



## National Dropout Prevention Center for Students with Disabilities

**Focus Area:** *Parent/Family Engagement*

**Attributes:**

1. **Parent/Family Engagement is just as important as student engagement. The most accurate predictor of a student's school achievement is the extent to which his/her family encourages learning.**
2. **Middle and high school students whose parents remain involved tend to: (a) have a positive attitude about school; (b) earn higher grades; (c) score higher on standardized tests; and (d) graduate from high school.**
3. **Effective home-school partnerships implies a relationship in which both parties has equal status and a level of independence, but also have implicit and formal obligations to each other.**

**Goal:**

**Strategy:**

### **Some Effective Strategies**

1. Recruit, support, and value the roles of parents as: (a) teachers, (b) leaders, (c) resources, (d) decision makers, (e) advocates, and (f) trainers of others.
2. Invite, encourage, and support parental/family involvement. Address specific parental needs by recognizing, respecting, and addressing cultural and class differences. Help parents/families feel comfortable and a part of the school community.
3. Set high expectations for your "partnership" with parents/families. Set high expectations and act upon those beliefs, bearing in mind that children serve as the focus that connects "you" as partners [on educational issues and improvement opportunities]. Parents should be aware of the fact that the school values them and the partnership.



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Specific Action	Progress	Barriers
1.	1.	1.
2.	2.	2.
3.	3.	3.