



ASHGROVE STATE SCHOOL PARENT COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK

When parents are engaged in their child’s learning, students do better in school and everyone benefits. Parents find it easier to help their child learn. Teachers and principals are better supported and enjoy positive relationships with parents. Students improve, classrooms improve, schools improve and the entire community benefits. (CODE, 2012)

<p style="text-align: center;">Communication</p> <p>Effective communication between schools, parents, the community and students is essential to building, developing and maintaining partnerships. To have a significant impact on student outcomes, communication needs to be focused on student learning. It must also be a genuine exchange of information and ideas between the school, the home and the community.</p> <p>Strategies and Effective Resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newsletter • Parent Network • P & C • School Council • Class newsletters • Website • Parent Teacher Night/ Meet the teacher • Parent Teacher Interviews • Achiever Awards • School Fete • Informal Interaction 	<p style="text-align: center;">Learning Partnerships</p> <p>An effective learning partnership involve schools, parents and the community committing to work together to take action to improve students’ learning, at school and at home and empowers parents to improve their child’s learning. While involving parents in school activities (e.g. volunteering, fund raising, and attending school events) is important, it is engagement through learning partnerships which has been shown to have much greater impact on student outcomes (Harris, Andrew-Power, & Goodall, 2009, pp. 12-13).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAKG • After School Tutorials - pre –Service teachers • Parent workshops – Reading, Mathletics, Lexiles • Classroom helpers • Behaviour sheets • Post Cards Home • Behaviour Certificates 	<p style="text-align: center;">Community Collaboration</p> <p>Schools do not exist in isolation and they cannot go it alone. A Community Collaborative approach to school ensures each child’s social, economic, and family needs, as well as their academic needs are met. They need the support and help of the whole community. The often heard statement, "It takes a village to raise a child," is very true.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent Public school Initiatives • Award’s Night • Prep Information Evening • Library open before school • Before School Tuition • Leasing Buildings and Grounds • All Star Awards – Community Donates awards • Under Eights Day – community engagement • Appointment of Director of School Advancement • Creating partnerships with community business • Alumni • Welcoming New Students • YMCA – after school hours
<p style="text-align: center;">Decision Making</p> <p>Including parents and the community in school decision-making is critical to effective parent and community engagement, especially as schools work in new ways with parents and the community to support improved learning outcomes</p> <p>At Ashgrove State School, we have the following beliefs about decision-making:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All opinions are valued and evoke a feeling of being heard • Discussions are open • Key stakeholders of the decision are involved • Opportunity for review of decisions • Relevant information needs to be presented • Inclusive, all should have an opportunity for input • Being able to question and respectfully disagree in comfort • Adequate think time before voting. • As an IPS school strategic decision making involves consultation from school council • P & C – Financial /resources decision making 	<p style="text-align: center;">Participation</p> <p>Parents and community members are encouraged to play an active role in the education of their children. Ashgrove State School values the partnership of parents in helping to enrich learning opportunities for students.</p> <p>Widespread and sustained participation is critical to a school’s effective parent and community engagement strategy, because it enable changes to become the long term practice of the school community.</p> <p>Ways of Participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pool Spotters, Swimming Carnival, Sports Days • Disco, Fete, Trivia night • Stop Drop Go • Debating, Optiminds • Advanced Learning • Father’s Day breakfast • Grandparent’s Day • Excursions • SAKG 	<p style="text-align: center;">Research and Resources</p> <p>Schools and early childhood education providers that work in partnership with families and communities can better support the education of children. These partnerships can establish a collective commitment to hold high expectations of children and young people...Evidence shows that children who are expected to achieve at school and who have high expectations of themselves are more likely to succeed.’ (MCEEDYA 2011)</p> <p>Research and resources that promote Partnerships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You Can Do It • Behaviour Audit • Hattie • John Fleming • Ashgrove Approach <p>Online resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent Lounge • Student lounge/ Ed studios • Mathletics • Lexiles