

Examples of Promising Practices Across Key Stakeholders in a Child's Educational Success

	What Schools Can Do to Help Parents Nurture	What Community Agencies Can Do To Help Parents Nurture	What Parents Can Do To Nurture
1. Attendance Every Day	<p>Inform families about the adverse impact of poor attendance on academic achievement.</p> <p>Inform parents of the positive incentives (pizza parties, extra recess, etc.) students receive for good attendance; consider recognizing parents as well as their children.</p> <p>If a child misses school or a class, let parents know their child's absence was noticed either through a call home or, if feasible, an email.</p> <p>Reach out to families to find out what is happening if children begin to miss school regularly. Where appropriate, refer families to available resources in the community.</p>	<p>Educate parents about the importance of regular attendance starting in kindergarten.</p> <p>Help parents of older students understand that excessive absence is a critical warning sign for dropping out.</p> <p>Partner with schools to provide social work and case management supports to families of children with extended absences.</p> <p>Help address barriers to attendance by offering services (economic supports, social services, etc.) at schools and referring families to other available resources in the community.</p>	<p>Help your child get into the habit and learn the value of regular routines.</p> <p>Teach your child that attending school is non-negotiable unless they are truly sick.</p> <p>Build relationships with other families and discuss how you can help each other out (e.g., drop off or pick up children, babysit, offer translation assistance) in times of need or emergencies.</p> <p>Identify non-academic activities (drama, art, music, etc.) that can help motivate your child's interest in school and learning and seek out schools that can offer those experiences.</p>
2. Achievement Every Year	<p>Inform parents about what children are expected to learn and do at every grade level through school orientations as well as school newsletters.</p> <p>Regularly hold parent/teacher conferences that emphasize two-way communications to identify strengths and strategies for improving student success in school; schedule them to allow working parents to participate.</p> <p>Identify non-traditional ways to connect with parents unable to attend regularly scheduled parent/teacher conferences. Communicate regularly with families about children's progress (not just when</p>	<p>Partner with schools to help parents understand what to expect in a high quality educational program and how to determine the best match for their child.</p> <p>Help to mediate and identify positive solutions when conflicts arise between school staff and parents about how to promote a child's academic achievement.</p> <p>Educate parents how to identify when their children might be at risk because of an undetected learning disability and/or they are disengaging from school.</p> <p>Partner with schools to offer workshops on family math and literacy as well as</p>	<p>Reflect upon the nature of the educational program your child needs to learn and thrive, and actively seek placement in those schools which meet his or her needs.</p> <p>Find out who is your child's teacher(s). Ask what is the best way to contact them and let teachers know that you want to be contacted immediately about any concerns.</p> <p>Attend parent-teacher conferences and regularly seek out information informally from teachers about your child's progress. Monitor and review your child's homework. Request a developmental assessment if a</p>

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	<p>problems arise) including exploring the use of computer technology to improve communications.</p> <p>Send home interactive homework or learning assignments.</p> <p>Hold family math and literacy workshops aimed at helping parents learn about what they can do at home to help children advance their skills.</p>	<p>other relevant parenting topics.</p> <p>Use home visitors who reflect the cultural and linguistic background of families to help parents acquire skills to help their children at home.</p> <p>Create lending libraries offering families access to learning materials that they can use at home.</p>	<p>learning disability is suspected.</p> <p>Keep an eye out for signs that your child might be at risk (e.g., skipping classes, behavior problems, failing a class).</p> <p>Use activities at home to develop their knowledge and skills (e.g., read or have older siblings read regularly to them. have children total the monthly bills, count money and return change or maintain a "log" of money saved and spent).</p> <p>Use community resources (museums, libraries, youth centers) to create additional opportunities for learning.</p>
3. Attainment Over Time	<p>Help families understand and prepare for transitions into elementary, middle and high school.</p> <p>Maintain high expectations for children and convey them to parents and students.</p> <p>Give parents an opportunity, especially with middle and high school students, to be involved in selecting their children's courses.</p> <p>Help parents and students connect course selection to educational and career aspirations.</p> <p>Organize and/or host college planning and career exploration activities for students and their families.</p>	<p>Inspire families to set high aspirations for their children by introducing them to successful role models possibly through interactions with other parents and community members with successful careers.</p> <p>Help parents and students understand available living wage career options and the pathways for gaining the necessary skills.</p> <p>Provide counseling about applying to college and obtaining financial aid, especially when parents did not graduate from college.</p>	<p>Talk regularly to your child about the value of education and its importance to their future.</p> <p>Set and maintain high expectations for your children's achievement while keeping abreast of what is involved in reaching those aspirations.</p> <p>Reach out for help and advice from parents, schools and community agencies about how to apply for college or ensure your child enrolls in an appropriate vocational education program.</p> <p>Seek out and take advantage of programs that expose your child to educational and career opportunities.</p>