

INVOLVEMENT INFORMER



**HELP FOR PARENTS
IN BECOMING ACTIVELY INVOLVED
IN CHILDREN'S SCHOOLING**

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Table of Contents

Foreword

Chapter 1:

Parental Involvement Basics

Chapter 2:

Stay Informed On Child's Progress

Chapter 3:

Have Good Communication With Teachers

Chapter 4:

Get Involved In PTA

Chapter 5:

***Participate In Extra Curricular Activities With
Your Child***

Chapter 6:

Help With Homework

Chapter 7:

Make Sure To Talk To Your Child About Their Day

Wrapping Up

Foreword

Even though in the past there has always been some kind of parental involvement in most educational platforms, of late parents are seeking to have more say in the general running and curriculum content the school follows. But we need to be more involved. Get all the info you need here.

Involvement Informer

Help For Parents In Becoming Actively Involved In Children's Schooling

Chapter 1:

Parental Involvement Basics

Synopsis

Previously most parents would only be able to take part in the PTA which is an association manned with the cooperation of both parties involvement which would be the parents and teachers. However today there are various bodies that are either set up at the school level of the district level to encourage the participation of the parents in the educational well being of their children.

The Basics

During the school or grade year, a parent will usually be invited to various meeting and discussion, where the immediate interaction with the teacher can be enjoyed and explored in more casual circumstances.

This is good as it encourages both parties to explore areas that affect the children and share ideas that would be beneficial to the children if adapted. More views can be shared and newer ideas can be discussed which will help to further incorporate a more positive educational experience.

Parental involvement is also a good way to keep track of what is going on both in the current educational system as well as to keep track of the child's progress academically and with the other added activities designed and offered by the school.

This will helpful when the child seem to excel in a particular field where they can then be nurtured accordingly to bring out their potential in a healthy way.

With the involvement of parents, the school will also be able to benefit especially if the parents are ready and willing to volunteer for various tasks and supporting in any other ways needed.

Chapter 2:

Stay Informed On Child's Progress

Synopsis

Parent participation in the child's educational progress is very important in many different ways.

Keep Up To Date

It would help to give the parent a better perspective on what the child is currently engaged in learning, it would also keep the parent informed as to the capability of the child in being able to cope with the school's programs and will also give the parent the opportunity to make adjustment should the child need other assisting tools and even time to be able to cope as ideally expected.

For a parent to be involved in the progress of the child, the parent must be able to stay focused and also willing to commit a certain amount of time to the exercise of getting physically and mentally involved in what is going on at school.

Being in the know will certainly help the parent avoid any nasty surprises that would otherwise cause the child to lose interest in studying.

It would also help to parent identify any areas of weakness where the child might need the assistance and participation of the parent to help them get back on track and on par with other students of the same age.

However being privy to this information does not mean the parent would have the right to push the child when he or she is obviously experiencing problems at school, it is however supposed to ideally provide the parent with a clear understanding of the child's capabilities and how this can be nurtured to the best possible level.

When the parent is willing to commit both time and energy to stay informed of all the child progress within the school system, it will also

give the child a sense of worth and this bond is rather invaluable indeed. The interest shown on the part of the parent will definitely be very heartwarming for the child.

Chapter 3:

Have Good Communication With Teachers

Synopsis

From a student point of view, the communication in school is usually more one way than two, where the student is expected to listen to the teacher and make the necessary effort to excel in his or her studies.

However if there is good communication between parents and teacher, this void of information can be filled through this active and mutual participation of both parties.

Teachers

Good communication between parents and teachers is very useful on many levels especially if it is positive. As an advocate for the child, the parent can initiate conversations where appreciation can be expressed, concerns can be discussed, encouragement can be offered and problems if any can be solved in an amicable and comfortable way.

Most people would accept that good communication will help the desire of both the teacher and the parents to assist the child in being the best he or she can possibly be, thus being able to initiate and maintain good communication between the two dominant forces in the child's educational and social exposures will definitely something worth ensuring.

However it should also be understood that any kind of communication should be done in a cordial and dignified manner as any negative exchanges will eventually affect the child and may even cause problems for the future of the child within the particular school environment.

Studies have found that most students appear to do better when there is good communication established between their parents and the teachers engaged in teaching their children.

This good communication allow both parties to keep informed view of the child academic progress, while ensuring the child's potential in every area is successfully tapped.

This will help the child do things with a more positive attitude thus achieving more than otherwise thought to be possible.

Chapter 4:

Get Involved In PTA

Synopsis

The primary aim of being part of the school's PTA is to be able to contribute and be a part of an organization that is centered of creating the best elements for the children within the school system.

PTA

Decisions and additions are discussed and made based on the input of both the teaching staff and the parents participating, thus giving the children attending the school the best possible opportunities to excel and become well rounded individuals.

There are also less obvious benefits from being part of a PTA, one of which is being well connected to what is going on within the particular school the child is attending.

All the going ons will usually be made available to all the members of the PTA to ensure that everyone can work together for the betterment of the children.

The various programs offered as part of the PTA participation will allow both parent and children to be involved in the school organization and this could also contribute to a better understanding and cooperation of both parties.

Most parents, especially mothers will be able to put a lot of interesting personal skills to work, while attempting to be a productive part of the PTA system.

Getting involved in the PTA will give the parents an opportunity to get to know other parents whose children attend the same school, thus allowing them to build a better rapport among themselves and the teaching staff.

It would also provide an ideal opportunity to meet new people and exchange ideas, concerns and experiences that could also contribute to the betterment of the children attending the school. This is also an ideal platform for speaking up about changes that can be suggested on various ways to improve the current school's situation or environment.

Chapter 5:

Participate In Extra Curricular Activities With Your Child

Synopsis

A lot of children today tend to lament about the fact that their parents don't really want to make the effort to understand them and their needs.

Extras

Whether unfounded or true, this is certainly the general perception of most children today. Therefore in the quest to create a better understanding and hopefully a strong lasting bond between parent and child, it would be a good idea to participate in extracurricular activities with one's child.

This of course takes some effort and coordination on the part of the parent, but nonetheless could be a rather beneficial exercise to explore.

Most children would enjoy the attention element that the parental participation would create, and this would encourage them to excel enough to make the parent proud of their attempts and efforts.

The participation on the part of the parent will also give both parties, the opportunity to enjoy each other's company and perhaps even give the parent the opportunity to impart of beneficial knowledge to the child.

This is especially beneficial if the parent concerned is an expert of sorts in a particular field, whereby the advice given or the training session share could bring to light some very rewarding tips and tricks on how to be ahead of the competition.

In being able to do so effectively, the parent may also gain more respect from the child as he or she recognizes the special extra element the parent is capable of or has previously achieved.

Another benefit of participating in the extracurricular activities would be that the parent can also have the opportunity to keep fit both mentally and physically. It is also a great way to keep fit while doing something with the child where both are sharing the same exciting activity together.

Chapter 6:

Help With Homework

Synopsis

For some parents, this is a rather challenging area that they may not be so keen in exploring together with the child. There is always the fear of being viewed as incompetent or simply idiotically embarrassing when the parent is unable to cope with the homework given. This is especially so when the child is fairly young and tends to idolize the parents in every way.

Homework

However it would still be a good idea and certainly a way to build a strong bond with the child when the parent makes the attempt to help with the school homework.

There is also the other positive element of being able to keep fit mentally when attempting to help the child with homework. Besides being delighted at being able to remember material or work from one's own childhood, the parent will also be privy to learning new things that are equally interesting and stimulating to the mind.

Imparting this knowledge to the child will seem like a very important and significant act to the parent who feels validated somehow by this act.

This is also a great way to learn new things and this too can be a rather fascinating journey or exercise to be part of. Learning new things with a child is a very rewarding experience and certainly an enjoyable one too.

It will also give both parent and child the opportunity to talk about something in common, and sometimes the child will feel quite proud when they are able to answer a parent query on a certain matter.

This will also encourage the child to seek to learn more so as to proudly take on the persona of the teaching role in the equation. Understanding and proud parents will usually indulge the children when such efforts are made, as this would contribute positively to building the child's self esteem.

Chapter 7:

Make Sure To Talk To Your Child About Their Day

Synopsis

Taking an active role in wanting to be a part of each other's lives would not only be good for the parent and child but will also benefit positively on many levels. One way of trying to establish this closeness, would be in keeping abreast with the general daily life and activities of the child.

Be Interested

In almost all circumstance, every human being wants to connect with others in a non threatening environment, and this is no different when it comes to the parent and child relationship.

Wanting to be involved and aware of the child's life is very rewarding as both parties will be able to eventually establish a strong bond that will carry the child healthily into his or her future endeavors.

The child will also be able to be forthcoming about their activities and will be willing to approach the parent for any advice or input regarding matters that are troubling them.

From the safety angle, knowing all about the child's day would also allow the parent to understand and be knowledgeable on matters such as, who the child's friends are, what they usually do as a group and where they usually do it. This is a good point of reference should any unwanted incidences occur.

Wrapping Up

Besides the obvious bonds that can be formed through the participation of the parent in the child's life, there is also the ideal opportunity for the parent to become an ideal source of advice and help for the child.

This is very important to create, as a child who is not able to get this kind of support from within the family will look elsewhere for such help and this is certainly not an ideal circumstance to contemplate.

Outside sources will certainly not always have the child's best interests at heart when imparting impressionable suggestions and solutions to the child's queries and problems.

Stay involved.

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