

Partnering with Parents and the Community

New Licensed Staff Induction Program



Module Overview/Purpose

- District 214 encourages staff members to cooperate as partners with parents and the community in the education of students.
- State law requires school districts to keep parents/guardians informed of policies that directly affect students.

Objectives

- After today's session, participants will understand....
 - expectations of communication between educators and parents.
 - specific means of communication that currently exist.
 - opportunities for communication with the community.

Communication is Key

- Frequent contact is encouraged, both positive and negative
- Ideas for contact include phone and email
- Translator hotline is always available for non-English speakers
- Keep counselors informed

Specific Means of Communication

- Phone calls
- E-mail
- TeacherLogic (has feature to send mass emails about updates)
- LMSs and other teacher tools (i.e. Schoology & Remind 101)
- Face-to-Face meetings (informal conference)
- Open House
- Parent/Teacher Conference (formal conference)
- Newsletter

Resources and Details

- Mentors are a valuable resource
- PLC members can offer ideas
- Be sure to document, save, and organize all contact with families, including phone calls, meetings, e-mails
- Work with the student's counselor in order to be aware of sensitive family situations such as divorce, strained relationships, non-traditional primary caregivers
- Communication does not always have to be negative

Other Ways to Connect with the Community

- Media (Jessica Thunberg – Director of Community Engagement & Outreach)
- Websites & Social Media (Classroom, School, District)
- Parent Informational Nights (Booster Clubs, Latino Parent Club, African-American Club, etc.)
- Curriculum and Activities Fair (incoming freshmen)
- Field Trips
- Guest Speakers

Building-Specific Info

- Open House/Parent Conference schedules and expectations.
- Other?

Questions/Comments

- What questions do you have about the information presented today?
- Is there a topic that you feel you need more information on?
- Do you have any specific concerns at this time?