

Clayton County Public Schools (CCPS)

November is Parent Engagement Month in Georgia

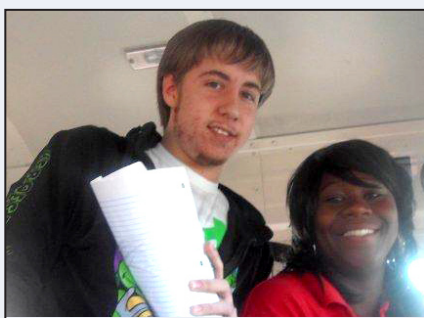
Governor Perdue has proclaimed November 2010 as Parent Engagement Month in Georgia. Celebrate the role of parents/guardians in successful education by sharing your best “GET INVOLVED” story with your school principal or by sending it to **Sheryl Matthews** in Federal Programs by Friday, Dec. 3. (E-mails may be sent to goodnews@clayton.k12.ga.us.)

Parents all around the county were invited to informational meetings for Southern Association of Colleges and Schools reviews. **Principal Kathleen Truitt** and staff welcomed more than 300 parents to **Oliver Elementary**. “The support of our parents is vital to student achievement,” said Truitt. “We are very appreciative of our parents’ involvement at Oliver.”



file photo Oliver ES 2009

November 14-20 is American Education Week



Michael Henley, pictured with Kimberly Preston, was the first student to submit a story and picture to goodnews@clayton.k12.ga.us

Successful education is the result of collaboration between many individuals in our community - students, parents, grandparents, teachers, administrators, support professionals, business and community leaders, and elected officials.

Mundy’s Mill High School senior Michael Henley shares his appreciation for this community of support:

I would like to recognize my bus driver, Mrs. Kimberly Preston, Bus 630. I’ve been riding her bus for two years now, and she is one of the most caring, respectful, kind, and diligent people I have met during ALL my years of school, and I’m a senior. She is always there to lend a helping hand, whether it’s with homework while we’re waiting to leave school, or just giving kind words of wisdom when she can tell you’re having a bad day. She is a stranger to no one on our bus. She says

“good morning” and “have a nice day/weekend” to us daily/weekly. When we go on breaks, she is sure to give us that little talk so we don’t get into any trouble! I had some medical issues earlier this year and she knew something was wrong when she didn’t see me for a while. She found a way to get in touch with me through one of my friends to let me know that if I needed anything and she could help to let her know. I think she deserves to be recognized and everyone can vouch for her!

November 18 is National Parent Involvement Day

Schools around the district are celebrating parent involvement in a variety of ways. Many will include a special lunch of thanksgiving for the support CCPS schools have received this year from parents. Contact your child’s school for more information on specific activities, lunch periods, or review the suggestions on the following page for ways you can support student achievement throughout the school year.



Project Applesseed

Take the parental involvement pledge - learn more by clicking on Project Applesseed’s logo above.

Visit us on the Web at www.clayton.k12.ga.us

Department of Communications 1058 Fifth Ave. Jonesboro, GA 30236

For more information contact us at 770-473-2735



PLAY A ROLE

IN YOUR CHILD'S SUCCESS IN SCHOOL.

Get the facts...get connected...GET INVOLVED!

Schools understand that parents are busy people, but there are many different ways you can get involved in your child's education. No matter how little or how much time you have, there are many ways you can positively impact your child's education at school and at home. Remember, when parents get involved and stay involved, all students achieve at higher levels.

1. VOLUNTEER AT SCHOOL

Schools often send home lists of various ways that parents can volunteer. If they don't, let your child's teachers, principal, or counselors know your special skills and ask what you can do to help.

2. SHOW YOUR CHILD THAT YOU CARE

Have a conversation with your child about school and homework regularly. Ask specific questions that inform you about your child's day. Know what classes your child is taking, who your child's friends are, and other essential information.

3. KEEP IN TOUCH WITH THE SCHOOL

Get to know your child's teachers, principal, counselors and school's parent involvement coordinator. Make it a point to stay in contact with them throughout the school year.

4. EXPRESS HIGH EDUCATIONAL EXPECTATIONS

Encourage your child to take challenging courses and monitor your child's academic performance (homework, grades, and test scores) throughout the year. Emphasize effort and achievement.

5. ATTEND SCHOOL MEETINGS, FUNCTIONS, AND EVENTS

Make time to attend parent-teacher conferences, parent fairs, curriculum nights, award ceremonies and other school events. Your attendance and support matters to your child.

6. SEEK OUT INFORMATION

Request a meeting with your child's teacher regarding any aspect of your child's education. If you have other questions, ask the school by calling or sending a note so they can link you with the appropriate person that can respond to your needs.

7. BE AN ACTIVE PART OF DECISION MAKING COMMITTEES

Participate in parent or school leadership organizations. Ask your school about the Parent Teacher Association or Parent Teacher Organization, school council, parent advisory committee or other parent organizations and then join one.

8. MAKE SCHOOL IMPORTANT

Talk positively about school with your child. Send your child prepared for school each day with pens, pencils, notebooks, and homework completed. Make school a priority by ensuring they are at school every day and arrive on time.

9. BE SEEN AT SCHOOL

Arrange a visit to your child's classroom, have lunch with your child at school, or visit the Parent Center. Your presence matters and shows the school that you are invested in your child's education.

10. BE INFORMED

AND RESPONSIVE Ask, collect, read, and respond, if needed, to all information (school policies, field trip information, student handbook, etc.) that is sent from your child's school or teacher. If you need to receive information in a language other than English, call or visit the school.

11. VISIT YOUR SCHOOL'S WEBSITE

Access all kinds of information, including homework assignments, class schedules, lesson plans, test dates, and grades on your child's school website. If you don't know your school's website, ask your child's teacher or the school.

12. PARTICIPATE IN WORKSHOPS THAT ARE OFFERED

Look for great opportunities to meet other parents at school through workshops that cover topics such as child development, school standards, and other shared parent concerns. If workshops are not offered regularly, help plan one or suggest ideas to your school counselors or parent involvement coordinator.

13. PROVIDE A RICH LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AT HOME

Make time for meaningful dinner conversations, trips, games, reading time, family sports, and daily routines. Activities like these will contribute to your child's academic achievement at school.

14. DROP IN ON AFTER SCHOOL OR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Pick your child up from after-school activities or stop by a few minutes early to watch your child in action, if you are unavailable during the school day. It is also important to know your child's after school teacher, instructor, or coach.

15. INVITE THE COMMUNITY TO PARTNER WITH THE SCHOOL

Encourage local businesses, churches, clubs, or civic organizations that you are involved with to volunteer or financially support the school. Have community partners provide schools and families with information about services and resources they provide that support student learning such as mentoring, tutoring, and service learning activities.





SEA PARTE

DEL ÉXITO ESCOLAR DE SU NIÑO.

Infórmese...conéctese...involúcrese!

En las escuelas se sabe que los padres están muy ocupados, pero hay muchas cosas que uno puede hacer para estar involucrado en la educación de su niño. No importa si uno tiene mucho o poco tiempo, uno siempre puede influenciar positivamente la educación de su niño tanto en la escuela como en casa. Recuerde que cuando los padres están involucrados, los estudiantes alcanzan sus potenciales académicos más altos.

1. SEA VOLUNTARIO EN LA ESCUELA

Las escuelas suelen mandar listas con las distintas actividades en las que los padres pueden ayudar voluntariamente. Si Usted no recibe esta información, déjele saber al maestro, director, o consejero de su niño qué es lo que usted sabe hacer y pregúntele cómo puede ayudar.

2. DEMUÉSTRELE A SU NIÑO QUE A USTED LE IMPORTA

Converse con su niño regularmente sobre la escuela y la tarea. Hágale preguntas para estar informado sobre cómo le fue en la escuela. Esté al tanto de qué clases está tomando, quiénes son sus amigos, y cualquier otra información importante.

3. PERMANEZCA EN CONTACTO CON LA ESCUELA

Familiarícese con los maestros, el director, los consejeros, y el Coordinador de Participación de Padres de Familia de su niño. Asegúrese de estar en contacto con ellos durante todo el año escolar.

4. TENGA GRANDES EXPECTATIVAS PARA LA EDUCACIÓN DE SU NIÑO

Anime a su niño a inscribirse en clases difíciles/exigentes y siga su desarrollo académico (tareas, calificaciones y resultados de los exámenes) durante todo el año escolar. Recuérdele a su niño la importancia del esfuerzo y del éxito académico.

5. PARTICIPE EN REUNIONES, FUNCIONES, Y EVENTOS ESCOLARES

Hágase tiempo para asistir a reuniones de padres, ferias, juntas donde se hable de los planes de estudios, ceremonias de entrega de premios, y otros acontecimientos escolares. El contar con su participación y su apoyo es importante para su niño.

6. BUSQUE INFORMACIÓN

Pida reunirse con el maestro de su niño cada vez que necesite tratar un tema relacionado con su educación. Si usted tiene más preguntas o preocupaciones, llame a la escuela, o mande un mensaje escrito, para que ellos puedan ponerlo en contacto con la persona correcta.

7. SEA PARTE ACTIVA DE LOS COMITÉS QUE TOMAN DECISIONES SOBRE LA EDUCACIÓN DE SU NIÑO

Participe en organizaciones de padres o de liderazgo escolar. Pida información sobre la Asociación/Organización de Padres y Maestros, el Concilio Escolar, el Comité Consejero de Padres, u otras organizaciones de padres y únase a una de ellas.

8. HAGA QUE LA ESCUELA SEA IMPORTANTE

Hable con su niño acerca de la escuela de manera positiva. Asegúrese de que su niño esté bien preparado para ir a la escuela: que tenga lápices, bolígrafos, cuadernos, y que haya completado su tarea. Haga que la escuela sea una prioridad al asegurarse de que su niño vaya a la escuela todos los días y de que llegue a tiempo.

9. HÁGASE CONOCIDO EN LA ESCUELA

Organice una visita a la clase de su niño, almuerce con él en la escuela, o visite el Centro de Padres. Su presencia es importante y le demuestra a la escuela que usted está interesado en la educación de su niño.

10. ESTÉ BIEN INFORMADO Y SEA RECEPTIVO

Pida, recopile, lea, y responda, si es necesario, toda información enviada por la escuela o el maestro de su niño, tales como las políticas escolares, los viajes educativos, los manuales estudiantiles, etc. Si necesita información en otro idioma que no sea inglés, visite o llame a la escuela.

11. VISITE LA PÁGINA WEB O DE INTERNET DE LA ESCUELA DE SU NIÑO

Acceda a todo tipo de información, incluyendo: tareas, horarios de clases, planes de estudios, fechas de exámenes, y calificaciones. Si no conoce la página web de la escuela, pídasela al maestro o a la escuela.

12. PARTICIPE EN TALLERES DE PADRES

Busque buenas oportunidades para conocer a otros padres de familia a través de talleres escolares tales como los de desarrollo infantil, estándares escolares, y sobre otros temas que les interesen a los padres. Si no se ofrecen talleres en su escuela regularmente, ayude a planear uno o sugiera ideas a los consejeros de su escuela o al Coordinador de Participación de Padres de Familia.

13. ASEGÚRESE DE QUE SU HOGAR SEA UN LUGAR QUE INCENTIVE EL APRENDIZAJE

Dedíquele tiempo a actividades que refuerzan el éxito escolar de su niño, tales como conversaciones durante la cena, viajes, juegos, libros, deportes y rutinas diarias de buena calidad.

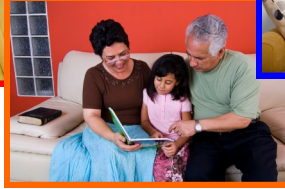
14. VISITE O PARTICIPE EN ACTIVIDADES EXTRACURRICULARES O PROGRAMAS DESPUÉS DE LA ESCUELA

Si usted no puede participar en actividades durante el horario escolar, recoja a su niño de los programas extracurriculares o visite el programa un poco antes de que se termine para ver a su niño en acción. También es importante que conozca al maestro, al tutor, o al entrenador de su niño de estos programas extracurriculares.

15. INVITE A LAS ORGANIZACIONES COMUNALES A ESTAR ASOCIADAS CON LA ESCUELA

Aliente a los negocios locales, las iglesias, los clubes, o las organizaciones municipales en las cuales usted participa para que se ofrezcan voluntariamente o apoyen financieramente a la escuela. Pídale que compartan con las escuelas y las familias información sobre los servicios y recursos que ofrecen y que ayuden al éxito académico de los estudiantes, tales como mentores, servicios de tutoría, y otras actividades.





PLAY A ROLE

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November is Parent Engagement Month in Georgia and we need **your** best GET INVOLVED Moment!

Please share your story by writing your best GET INVOLVED moment in the space provided below and on the back of this paper if necessary. Make sure that your story provides details of the situation including what happened and who was involved, as well as explains why it was your best GET INVOLVED moment. Stories will be compiled and may be shared for future parent engagement activities and celebrations.

My best GET INVOLVED moment was when...

Name: _____ School: _____

I give the Georgia Department of Education permission to edit (example: condense) and publish all or part of this story.

Check the box if the Georgia Department of Education can edit or publish the story, but not use your name.

Signature: _____