



## **Common Myths vs. Realities**

### **Parent-Teacher Communications**

Below are some common misconceptions and beliefs that can prevent schools and parents from working together to help children achieve academically. It is important that we evaluate our perceptions and do not allow these possible myths to become barriers to building productive parent-teacher partnerships.

<b>Myth</b>	<b>Reality</b>
"Parents are distant and uninvolved."	Parents want their children to do well, but some don't know how to help.
"The kids whose parents volunteer the most have the highest grades in the class."	Students' grades are not determined by the number of hours parents volunteer.
"As a parent, I have to be invited to come to the school."	Schools should be welcoming environments with multiple opportunities for parent engagement.
"Teachers are always busy."	Many teachers designate time for parent meetings or can be available by appointment.
"Parents are not given access to view their child's grades."	Parents can monitor their child's progress online or by communicating with teachers.
"Teachers are in charge of the education process and parents have no input."	Education is a partnership, and parent engagement is a critical element to build this partnership.
"The only chance to meet teachers is during the Open House."	Open House is an introduction, but does not tell the whole story for the school year.
"As a parent, I should assume that no news is good news."	Constant and routine monitoring of academic progress helps to ensure that students are performing to their potential.
"The only opportunity for parents to be involved at school is to make copies and sort the mail."	Increased parent engagement has a positive impact on student achievement, attendance and interest in school.
"Learning only takes place in the classroom."	It is important to show an interest in your child's education and provide opportunities for learning at home.
"Students will notify their parents if something is wrong."	No matter what age, do not depend on students to be the messenger.