













Working Definition

In K-12 education, the focus on "parental involvement" has radically shifted to "parent engagement." The evolution of parent involvement to parent engagement signifies moving parents from routinely attending school functions as invited participants to a more active role as partners in students' educational processes











- Welcoming environment
- Flexibility for parent participation
- Unbiased
- Transparent
- First Initiator
- Reassuring to parents their value in student learning
- Home visits
- Diversity inclusion/awareness
- Professional development
- Identifying perceptions and addressing them
- Inviting parents to volunteer
- Reassuring parents your commitment to their student learning



- Two-way
- Understanding parent is concerned with their student
- Timely information
- Parent friendly info
- Easy to navigate website
- Learning the best way to communicate with each parent
- Using different techniques to reach parents
- Information in multiple languages
- Willingness to learn from families
- Before planning for parents ensuring the needs will be addressed
- Set expectations upfront about attendance, behavior, your plans



- Informative
- No jargon
- Asking for feedback
- Suggesting tips beyond good night sleep during testing
- Defining goals and outcomes for students in a way parents understand
- Personalized learning
- Virtual learning
- Parent workshops
- Align with school goals
- Recognizing not all parents are able to come to the school



- Sending "how to" methods for home assistance
- Parent friendly explanations of what is taking place in the classroom and where their student currently is
- Encouraging literacy practices
- Conduct a needs assessment of what tools parents need to help their student with (reading, writing, math, science, time management, motivation, behavior, college and career planning, course selections, etc.)



- Including local stores in on learning happenings
- Asking for guest speakers
- Tours of businesses
- Asking for stores to highlight students/classes for outstanding performances, crafts
- Remember it's not always about money or goods







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