words, and including only the main points.

- **Acceptance** is when a person agrees with a situation, even if it's negative or uncomfortable, without attempting to change it, protest, or exit.

- **Open-Closed Questions**

- **Open Questions** deliberately seek longer answers.
- **Closed Questions** can be answered with a yes or no.

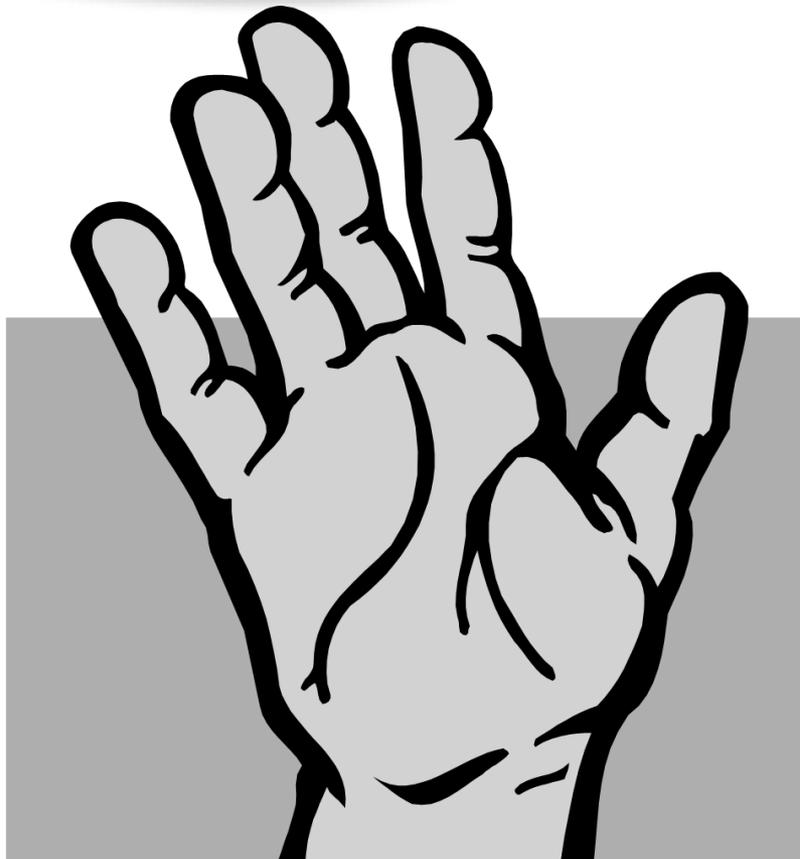
# • Active listening

requires the listener to understand, interpret, and evaluate what they hear.



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“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”

# Questions?



Brad Bryant, State Superintendent of Schools  
“We will lead the nation in improving student achievement.”



# Middle and High School Parent Engagement: A Snapshot Look

Michelle Tarbutton

Parent Engagement Program Manager

Outreach Programs Division

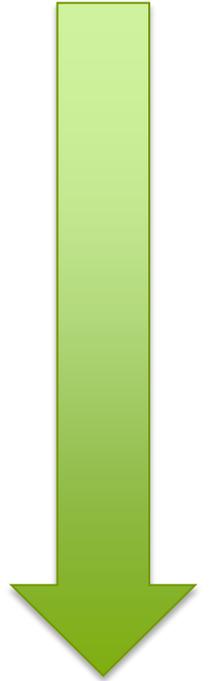
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# Why Does Parent Engagement Decline in Middle and High School?

- ✓ Developmental Changes
- ✓ School Structure and Expectation Changes
- ✓ Parents' Perspective on Ability to Support Their Student's Learning Changes



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**Yet, parent engagement “remains a powerful predictor of adolescents’ academic achievement and other positive outcomes.”**

(Bouffard, S., Stephen, N. (2007). Promoting Family Involvement. *Principal’s Research Review*, 2(6), 1–8.)

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# Parent Engagement Continues To Contribute To...

- ✓ Student Attributes
- ✓ Student Behaviors
- ✓ Student Attitudes

**Associated With  
Achievement**



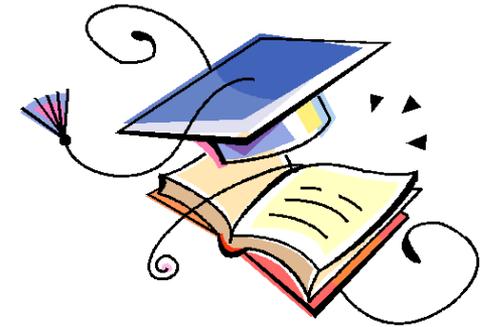
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**My teacher was curious as to why you were not at my parent-teacher conference. He wanted to ask you why I never take interest in anything.**

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# Three Models of High Educational Expectations



Parent Expectations → Achievement

Parent Expectations → Perception of Parent Expectations → Student Expectations → Achievement

Parent Expectations → Perception of Parent Expectations → Time Spent on Homework → Achievement

(As Cited In Patrikakou, 2004)

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# Family Involvement and Adolescent Outcomes



## Adolescent Outcomes

Parenting

Home-School Relationships

Responsibility for Learning Outcomes

(As Cited In Kreider, H., Caspe, M., Kennedy, S., & Weiss, H. 2007)

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# Link Partnerships to School Improvement Goals

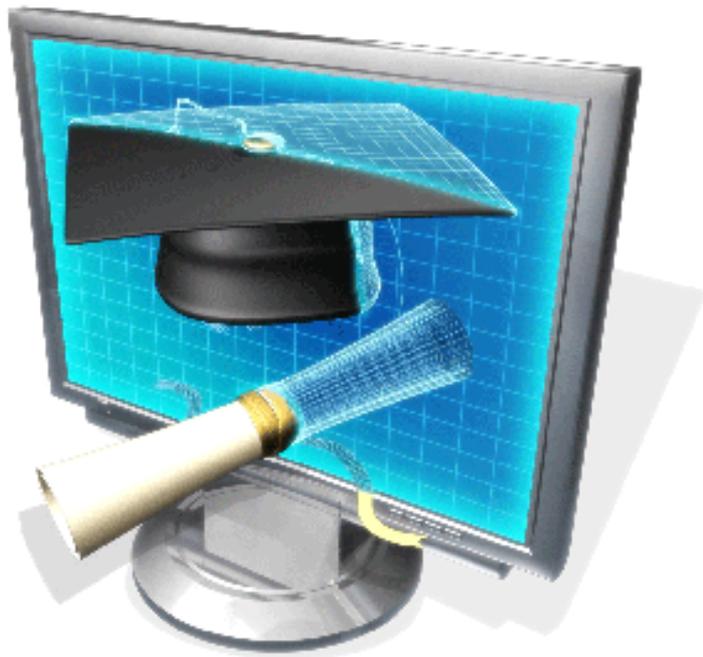
Think 360 and make your family engagement plans goal – oriented.

Think of goals around academics, behavior, or school climate!



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# Promote Early Postsecondary Planning



Have an early and consistent emphases on post secondary planning to ensure parents are supportive and able to help their children set and reach goals of attending college or are prepared for work after high school.

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# Focus on Transition Years

Emphasize family involvement for incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders and 9<sup>th</sup> graders. This is more likely to lead to sustainability of parent-school-community partnerships!



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# Actively Involve Students

As students grow older they need to be involved in planning school, parent, and community activities. When they are active members of the planning they are more likely to encourage their parents to be involved!



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# Reach Out To Families

Studies show that parents **NEED** and **WANT** more information and guidance from middle and high Schools.

Work to understand your parents' needs and provide activities and resources to them that fit these needs.



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# Expand Teachers' Roles Gradually

Help middle and high school teachers understand how family and community involvement helps adolescents succeed. Introduce activities that will show student improvement and therefore, increase their support of these activities.



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# References



- Agronick, G., Clark, A., O'Donnell, L. & Stueve, A. (2009). *Parent involvement strategies in urban middle and high schools in the Northeast and Islands Region* (Issues and Answers Report, REL 2009-No. 069). Washington, DC: US. Department of Education, Institute of Education Sciences, National Center for Education Evaluation and Regional Assistance, Regional Educational Laboratory Northeast and Islands.
- Bouffard, S., Stephen, N. (2007). Promoting Family Involvement. *Principal's Research Review*, 2(6), 1–8.

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- Kreider, H., Caspe, M., Kennedy, S., & Weiss, H. (2007). *Family involvement in middle and high school students' education* (Family Involvement Makes a Difference, No. 3). Cambridge, MA: Harvard Family Research Project.
- Patrikakou, Eva. (2004). *Adolescence: Are Parents Relevant to Students' High School Achievement and Post-Secondary Attainment* (Family Involvement Research Digest). Cambridge, MA: Harvard Family Research Project.

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# Questions



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