

TO SUM UP...

Teachers Partnering with Parents

Make a plan for parent involvement before school starts.

 Send home regular positive notes and make positive phone calls, emails or text messages.

 Set up informal and formal mechanisms for parents to communicate with teachers.

- Don't store up grievances; call a meeting with a parent when a child misbehavior first occurs.
- Express your concern for the child's optimal learning.
- Be brief, clear and concise when describing a behavior problem and focus on the positive opposite behaviors that the child will be taught.
- Ask for parent feedback and suggestions for solutions.
- Don't interrupt, argue, give advice; listen attentively and validate parents' concerns.
- Stick to the point and avoid unloading multiple gripes.
- Edit: be polite and positive.
- Focus on fixing the problem and avoid blaming.
- Recognize the parent's point of view.
- Take one step at a time in goal setting.
- Get and give feedback.
- Stay calm and patient.
- Stop and call a Time Out if anger mounts.

- Make positive recommendations for solutions in collaboration with parents.
- Plan a follow-up with parents.
- Encourage ongoing conversation.