

Tips for Creating a Positive Partnership with Your Child's School

- Communicate early in the year and share your preferred mode of communication with your child's teacher(s). If the school or teacher uses an app for communication, download it so you receive important announcements
- Check that your contact information is up to date with the school so you can be contacted in an emergency, Request duplicate mailings for split families
- Keep important info such as school phone numbers and important dates somewhere that you can easily access when needed.
- Attend school events whenever possible. If you can't attend conferences, find another opportunity to meet with your child's teacher or team (phone, virtual). Also encourage your child to attend school social events, if possible, to build comfort and connection with school and peers.
- Maintain a schedule for your child. Children and teens feel safe when they have a predictable routine at school and at home.
- Share information about your child (both strengths and challenges) that could impact their learning or behavior. If you are uncomfortable sharing with the classroom, a school counselor or the principal might make it easier.
- If a concern or issue arises, reach out to the point person first (teacher, transportation department, etc.) before going "above their heads."
- Be patient when waiting for a response from a teacher or principal. If the situation is urgent, let the person know and they can refer you to someone who can help.
- Know that there may be more to the story. Listen to your child and acknowledge their reporting. They are likely telling the truth from their perspective.