

## How Can I Be Engaged With My Child's Education? Parent Guide #20

**Research shows it is important for you to be engaged in your child's education.**

*Parent engagement helps your child succeed in school. It results in your child being absent less and better behaved. A home that supports learning is important. This affects your child's school success. It matters more than your income, educational level or cultural background, and it is fun.*

**Three things that help your child succeed in school:**

1. Help organize your child's time.
2. Help with homework.
3. Talk about school.

**The following tips may help your child do well:**

- Start a daily family routine. Provide time and a quiet place to study. Be firm about bedtime. Eat dinner together.
- Set limits on TV watching. Set up after school activities and care.
- Show the values of discipline and hard work.
- Notice and support special talents.
- Share successes with family and friends.
- Talk positively about school experiences.

**Different ways to be engaged:**

**COMMUNICATION:** Read and respond to all notices and newsletters. Attend parent-teacher conferences. Translators may be available if needed.

**VOLUNTEERING:** Support your child's class by helping their teacher. Go on a field trip. Share your family's culture with the other children.

**PARENT LEADERSHIP:** Join PTA/PTO or other parent groups. These groups offer a lot of chances to help in the school. They also give you a chance to connect with other parents and staff.

**DECISION MAKING:** Let the principal know if you want to serve on advisory councils or committees. Attend school board meetings or work sessions.

If you are a parent of a child with a disability, make sure you are included in the development of the Individualized Education Program (IEP). Your engagement is important to the IEP process.