

Going beyond Fundraisers and Parent- Teacher Conference

PARENT GUIDE

TED Talk- Teacher and Parent Relationships by a parent (Cecile Carroll): Listen to this short clip on how parents in an inner-city Chicago school made a difference in their kids school:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FxJIsZsYKQQ>

- Become a Volunteer
- Other parent groups:
 - Watch D.O.G.S - <http://www.fathers.com/watchdogs/>
 - Parent Café - <http://www.beststrongfamilies.net/build-protective-factors/parent-cafes/parent-cafe-model/>
- **Attend school functions aimed toward parents and families**
 - Family Literacy Night, Parent-teacher conferences, etc.
- **Stay engaged by:**
 - Assisting the teacher in the classroom
 - Helping in the office
 - Attend School Board meetings
 - Chaperone field trips or social events
 - Attend Title I Parent Meeting (generally occurs at the beginning of the school year)- designed to get feedback and give updates on school improvement plans and opportunities and parent rights

Other tips:

- ✓ Focus on the value of learning. Take time each day to ask your child about school. What did you learn at school today? Ask how your child gets along with other students and what they like and dislike about school. Share with your child what you learned today.
- ✓ Focus on creating a positive learning environment at home. Establish a routine of providing a quiet, well-lit place for homework. Utilize your local library. Limit the amount of TV and video games during school days. Collect books, newspapers, and magazines to encourage reading.
- ✓ Set up a school bulletin board at home. Display the school calendar and other flyers from the school. Highlight important dates such as open house, parent meetings, parent-teacher conferences, etc. Encourage and help your child get involved in other school activities, after school programs, etc.
- ✓ Encourage good communication with the school. Positive and consistent communication is the foundation in supporting your child's education.
 - Ask your child's teacher to provide suggestions on home activities that support skills that your child is learning in school.

- If any academic or behavior problems arise with your child at school, work with your child, teacher(s), schools counselor, principal, etc. to develop a plan of improvement for your child.
- Make sure everyone is aware of the plan and has a plan of follow up. Have regular communication on how you can support your child's school and how the school can support your child in the learning process.

Community Resources

- Literacy Resources
 - Child- Early Birds, Metropolitan Library System, PBS Kids, OETA, MYON-OKCPS
 - Adult- Community Literacy Centers, OCCC, OIC, OKC Literacy Coalition
- Workforce and Employment
 - Youth- Central Oklahoma Workforce Investment Board, Urban League
 - Adult- Work Ready Oklahoma, TEEM, Urban League, Goodwill
- Transportation- Salvation Army Senior Transportation Program, EMBARK,
- Food/Shelter/Clothing- Skyline Urban Ministries, Catholic Charities, Community Action Agency, Department of Human Services, Infant Crisis Center, Salvation Army
- Counseling services/Support Groups
- Request training, mediation services

For more resources, assistance, or questions contact the Community Relations Office:

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