

Parent Communication

Active parent/teacher interaction can help reinforce the principles of academic achievement in the classroom as well as at home. Teachers who actively communicate with parents gain valuable feedback on how to better formulate their classroom and instruction for each and every student.

Communication Logs are a great way to organize parent communication. Documentation is key when interacting with parents, therefore already having an outline will save time and make recording each interaction less time consuming.

At the beginning of the year, sending home a letter to outline the classroom objectives and expectations serves as the first parent/teacher contact. Students are expected to deliver the letter to their parents in order for their *parents* to complete their first homework assignment. Parents are given the teacher's information in which they are to respond to the teacher in whatever manor they would like to be contacted themselves (phone call, email, text).

After the first contact, the teacher should continuously keep the parent/teacher interaction alive. Allowing parents to be added to Google Classroom allows parents to have an agenda of what their child is learning each week.

Directly contacting parents should also be used as a method of reaching out when students are falling behind in class. Updating parents on failing grades allows for both parties to work together to develop a plan to get their students back on track (arriving early/staying late for tutoring, dedicated homework time at home, etc.).

Parent communication should not only gyrate around helping those who need an extra boost in the classroom, but should also be utilized as a positive reinforcement mechanism. Sending home emails to parents when their student worked hard in class or received an outstanding test/project grade allows parents to be included in their child's success.

Keeping an open-door communication with parents allows for collaboration between both parties to better the success of each child. Initialing the first parent contact illustrates that the child's success is the number one priority.