



The ABCs of

Working with Parents

- A** — Accept parents as they are.
- B** — Believe that parents are sincerely concerned about all aspects of their children's growth and development.
- C** — Compliment parents on their children's attitudes, behavior, and performance.
- D** — Discuss topics that interest parents.
- E** — Encourage parents to become involved in their children's education.
- F** — Familiarize yourself with each families situation.
- G** — Give parents opportunities to ask questions and express their opinions.
- H** — Help parents develop confidence in their abilities. Parents have much to offer the school program.
- I** — Invite parents to participate in all school activities.
- J** — Judge not.
- K** — Know the community resources available to parents.
- L** — Listen to what parents are saying.
- M** — Make every effort to involve all parents. Telephone calls and home visits are helpful.
- N** — Never say it can't be done.
- O** — Offer opportunities for parents to develop a better understanding of the school program.
- P** — Plan appropriate activities for parent volunteers.
- Q** — Question open-endedly to stimulate more discussion, rather than using only closed-ended questions.
- R** — Recognize that each parent is unique.
- S** — Show that you are genuinely interested in parents.
- T** — Thank parents for attending meetings or serving as volunteers.
- U** — Understand that parents have a right to their feelings.
- V** — Vary your approaches to parent involvement.
- W** — Work together with parents for the success of every student.
- X** — X-ray and improve your parent-involvement program regularly.
- Y** — You must help parents feel comfortable and needed.
- Z** — Zeal or your part is essential to a successful parent involvement program.